

Space and Missile Defense Command and the Missile Defense Agency. The District responded to and assisted in recovery operations when four hurricanes struck the State of Florida in 2004. In 2005, Mobile District began a comprehensive analysis and design for the Mississippi coastal counties to make them more resilient and less susceptible to risk from hurricane and storm damage following the devastating landfall of Hurricane Katrina along the Mississippi coast. From this analysis came the Mississippi Coastal Improvement Program, an innovative approach to achieving the goal of a more resilient coast.

Since 2000, Mobile has also completed four Headquarters complexes for major key commands, U.S. Central Command, U.S. Southern Command, U.S. Army Material Command and the U.S. Special Operations Command. They also were the design and construction agent for the new cantonment area and training ranges for the 7th Special Forces Group (Airborne) which relocated from Fort Bragg, North Carolina to Eglin Air Force Base, Florida. They are also responsible for the construction of various facilities at Eglin Air Force Base to support the Joint Strike Fighter program.

Mobile District continues to serve a variety of programs and missions in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, Tennessee and Central and South America. While I know my colleagues from these States are as appreciative as I am for their work, I am especially proud to have the District Headquarters in my District and in Mobile.

It is with pride that I say, Happy Birthday to Mobile District on your two hundred years of exemplary, innovative and dedicated service. On behalf of a grateful Nation, thank you to all the civilian and military members of the Mobile District for all you have done.

COMMEMORATING THE 50TH
ANNIVERSARY OF HEAD START

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2015

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Head Start, which provides children from low-income families access to comprehensive preschool programs and prepares children for success in kindergarten and beyond.

On May 18, 1965, President Lyndon B. Johnson launched Project Head Start as an eight-week summer demonstration project to teach low-income students needed skills before they started kindergarten. Over the past 50 years, Head Start has served 30 million children and families across the country who earn less than 100 percent of the federal poverty line or who have a disability.

Head Start is administered by the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and directly supports local agencies delivering services. The services Head Start children and their families receive include education, nutrition, dental, health, mental health transition, parental involvement and complete social service support. This strong support network provides the tools families need for their children to succeed upon entering primary school.

Continued access to the Early Head Start and Head Start programs helps ensure that

children develop the academic and life skills they need to succeed in their academic careers. Head Start alumni are more likely to finish high school, go to college, and be in good health, and are less likely to commit a crime. In 2012, HHS conducted a study that by the end of the 3rd grade, children who participated in the program were more likely to have favorable social emotional developmental outcomes and favorable cognitive impacts.

For 50 years, this program has given children the tools to succeed by ensuring a high quality education and access to healthcare and social services. The Head Start program represents a critical investment in the education of our nation's children.

In 2014, local affiliates like Neighbors in Need of Services Inc. (NINOS) and Community Action Corporation of South Texas (CACOST) served over 8,000 children in the 34th District of Texas. These organizations help improve the lives of children and their families in South Texas. Mr. Speaker, I congratulate Head Start on its 50th Anniversary today, and I wish continued success to all the Head Start staff and volunteers who are helping people, changing lives, and building communities.

RECOGNITION OF THE 50TH ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE HEAD START
PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 50th Anniversary of Head Start. "Project Head Start" was launched by President Lyndon B. Johnson on May 18, 1965. Originally designed as an eight week summer demonstration project, Head Start has expanded into an array of preschool programs that provides children from low-income families with a comprehensive array of services to prepare them for successful entry into kindergarten and illuminates the pathway for a brighter future.

In the State of Texas, 71,465 children and pregnant women were benefitted by Head Start last year. 4,068 of those served were from the 30th Congressional District of Texas—the district that I serve. Head Start is instrumental in uplifting families in my home state by providing resources to families who, just like you and me, want to see their children reach their full potential.

In its 50 year history, Head Start has served more than 30 million children and their families. Head Start alumni are more likely to finish high school, continue on to college and become self-reliant wage earners. This is only possible because of the access to services Head Start provides to disadvantaged children. It is important that, at this critical juncture in our nation's history, we increase our support of all Head Start programs. Every child in America should be afforded an equal opportunity to succeed, regardless of their socio-economic background.

President Obama recently called upon all Americans, including leaders of private and philanthropic organizations, communities and governments at every level, to make investments in our next generation of thinkers,

dreamers and doers. Investing in early childhood education is one of the best investments we can make as a nation. There is no better way to strengthen our economy and bolster our communities.

As a body of legislators, we have an opportunity and a responsibility to lead by example. We can help hardworking, low-income families build pathways out of poverty. We owe it to our future and the future of our great nation to ensure that all of our children have all equal opportunity to succeed. If, as a society, we are serious about giving children a bright and promising future, we must increase our investment and expand the vital programs Head Start offers.

Mr. Speaker, today, as we celebrate the 50th Anniversary of Head Start, I ask, that as a body, we reaffirm our investment in the children of America. Now is the time to expand upon the vision of President Lyndon Baines Johnson and his "Great Society" programs that resulted in the creation of Head Start. I urge my colleagues to support bipartisan efforts to give all of America's children a head start in life and close the educational opportunity gap.

HONORING DR. TOMÁS MORALES
ON THE OCCASION OF HIS AP-
POINTMENT AS NATIONAL
CHAIRMAN OF THE HISPANIC AS-
SOCIATION OF COLLEGES AND
UNIVERSITIES

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 18, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I am honored to recognize California State University, San Bernardino (CSUSB) President, Dr. Tomás Morales on his appointment to serve as National Chairman of the Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities (HACU).

Dr. Morales has led a life of distinguished service as an Educator and University President, and has held senior positions at three of the largest public universities in the nation, including California State University (CSU), The State University of New York (SUNY) and the City University of New York (CUNY). Among his many contributions to higher education, Dr. Morales has also served as Co-Chair of the National Task Force on College Readiness for the American Association of State Colleges and Universities, creating a roadmap for K–12 school systems to prepare students for college upon graduation.

Born in Puerto Rico and raised in New York, Dr. Morales knows firsthand the struggles our youth face as they strive to achieve the American Dream through higher education. Growing up, Dr. Morales worked hard by delivering newspapers and cleaning apartment floors before realizing his own dreams through education.

Overcoming adversity, Dr. Morales went on to earn a bachelor's degree in history from SUNY New Paltz and a master's degree and doctorate in educational administration and policy studies from SUNY Albany.

I am proud to recognize Dr. Morales' nearly four decades of service and look forward to seeing the vision and leadership he will bring to the National Hispanic Association of Colleges and Universities and their mission to