

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Andrew Liveris in celebration of his 60th birthday and to thank him for his continued work in Michigan, the nation, and abroad. I wish him many years of continued health, happiness, and success.

HONORING MAYOR GARY BROWN
OF SALEM, MISSOURI

HON. JASON T. SMITH
OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mayor Gary Brown of Salem, Missouri for his achievements and years of service to the community.

This April, Mayor Brown will have served for fourteen years as mayor of Salem. Prior to being elected mayor, he served as Alderman of the East Ward for four years. Mayor Brown has dedicated much of his life to public service. This dedication has not only been towards his local community, but also to our nation during the four years he served in the Navy.

In his eighteen years of service to the city of Salem, Mayor Brown has devoted his time to be a positive influence to the community. I am thankful for his leadership which has greatly benefitted my hometown of Salem. It is my pleasure to recognize his service and achievements before the House of Representatives.

IN RECOGNITION OF VIRGINIA
"GINNY" TREACY

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.
OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Virginia "Ginny" Treacy on her retirement as Executive Director of JNESO District Council 1 International Union of Operating Engineers AFL-CIO. Ms. Treacy has dedicated over 35 years of service to labor causes and her contributions and accomplishments are truly deserving of this body's recognition.

Virginia Treacy has been an active labor member since 1977 when she organized her first campaign while a Registered Nurse looking for fair and equitable treatment. She began her labor career as a business agent for the New Jersey State Nurses Association's labor division and become Union Director in 1980. Five years later, she began an independent professional health care union under the name JNESO with the then 2,300 Registered Nurses from the New Jersey State Nurses Association. In 1992 JNESO became District Council 1—IUOE after affiliating with the International Union of Operating Engineers. Today, JNESO District Council 1—IUOE represents over 5,000 registered nurses, licensed practical nurses and other healthcare professionals and technical employees in both New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

In addition to her leadership of JNESO District Council 1—IUOE, Ms. Treacy is a member of the Gender Parity Council, the New Jer-

sey Health Care Workforce Council. She has been recognized for her many accomplishments, being honored with awards from her union and other labor and nursing groups.

A graduate of New York City's Beth Israel Medical Center School of Nursing, Ms. Treacy worked at various hospitals in New York and New Jersey before entering the labor movement. She is married, a mother of two daughters, a grandmother and an avid golfer.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in congratulating Virginia "Ginny" Treacy on her retirement and thanking her for her years of service.

HONORING KATE VERNEZ

HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Kate Vernez as she retires after 27 years of dedicated service as the Deputy City Manager of Santa Monica.

Kate transitioned to Southern California after a successful career with the City of New York, and the City of Santa Monica has truly benefited from her presence. I have had the distinct pleasure of working directly with Kate for many years, and I have personally witnessed how crucial her participation was in cultivating the necessary cooperation and collaboration among city, county, state, and federal governments time and time again.

Kate has played an instrumental role in numerous transportation projects, including the City of Santa Monica's Big Blue Bus. My staff and I also were able to work one-on-one with her on the Expo Line project, which will ultimately connect Downtown Los Angeles to Santa Monica.

In addition to improving transportation, Kate has been an integral part in addressing the issue of hopelessness, specifically among the Santa Monica veteran population. Furthermore, she has been a strong advocate for legislation at all levels of government that would provide support to veterans at our local West Los Angeles VIA campus.

Kate is a natural leader and I have repeatedly been impressed with her talent and dedication. Her record of excellence is an inspiration. With Kate in City Hall, I have always been confident that our mutual constituents in Santa Monica were being well-served at the city level.

I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the remarkable career of Kate Vernez and in wishing her all the best for the future.

FAIR PLAYING FIELD ACT OF 2014

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Fair Playing Field Act of 2014. In 1978, Congress was concerned that lack of clarity as to the proper classification of some workers, increased IRS enforcement activity, and retroactive application by IRS of interpretations that were arguably new had caused

hardships for some small businesses and other taxpayers and confusion as to the applicable rules.

To allow time to develop a comprehensive approach to the problem, Congress enacted section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978 as an interim measure protecting taxpayers from liability for misclassification if the taxpayer has a reasonable basis for classifying a worker as an independent contractor and meets certain other conditions. In addition, the Act prohibited the Secretary of the Treasury from publishing regulations or revenue rulings on workers' employment tax status pending the expected near-term enactment of clarifying legislation.

During the ensuing 33 years, Congress made section 530 of the Revenue Act of 1978 permanent, however, changes in working relationships and the continued prohibition on new guidance have increased the uncertainty as to the proper classification of workers.

Many workers are properly classified as independent contractors. In other instances, workers who are employees are being treated as independent contractors. Such misclassification for tax purposes contributes to inequities in the competitive positions of businesses and to the Federal and State tax gap, and may also result in misclassification for other purposes, such as denial of unemployment benefits, workplace health and safety protections, and retirement or other benefits or protections available to employees.

Workers, businesses, and other taxpayers will benefit from clear guidance regarding employment tax status. In the interest of fairness and in view of many service recipients' reliance on current section 530, such guidance should apply only prospectively.

SUPPORT FOR CYPRUS

HON. MARK MEADOWS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 28, 2014

Mr. MEADOWS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to express my support for the people of the Island of Cyprus. The Greek Cypriots have agreed to come to the table and begin negotiations with their Turkish counterparts. The United States stands by its commitment to peace in the Eastern Mediterranean. While this is merely the beginning of what could be a very long process, it deserves our commendation. A peaceful resolution would set an example of stability in a region beset by turmoil, tumult, and upheaval.

The Turkish Cypriot people have been isolated for too long. They have desired a unified island for nearly half a century and this new start is a significant step towards their reinstatement into the political, economic, and social structure of not just the Island of Cyprus but also of the entire world.

Mr. Speaker, I restate my resolute support for the start of talks between the Turkish Cypriots and Greek Cypriots. It is important that we encourage both sides to remain at the table and negotiate in good faith. I also implore our State Department to continue to be resolute in supporting these talks. The power of diplomacy is strong. The world is watching and waiting with hopeful anticipation.