

Whereas, Coach Strayhan, as he was known to all of his students, joined the faculty of George Washington Carver High School of Baytown, Texas in 1952 and remained there until May of 1967. He served as assistant football coach and head basketball coach. Coach Strayhan had strict standards for his athletes and students, making them stay focused on assignments and grades; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan instituted a 'no pass, no play' rule long before the state of Texas mandated such a rule; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan made sports fun and was a 'hands-on' coach; and

Whereas, Robert L. Strayhan had strong moral values, encouraging the young people under his guidance to avoid teen pregnancies, drug abuse, gangs, underage drinking and teen smoking; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan did not use his athletes only for winning games, but encouraged them to go to college and worked hard to help them obtain scholarships, regardless of race; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan was very justly proud of his days at Carver High School; Be it therefore

*Resolved:* That I, Congressman STEVE STOCKMAN of the 36th District of Texas, am proud to join the many other friends and members of the Baytown community in honoring the life and work of Coach Robert L. Strayhan—a shining example to his many friends, athletes and students, to the City of Baytown and to his fellow Americans. May he long be remembered.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE LOW-WAGE FEDERAL CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE BACK PAY ACT OF 2013

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2013*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Low-Wage Federal Contractor Back Pay Act of 2013, to grant back pay to federally contracted retail, food, custodial and security service workers who were furloughed during last month's federal government shutdown. The bill, which would amend the current continuing resolution, would apply to all three branches of the federal government. The idea for the bill was brought to my attention by these federally contracted service workers, some of whom work here on the Capitol grounds providing Members of Congress and congressional staff with daily services.

Many federally contracted workers in federal agencies earn little more than the minimum wage with few, if any benefits, and while others are unionized with little better wages, all are the lowest paid workers in the federal government and should not be punished because Congress failed to do its job and keep the government functioning for 16 days. Congress did the right thing when it gave back pay to federal employees, who work in the same buildings as these low-wage service workers. However, both groups of workers were victims who deserve to be made whole. I recognize, of course, that contract workers are employees of contractors, but the distinction between federal workers and at least the lowest-paid

service workers who serve the federal government and its employees and keep, for example, their premises clean, fails when it comes to a deliberate government shutdown. Unlike many other contractors, those who employ low-wage service workers have little latitude to help make up for lost wages. Low-wage federally contracted service workers could least afford the loss of pay during the shutdown, and should not now have to go to work every day with everyone else in their federal buildings having received back pay except for them.

The nation's capital is the high-profile home of the federal government's collusion with those that pay low wages through leases and contracts with federal agencies. At least this legislation would provide some parity to these low-wage federal contractor workers.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

OBAMACARE

**HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2013*

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, it's been seven weeks since the debut of the Affordable Care Act's website, and the reviews of the roll-out are in. Opinions from news organizations and commentators from across the political spectrum are nearly unanimous—Obamacare is an unmitigated disaster.

One constituent of mine, Cynthia from Novi, Michigan, tried to sign up for Healthcare.gov after her employer told her she'd be losing her plan. Her first attempt to access the exchange saw her kicked off the website. After finally getting a quote for coverage, she saw that the price of her same coverage had skyrocketed.

Jason, also from Novi contacted me about his experience with Obamacare. He has a family of four and likes his current plan because, quote "worked for me and my family" unquote. He recently received a letter from his insurance company explaining that the ACA had caused his plan to be cancelled effective January 1st. His new premium is 73% higher than his old premium.

These are just two stories that exemplify the havoc that this law is wreaking on the American people. It cannot be fixed. Passing a delay, now, is like telling the captain of the Titanic to just hold out a little longer after the iceberg struck. It must be repealed.

HONORING CINDY MARKS

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2013*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Cindy Marks, the 2013 President of the California School Boards Association. I want to recognize Cindy for her dedication to education over the past fifteen years. In addition to being a junior high and high school Health Education speaker, she spent the past thirteen years as a host family for unwed pregnant teens, and the past eleven years as a mentor at an inner city Apartment Complex in Modesto working with

at-risk youth and youth gang members. These are only a few among her many achievements that deserve to be recognized.

As President of CSBA, Cindy chairs a number of CSBA Task Forces and Councils. These include the Educational Legal Alliance Steering Committee, the Linked Learning Task Force, and CSBA's Superintendents Advisory Council. She is a member of the Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership Board of Directors and she represents CSBA on the Education Coalition, a consortium of education stake holder groups.

In addition to serving in these leadership positions at a regional and state-wide level, Cindy has served on numerous county-wide committees pertaining to at-risk youth and student achievement. She was appointed by the legislature to the "Joint Committee to develop a master plan for education—Kindergarten through University." She is currently a member of the task force on k-12 Civic Learning, a joint task force established by Chief Justice Tani Canti-Sakaue and State Superintendent of public instruction Tom Torlakson. The task force will bring definition to the skills, knowledge, and dispositions that students and community members need to be informed of. Cindy leads the sub-group on Business and Community Partners.

In 2013, President Cindy Marks was named, "Elected Woman of the Year" by California Women Lead, a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of women holding—or aspiring to hold—elected or appointed office. She was among five women honored by the organization this year.

Moreover, Cindy has served on a variety of prestigious national governance-related committees including the "100 District Leader Network for Citizenship and Service Learning," a collaboration among national education associations such as the National School Boards Association and the American Association of School Administrators. She also serves on the National School Boards Association Pacific Region Board.

Cindy is also a board member for the Latino Emergency Council, the city Ministry Network, and a founding member of the Dr. Parker Steering Committee to address the achievement gap and how it relates to African American students.

Cindy's passion for education, her expertise across a wide-range of policy areas from school finance and fiscal reform to dropout prevention and school discipline, safe schools, and state and federal legislative issues make her one of California's outstanding education leaders.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Cindy Marks for her hard work, dedication to education, and for serving as an inspiration to others around her. I wish her great success in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DELEGATE JOE JOHNSON

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, November 14, 2013*

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to Delegate Joe Johnson, who has dutifully served Southwest