

He highlighted the long history of cultural contributions to American society which have become part of the American experience and spirit. He also noted the "record of enormous contributions Indians have made to this country, its art and culture, its strength and spirit, its sense of history, and its sense of purpose."

The President's Special Message was of particular importance because it called on Congress to repudiate and repeal the termination policy expressed in House Concurrent Resolution 108, and instead he promoted a policy that would allow Indian tribes to become part of the American fabric and participate in their communities across this great nation, at every level.

The President's message represented a fundamental change to how the United States engages Indian tribal governments and their people, proclaiming "the time has come to break decisively with the past and to create the conditions for a new era in which the Indian future is determined by Indian acts and Indian decisions." Since then, the United States Indian policy has become one of Indian Self-Determination, without Termination.

Congress responded to the Nixon Administration's initiative in 1975, by passing the Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act, paving the way for the enactment in 1988 of the Tribal Self-Governance Program. As a result of these enactments, Indian tribes currently manage and administer one-half of all programs and services offered by the Bureau of Indian Affairs and Indian Health Service.

In an effort to further develop a relationship of trust and confidence between the Federal government and Indian people, the President endorsed legislation to restore the Blue Lake lands to the Taos Pueblo Indians. Previously, the United States had appropriated the land for the purposes of creating a national forest. The Pueblo held the land sacred and necessary to express their religious faith. The message also proposed reforms to Indian education, encouraged investment, economic development and job creation in tribal communities, called for liberalizing land leases, and increasing support for Indian health.

Since then, Congress and the Executive Branch have collaborated to enact and implement statutes to improve Indian education, health, housing, sacred site protection, energy and economic development, and international trade and tourism. Every President since Nixon has embraced and implemented the policy of Indian Self-Determination. This policy is supported by the twin pillars of strong tribal governments and vigorous tribal economies, and continues to be the most successful Indian doctrine to date.

Mr. Speaker, I come before you now to commemorate President Richard M. Nixon's Special Message to Congress on Indian Affairs, affirm its support for the enduring truths contained therein, and call for the policy of Indian Self-Determination to be expanded and strengthened by this and future Congresses and Presidents.

ONE MILLION CHILDREN FED

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lunches of Love for serving its one millionth free lunch to the children of the Fort Bend County community.

Lunches of Love has been serving Fort Bend County since 2012 by providing nutritious lunches for children in need. On June 23, the organization handed out their millionth sack lunch and moved one step closer to ending childhood hunger. We are extremely proud of Lunches of Love's dedication to our children and are grateful for every volunteer who has helped them reach this milestone.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, thank you again to Lunches of Love for serving the children of Fort Bend County and helping to eradicate childhood hunger.

HONORING THE ST. HELENA NATIVE SONS HALL

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the St. Helena chapter of Native Sons of the Golden West, Parlor 53, on the occasion of the 100th anniversary of its meeting hall.

First opened on June 25, 1915, the St. Helena Native Sons Hall has hosted events and gatherings of all kinds and served as a valuable meeting space for the local community. Concerts, funerals, weddings, and auctions have been held within its walls. Once an old dance hall, the building was moved to its current location on Spring Street in St. Helena in 1915. A century later, the hall remains a cornerstone of the St. Helena community.

Founded in 1875, the Native Sons of the Golden West is one of the oldest fraternal service organizations in California. The organization was initially established to preserve the state's early history, including the events of the Gold Rush. Today, the Native Sons serve as a charitable organization and work to purchase, rehabilitate, and restore monuments from California's pioneer days. Sutter's Fort, the Franciscan Missions, and the Monterey Custom House were all preserved thanks to efforts of the Native Sons of the Golden West.

Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize the St. Helena chapter of the Native Sons of the Golden West for the 100th anniversary of its hall, and for many years of dedication to the local community. I wish them all the best on this historical occasion, and look forward to another century of service and celebration.

HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM "BILL" ALFRED KINDRICKS

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleagues, Congressmembers ANNA ESHOO and MIKE HONDA, in memory of William "Bill" Alfred Kindricks, who passed away on June 8, 2015. Bill was a leader in our community both in his public work with San Francisco BART and Santa Clara Valley Transit Authority, and in his private life as an integral member of his church and mentor within the black community in Santa Clara County.

Bill Kindricks, born the youngest of four siblings on July 24, 1946, on the campus of Tuskegee University to Lewis and Salena Kindricks, grew up in Opelika, Alabama. He graduated from Alabama A&M University and the University of Virginia, Darden Graduate School of Business, and played professional football with the Cincinnati Bengals and Oakland Raiders.

For most of his life, Bill resided and was an active member of his community in San Jose. A devout man, Bill was baptized and attended church weekly throughout his life. During his career, Bill worked for General Motors and San Francisco Bay Area Rapid Transit (BART) and retired from the Santa Clara County Valley Transit Authority (VTA) after 23 years of dedicated service.

Until his passing, Bill was a nurturing, supportive leader and mentor in the 100 Black Men of America, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity, Inc., National Forum Black Public Administrators, Black Leadership Kitchen Cabinet of Santa Clara County, and NAACP, among others. As the President of the Silicon Valley Chapter of 100 Black Men of America, Bill contributed to the development of hundreds of young adults. Compassionate and generous with his time, Bill was always available to selflessly help those in need.

Bill was a genuinely good human being. He bettered the lives of others with his magnanimous presence and spirit. Many loved and respected Bill, and his passing is mourned and deeply felt among those whose lives he has touched. Together with my colleagues, I want to express my sincerest condolences to Bill's family and fellow church members. Our hearts are with them in this time of sorrow. Along with Bill's family, friends, former colleagues and our community, we will miss him. We have been lucky to have him.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 8, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,151,950,433,860.76. We've added \$7,525,073,384,947.68 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could