

students, students at risk, and special needs students. I believe we can find that balance.

We can agree that an educated workforce is good for the country. Perhaps we can agree that we need an educational system that supports the diverse talents of all students—those that shine academically and those that shine in career tech classes. I believe we can achieve this too.

Our current educational system is losing on the international stage. Contrary to the recent years of economic struggle, the U.S. continues to be a land of plenty on the world scale. If we hope to remain a world leader, it is essential that we stop looking at our educational system with a scarcity mentality—a mentality that acts to take from one to give to another, where there is not enough for all. We must recognize that our educational system is our greatest investment and fight to put all we can into it. We can't afford to lose children, to lose their talents and their potential contributions to our country. We need every one of them.

H.R. 5 has some good components that move us in a better direction. Unfortunately, this legislation lacks the kind of investment needed to educate our future workforce. Education is the key to a strong democracy, economic competitiveness and continued global leadership for the U.S.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SUZANNE BONAMICI

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. BONAMICI. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, a bill that would take our education system backward instead of into the future.

K–12 education is my passion, and it has been for a long time. In fact, public education issues are what first led me to run for public office. Education is key to rebuilding our economy, to sustaining and improving the quality of life in our communities, and to the functioning of our government and democracy. We are in dire need of long-term thinking about how we can strengthen our public schools.

The policies in the Elementary and Secondary Education Act, especially those put into law by No Child Left Behind, need a serious overhaul. The intent of NCLB was laudable: make sure that all students in America's public schools are getting a good education and aren't falling through the cracks. Unfortunately, the law has resulted in an overemphasis on high stakes testing, drastic penalties for low-performing schools, and an imbalanced focus on subjects that are tested at the expense of a well-rounded curriculum. Additionally, the NCLB provisions that prescribe a "one size fits all" approach with mandates and restrictions have undermined the teaching profession.

I am extremely disappointed that this reauthorization is moving forward in a rushed man-

ner after only one perfunctory hearing. One of the main reasons I came to Congress was to work with all my colleagues from both sides of the aisle on finding the best policies to ensure that public schools provide all students, regardless of socioeconomic status, with a well-rounded education that prepares them for whatever their future may hold. But this reauthorization has not been given full and fair consideration by the Education and Workforce Committee, and the result is a bill that has little, if any, chance of becoming law. That's not only disappointing; it's detrimental to students across this great country. They deserve better.

H.R. 5 is alarming for a number of reasons. Its massive block grant approach would impede educational equity and make it more likely that students will receive educational opportunities based on where they live and the income of their parents. This, combined with the removal of Maintenance of Effort provisions and cuts to McKinney-Vento funding for homeless students, will result in thousands, if not millions, of fewer students having access to quality education.

I am also extremely concerned about H.R. 5's woefully inadequate funding. A strong system of education is critical to the success of our country and funding it should be a priority. Instead of taking money away from schools, especially those serving the lowest-income students, we should be investing in their improvement.

One important change that's needed to strengthen public education is to move away from high-stakes testing and allow states and school districts to use multiple measures in assessment, including adaptive testing and formative assessments. School performance should be measured in multiple ways, using multiple subjects and indicators. Additionally, teacher evaluations need to be improved and necessary support, including mentoring, given to teachers and school leaders. Though more work is always needed, Ranking Member MILLER's substitute amendment to H.R. 5 makes these improvements and more. I am proud to support it.

The substitute amendment also takes an important step forward with its comprehensive program for STEM education. One of the most exciting provisions in this program is the recognition of the value of arts and design to STEM learning, adding an "A" to make STEAM. Enhancing STEM through the arts and design will engage more students in school while helping them develop into innovative critical thinkers. Employers aren't looking for good test-takers; they want people who can create, communicate, and collaborate. The provisions recognizing the importance of the arts and design in STEM will give our students the skills they need to be competitive in the workforce.

It's also important to recognize the benefits of a well-rounded, whole child approach to education. Students must be healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged at school to reach their full potential. Subjects like civics, physical education, and second languages lead to the development of well-rounded students who become productive and innovative adults. A well-rounded education gives students a greater diversity of skills, increases their engagement with subject material, and helps keeps them in school. The Democratic substitute makes significant strides toward achieving these goals.

I am also pleased that Ranking Member MILLER's substitute addresses many other shortcomings in our education system, including the flawed practice of seclusion and restraint, background checks for staff and contractors with access to children, standards for concussion safety, and meaningful funding levels for homeless students.

With that, I urge my colleagues to invest in our students, our teachers, and our schools, and to oppose H.R. 5 so we can return to a full and thorough consideration of our federal education policies.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 65TH
WEDDING ANNIVERSARY OF
BILLY AND LAVERNE CANTRELL

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to pay tribute to a very special occasion today—the 65th wedding anniversary of Billy and Laverne Cantrell. This event will take place on July 29th.

Billy Cantrell was born to Festus and Mary Lou Cantrell on December 31, 1926, and Laverne Cantrell was born to Oscar and Avis Jeffreys on March 22, 1932.

The couple met in Hamilton, Alabama, while attending high school and only dated six weeks before getting married.

Steve served in the Merchant Marines and worked for 27 years at 3–M in Qwin, Alabama. Laverne worked in garment factories until her retirement.

Together, Billy and Laverne had four children, nine grandchildren, 15 great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren. Their favorite songs include "Tennessee Waltz" and "Sentimental Journey".

Please join me in congratulating this lovely couple on 65 years together.

PANCREATIC CANCER

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2013

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to pancreatic cancer. As you know, it is one of the most deadly forms of cancer; the fourth leading cause of cancer deaths in the United States and eighth worldwide. It is the only major cancer with a five year survival rate in the single digits.

This year, 45,220 Americans will be diagnosed with pancreatic cancer and 38,460 will die from this deadly form of cancer. Seventy-three percent will die in the first year of diagnosis. African Americans have the highest risk among racial and ethnic groups; a risk 32 to 66 percent higher than other groups. Further, while most cancers' death rates and incidences are declining, the incidence death rate of pancreatic cancer is increasing. The number of new cases is expected to increase by 55 percent by 2030.

These numbers are staggering. Clearly we need to increase our efforts to reduce the incidence of and treatments for this painful disease. Enacting the Recalcitrant Cancer Act

earlier this year was a significant step forward. This new law will direct and guide the National Cancer Institute (NCI) at the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in developing a strategic plan—a scientific framework—to address pancreatic cancer and other recalcitrant cancers: brain, esophageal, liver, lung, ovarian and stomach. NIH is the world's leading biomedical research institution and, with adequate resources, I am hopeful that we can make significant advances in finding new, effective treatments for pancreatic and all cancers while also finding their causes.

We cannot expect to reap the proposed benefits that will emerge from this strategic plan unless we come together and make a serious financial commitment to NIH. When adjusting for inflation, the NIH budget has decreased 23 percent since 2001. We are eroding the work and future promises of the world's greatest research entity. We are losing a generation of research scientists. And, we are losing lives. We must put NIH on a slow, but steady path of increased funding in order to establish the stability needed for long term research.

HONORING AND SUPPORTING THE
AMERICAN TEAM IN THE 2013
DEAFLYMPICS

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2013

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and cheer America's deaf athletes and the United States Deaf Sports Federation, USADSF, in their representation of the United States of America at the upcoming 2013 Summer Deaflympics in Sofia, Bulgaria.

The Summer Deaflympics have been held every four years since 1924 and the Winter Deaflympics since 1949—making the Deaflympics the second-oldest international sports games after the Olympics.

From July 26, 2013, through August 4, 2013, Sofia, Bulgaria, will host the 2013 Summer Deaflympics. Over 180 deaf and hard of hearing athletes and coaches will train and travel to Sofia to represent the United States in 11 sports. They have trained their entire lives for the honor and privilege of representing their country in international competition. Their achievements are extraordinary, and I know my colleagues join me in feeling great pride in all they have accomplished.

USADSF was established in 1945 and represents over 100,000 deaf and hard of hearing athletes in the United States and nearly 1,500 individual member organizations. USADSF fosters and regulates rules of competition and provides social outlets for deaf athletes and their friends. It serves as a parent organization of national deaf sports organizations, conducts annual deaf sports athletic competitions, and assists in the participation of American teams in international competition.

USADSF is run by volunteers, who give of their time, talent, and resources for the love of the games and the athletes.

Mr. Speaker, I congratulate all the athletes, coaches, and support staff from the United States for earning a place to represent our country at the 2013 Summer Deaflympics and I commend USADSF for their efforts in supporting them.

I urge my colleagues to join me in cheering our American athletes on to success at the games, and to co-sponsor my bipartisan resolution honoring their achievements. This resolution, which I introduced today, calls on all members to honor and support our delegation and wishes them well as they represent our country against the world.

RECOGNIZING MARY KAY, INC.'S
50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 22, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Mary Kay, Inc. This year marks the Dallas-based company's 50th anniversary, and it has a great deal to celebrate. Founded by Mary Kay Ash and her son, Richard Rogers, the company now operates in 37 foreign markets and will bring in an estimated \$3.5 billion in wholesale sales this year.

Beginning today, 50,000 members of Mary Kay's workforce will come to Dallas in waves to celebrate this landmark anniversary and attend the annual Mary Kay seminar being held at the Dallas Convention Center. Those coming to Dallas represent only a fraction of Mary Kay's workforce that includes over 2.5 million independent beauty consultants.

Mary Kay, Inc. supports The Mary Kay Foundation, which has a mission of eliminating cancers that affect women and ending domestic violence. The Foundation supports research on breast, uterine, cervical, and ovarian cancers, and provides grants to women's shelters and community domestic violence programs.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to celebrate the success of this extraordinary company. As a company founded by a driven and entrepreneurial woman, and employing a workforce composed primarily of women, I am proud that Mary Kay, Inc. has chosen the great city of Dallas as its home base.