

continue to build strong Texas/US and Poland/EU relationships; and

Whereas, The areas of study and business opportunities will include crops such as wheat, corn, soybeans, canola and vegetables; livestock to include cattle, horses, poultry and dairy; policies to include the farm bill, taxation, environmental regulation and tort reform; and the new technologies and production practices with oil & gas especially, shale gas; and

Whereas, The agricultural leaders from the National Cereal Producers Association of Poland represent Polish landowners and all sectors of Polish agriculture and will visit Lubbock, Amarillo, San Antonio, Panna Maria, Austin, College Station/Bryan, Brenham, Anderson, Chappell Hill, East Bernard and Houston, Texas during a two week span; the delegation will learn firsthand the diversity of Texas to include rainfall, agriculture and oil & gas production practices, temperature, soils, size and distance, population densities, infrastructure, ethnic groups and the various economic industries; and

Whereas, The delegation of the Polish farmers and representatives of agricultural producer organizations are devoting their time and finances to explore Texas Agriculture and Oil & Gas from production to transportation to processing to storage to marketing to selling commodities while studying the issues facing Texas and the United States of America while discovering fertile opportunities to enhance business and personal relationships between Poland and Texas; they deserve recognition for their initiative and motivation to explore new opportunities to enhance food and energy production for all; and therefore, be it

Resolved, That the United States House of Representatives:

Congratulates the members of the Polish farmers and representatives of agricultural producer organizations on their involvement and participation in the agriculture industries of Poland with interest in the Texas agriculture and oil & gas industries and extend best wishes and prosperity for the future.

IN HONOR OF KENTUCKY RIGHT
TO LIFE OF CENTRAL KENTUCKY

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Right to Life of Central Kentucky. As a strongly pro-life father of two young girls, I consider protecting the unborn and the most vulnerable among us as one of my greatest responsibilities as a parent and legislator.

This organization's mission is to increase public awareness and restore legal protection to those members of our human family who are threatened by abortion or infanticide. The Right to Life Association of Central Kentucky works tirelessly to advocate for the dignity and worth of all human life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending my friends with the Right to Life Association of Central Kentucky for their leadership, and I would like to thank them for all that they do for our community.

HONORING MELVIN C. JOHNSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an extraordinary community leader, Mr. Melvin Johnson.

Mr. Melvin Charles Johnson was born and raised in a small town of Tunica, MS. He has been married to Debra L. (Toney) Johnson for 23 years. He was introduced to politics at the early age of 10. He marched in his first Civil Rights March in Tunica, MS in 1963 and became the vice president of the SCLC Youth Organization in Tunica.

Mr. Johnson was very talented in sports. One day at school after a football game, Mrs. Velma (Turner) Brown, which was one of his high school teachers, told him that if he would put the energy that he played in football in politics, that he could help change Tunica County. So, he took her advice because she counseled him and was a great mentor.

Later, he went on to organize and establish the first voter league in Tunica County. It was called "United Voters League of Tunica." He also organized a voter registration booth in downtown Tunica in front of one of the night clubs. He collected all the information from each individual, filled out their applications and sent them to the circuit clerk's office to legally sign the papers in person.

He was one of the first that was elected State Constable in the Northern District of Tunica County. Mrs. Nellie Johnson, Mr. Miller, and Mr. Johnson contacted a TV spokesperson to tell them and to show them the conditions people were living in. This area was called Sugar Ditch, at the time.

Mr. Johnson also walked with Jessie Jackson when he came to Tunica to address poor living conditions in Tunica County. After this was brought to the world's attention, several people came to him looking for advice and told him about many other concerns that needed addressing in the community.

Mr. Johnson saw in a local newspaper where they had printed an article that referred to him as the "County Community Organizer." In his lifetime, the only thing he had ever wanted to do was to help improve the living conditions in Tunica County, Mississippi. His mentors were Mrs. Lucille Hudson, Jessie Brandon Sr., and Mrs. Alice Brandon.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Melvin Johnson for his dedication in being a respected community leader.

IN COMMEMORATION OF BLACK
HISTORY MONTH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 28, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this February we recognize and celebrate the 38th commemoration of Black History Month.

This month we celebrate the contributions of African Americans to the history of our great nation, and pay tribute to trailblazers, pioneers, heroes, and leaders like Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Supreme Court Justice

Thurgood Marshall, U.S. Senator Blanche Kelso Bruce, U.S. Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, U.S. Congressman Mickey Leland, Astronauts Dr. Guion Stewart Bluford Jr. and Mae C. Jemison, Frederick Douglass, Booker T. Washington, James Baldwin, Harriet Tubman, Rosa Parks, Maya Angelou, Toni Morrison, and Gwendolyn Brooks just to name a few of the countless number of well-known and unsung heroes whose contributions have helped our nation become a more perfect union.

The history of the United States has been marked by the great contributions of African American activists, leaders, writers, and artists.

As a member of Congress, I know that I stand on the shoulders of giants whose struggles and triumphs made it possible for me to stand here today and continue the fight for equality, justice, and progress for all, regardless of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

The greatest of these giants to me are Mrs. Ivalita "Ivy" Jackson, a vocational nurse, and Mr. Ezra A. Jackson, one of the first African-Americans to succeed in the comic book publishing business. They were my beloved parents and they taught me the value of education, hard work, discipline, perseverance, and caring for others. And I am continually inspired by Dr. Elwyn Lee, my husband and the first tenured African American law professor at the University of Houston.

Mr. Speaker, I particularly wish to acknowledge the contributions of African American veterans in defending from foreign aggressors and who by their courageous examples helped transform our nation from a segregated society to a nation committed to the never ending challenge of perfecting our union. Earlier this week, I was honored to join my colleagues, Congressmen JOHN LEWIS and Congressman CHARLES RANGEL, a Korean War veteran, in paying tribute to surviving members of the Tuskegee Airmen and the 555th Parachute Infantry, the famed "Triple Nickels" at a moving ceremony sponsored by the U.S. Army commemorating the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act.

The success of the Tuskegee Airmen in escorting bombers during World War II—achieving one of the lowest loss records of all the escort fighter groups, and being in constant demand for their services by the allied bomber units—is a record unmatched by any other fighter group. So impressive and astounding were the feats of the Tuskegee Airmen that in 1948, it helped persuade President Harry Truman to issue his famous Executive Order No. 9981, which directed equality of treatment and opportunity in all of the United States Armed Forces and led to the end of racial segregation in the U.S. military forces. It is a source of enormous and enduring pride that my father-in-law, Phillip Ferguson Lee, was one of the Tuskegee Airmen.

Clearly, what began as an experiment to determine whether "colored" soldiers' were capable of operating expensive and complex combat aircraft ended as an unqualified success based on the experience of the Tuskegee Airmen, whose record included 261 aircraft destroyed, 148 aircraft damaged, 15,553 combat sorties and 1,578 missions over Italy and North Africa. They also destroyed or damaged over 950 units of ground transportation and escorted more than 200