

in business as well as the 31st Annual Seed Days. I would also like to extend my personal appreciation to Hinton Mills and all of its employees for all that they have done and continue to do for our community our the Commonwealth.

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CONGRATULATIONS GAIL SANDE

**HON. MARK E. AMODEI**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2014*

Mr. AMODEI. Mr. Speaker, this week, at its Public Media Summit in Washington, D.C., the Association of Public Television Stations (APTS) honored Gail Sande, Member of the Board of Trustees, KNPB Public Broadcasting in Reno, with the 2014 National Advocacy Award for her exceptional efforts in support of public television.

Said Patrick Butler, president and CEO of APTS, "Gail is a tireless advocate for public broadcasting, helping to advance bipartisan support of public broadcasting in Congress. She has demonstrated tremendous effectiveness on both sides of the Hill and both sides of the aisle."

Gail is the immediate past Chairman of the Board and stepped down after serving in that position for three years. She is a Trustee of the National Association of Public Television Stations. Gail serves on the Nevada State Board for the Humanities and is a board member for the First Tee of Northern Nevada and the American Heart Association.

She has been a dynamic member of the Reno community for the past 37 years. Some of Gail's activities have included serving as vice president and development chairman for the Lear Theater, a member of the Reno Tahoe Young Professional Network advisory board, treasurer of Young Audiences, president of the Roy Gomm Parent Facility Association, treasurer of the Sons of Norway, president of Law Wives and director of community relations for the Assistance League of Reno/Sparks.

A graduate of the University of Nevada at Reno—go Wolf Pack—Gail was an operations officer at First National Bank of Nevada until 1977, when she retired from the business world to be a stay-at-home mom and community activist.

Congratulations on this well-deserved honor, Gail, and thank you for all you do to make Northern Nevada a better place.

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RAISE THE MINIMUM WAGE

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, February 28, 2014*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as the voice of 184,995 workers in my state that will be positively affected by the minimum wage increase—nearly 20% of my state's total workforce.

Families and parents are struggling financially because we have failed to keep up with the rising costs of living.

The Economic Policy Institute found that "at the current federal minimum wage of \$7.25 an hour, a parent who works full time, year round, [still] does not earn enough to be above the federal poverty line."

For these Americans, working hard year round will not be a gateway to gradual success, because in their realities, it does not even mean that you will be above the federal poverty line.

For these parents, our very own constituents, the pursuit of happiness, the American dream, and ultimately being able to mobilize economically is but a faint light forever out of reach.

In 2009, we raised the minimum wage in order to keep up with the rising costs of living thereby admitting that an irresponsible minimum wage causes financial hardship for the families that we are elected to represent.

People, we have a track record for making the impossible possible for Americans, so, now, I speak on behalf of those families in need when I say that we have a responsibility as public servants to see to it that a parent who works full time, year round, can live above the poverty line.

It is our moral obligation to see to it that our families earning minimum wage can have the means to economic mobility. Thus, we as legislators should rise to this challenge in order to ensure that all Americans have not only the opportunity to pursue their happiness—but that they also have the means to achieving success.