

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR,
ENVIRONMENT, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 7, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2822) making appropriations for the Department of the Interior, environment, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to the Goodlatte amendment. The Goodlatte amendment removes the federal backstops which ensure that states meet their responsibilities under the Clean Water Act to restore the Chesapeake Bay.

The Chesapeake Bay is a critical part of Virginia and we are already starting to see the results of successful Bay cleanup efforts. Virginia oysters are booming—last year the harvest was up 25% and passed the 500,000 bushel-mark. That is why Virginia is committed to working with EPA and other Bay states to clean up the Chesapeake. There have been hundreds of millions of dollars invested in this effort and federal backstops play an important role to ensure that all states do their share.

But this amendment puts our investments and progress at serious risk. This amendment suggests that it would preserve the rights of the states to write their own water quality plans. But the Commonwealth of Virginia already wrote its own water quality plan and the Total Maximum Daily Load submission was accepted by EPA. So in Virginia, this is simply not a problem. So to me, this amendment looks like an answer in search of a problem. A problem we do not have in Virginia.

But what this amendment does do is this. It creates a BIG problem for Virginia because it would allow upstream states off the hook. It would allow upstream states to stop their cleanup with no consequences. In Virginia, we would feel—and see—real consequences. We could see increases in dirty water flowing downstream, reversing all of our hard work.

If upstream states stop their cleanups, Virginia would need to double the work and more—and we would still not have a clean Bay. The fact is that this amendment would absolutely undermine the cleanup efforts already underway. It puts at risk future environmental and economic benefits that Virginia would accrue with a cleaner, healthier bay such as more abundant seafood, tourism, recreation, and improved quality of life. As the state at the bottom of the bay watershed, Virginia's success in restoring our part of the Bay is dependent upon what the other states do, or don't do.

This amendment would ensure that other states would write the future of Virginia's waters and the future of our Bay. That is why

I am working with my colleagues CHRIS VAN HOLLEN and BOBBY SCOTT to raise awareness of the dangers of this amendment.

I urge my colleagues to vote NO. It takes away our clean water future and our clean water investments. This amendment is bad for Virginia and bad for the future health of the Chesapeake Bay.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I missed a recorded vote on July 10, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "NO" on roll call vote No. 433, H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act.

CONGRATULATING FRANCIS HOWELL HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS PLACEMENT IN THE TOP 25 MISSOURI RANKED HIGH SCHOOLS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Francis Howell High School for its placement in the top 25 Missouri high schools as ranked by U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Francis Howell High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING U&S SERVICES INC. FOR 25 YEARS OF SERVICE TO WESTERN NEW YORK

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize U&S Services Inc. for its 25th Anniversary of service to our community. With corporate offices centered in the city of Tonawanda in New York's 26th Congressional District, U&S Services has established itself as a leader in building controls services in Western New York.

Founded in 1990 with the desire to be at the very forefront of technical growth in the industry and with a firm commitment to excellence, U&S Services this year celebrates a quarter century of outstanding work in a highly com-

petitive and critically important field. Boasting a highly experienced staff of technicians, engineers, and business professionals, U&S Services offers a vast array of services to its customers. From energy and security systems to fire and life safety monitors and video surveillance, U&S combines traditional approaches with state-of-the-art innovations essential to the smooth operation of business facilities of all sizes throughout its coverage network.

In its 25 year history U&S Services has participated and continues to lead thousands of projects both large and small, including work on several notable Buffalo area landmarks and institutions. From the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport to Roswell Park Cancer Institute, from First Niagara Center to the Darwin D. Martin House, U&S Services' ubiquitous presence demonstrates why it remains an industry leader.

Mr. Speaker, thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor and recognize U&S Services and I ask that all of our colleagues join me in congratulating U&S Services on a quarter-century of excellence in business, and to commend it for the exemplary work it has done to enrich the communities of Western New York.

177TH ANNIVERSARY OF METROPOLITAN AFRICAN METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 177th Anniversary of Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church in Washington, D.C. For 177 years Metropolitan A.M.E. Church has stood at the forefront of the fight for social justice and equality.

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church, often referred to as the National Cathedral of African Methodism, was formed by the unification of Israel Bethel and Union Bethel. The churches united as a reaction to the dissatisfaction among African-Americans over racial segregation at Ebenezer Methodist Episcopal Church. Their decision to stand together as one body in the face of unwarranted racism and to work for the advancement of the black community was both courageous and heroic.

On July 6, 1838, the Baltimore Conference of the African Methodist Episcopal Church officially welcomed Union Bethel to the greater community. In 1872, the name was officially changed to Metropolitan A.M.E. when the Baltimore Conference authorized construction of a new church that would be built in "close proximity" to the White House and the United States Capitol.

The cornerstone for the new church was laid in 1881, and a stained glass window was dedicated to each contributing Annual Conference that invested in the church's construction.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Since its founding, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church has played a pivotal role in seeking justice for African-Americans. From leading anti-slavery efforts and harboring runaway slaves to providing AIDS awareness and registering voters, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church has always been on the forefront of transformative change.

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church serves as a sanctuary to all, providing not only a place for worship but also a safe haven. For 177 years, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church has met the needs of the community and has influenced the civic, cultural, and intellectual lives of African-Americans.

Their walls hold the memories and wisdom of illustrious guests like Frederick Douglass and Eleanor Roosevelt who addressed the most pressing social issues that plagued our growing nation. Metropolitan A.M.E. Church has hosted numerous historic events including the official pre-Inaugural prayer services for President William Jefferson Clinton in 1993 and 1997—thus becoming the first African-American church to ever serve in such a capacity. Likewise, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church hosted the National Memorial Service for Mrs. Rosa Parks, the mother of the modern American Civil Rights movement.

Most recently, Metropolitan A.M.E. Church opened its doors to the community in the aftermath of the June 17, 2015, church shooting at Mother Emanuel in Charleston, South Carolina. Hundreds came to Metropolitan A.M.E. Church to honor the nine victims and to seek comfort in the church's warm embrace.

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church follows in the rich tradition and mission of its parent denomination, the historic African Methodist Episcopal Church. The African Methodist Episcopal Church was born in protest of slavery and racial discrimination in 1787, after members of the Free Africa Society were forced off their knees as they prayed at St. George's Methodist Episcopal Church in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. It was at this moment that the members of the Free African Society realized that when it came to the American Methodist Church, their shackles had not yet been removed.

Richard Allen, Absalom Jones, and other free blacks established the African Methodist Episcopal Church as a refuge from racism—a safe place to worship in spite of the opposition they received as members of St. George's Church. Their journey to establish a new church denomination was not easy, but the seeds they planted soon grew. In the weaning days of the Confederacy, the membership of the African Methodist Episcopal Church grew rapidly, as the Union army permitted church members to recruit newly freed slaves.

Metropolitan A.M.E. Church rose out of this rich legacy, and became a powerful agent for change in its own right. Metropolitan A.M.E. Church has played a vital role in our history, standing tall as a cornerstone of its community through the test of time. This tradition continues today, and will continue well into the future.

On a personal note, I am pleased to serve as the keynote speaker for the 177th Anniversary Service on July 12, 2015. It is a high honor to have the opportunity to celebrate the 177 years of contributions and exemplary service of Metropolitan A.M.E. Church. It is a privilege to stand in the same pulpit as es-

teemed guests such as Paul Laurence Dunbar, Mary McLeod Bethune, and Dorothy I. Height. As a life member of the historic Brown Chapel A.M.E. Church in Selma, Alabama, I can truly say that it was the support of my church family and the teachings of African Methodist Episcopal Church ministry that helped me grow into the woman I am today.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognition of the 177th Anniversary of Metropolitan A.M.E. Church on this distinguished occasion. May the glory of Metropolitan A.M.E. Church continue to grow and prosper for years to come.

AFRICA'S DISPLACED PEOPLE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last year, nearly 60 million people were displaced worldwide. In fact, one out of every 122 people on Earth today is either a refugee, internally displaced in their home country or seeking asylum in another country.

In sub-Saharan Africa, there are more than 15 million displaced people. Of that total, 3.7 million are refugees and 11.4 million are internally displaced. These disruptions of normal life in Africa are caused by conflicts such as in Somalia, the Central African Republic, South Sudan, Nigeria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Mali, Burundi, Western Sahara and elsewhere. These disruptions not only affect those who are displaced, but also the people in whose communities these displaced people are relocated.

African refugees and internally displaced people face numerous issues—from security in the places in which they seek refuge, to death and mayhem trying to reach places of refuge, to conflict with surrounding populations to warehousing that consigns generations to be born and live in foreign countries.

A hearing I held yesterday examined the various issues displaced people face and the U.S. response to these conditions in order to determine the effectiveness of our government's efforts to help and to determine whether course corrections are necessary.

The terrible plight of African refugees has been much in the news in recent months because of the death of thousands trying to reach Europe across the Mediterranean Sea and attacks on refugees in South Africa reportedly caused by xenophobia.

On the South African case, I sent two members of my staff to southern Africa last month to look into the incidents of violence against refugees in South Africa. What they found was appalling. Despite a very generous set of laws and programs to enable immigration into South Africa, refugees were often refused medical service at hospitals that supposedly offer free medical care to all people.

Apparently, no matter what the law in South Africa says, staff who screen patients often simply refuse to allow people they consider foreigners to receive medical care. According to refugees who spoke with my staff, this has meant that refugee women have had to give birth on the floor of hospitals while hospital staff refused to provide services.

As for those refugees trying to cross the Mediterranean to seek sanctuary in Europe,

more than 1,800 people have died making that trip this year as of early June. On the cover of the April 25th issue of *The Economist* magazine, the failure of the nations of Europe to devise a workable, humane policy toward those fleeing to their continent was described as “a moral and political disgrace.”

Many of the refugees trying to cross the Mediterranean are Eritreans, who also have fled persecution and repression at home through the Gulf of Aden and also through the Sinai Peninsula, where they are often at the mercy of ruthless Bedouin groups, who traffic them or hold them for ransom. Eritrea is a closed society, so our knowledge of conditions there comes mostly from refugees, but one has to ask how bad must conditions there be if so many Eritreans are willing to risk their lives and well-being to find refuge almost anywhere else?

Unresolved conflicts have forced many refugees to experience protracted stays in foreign countries. For example, refugees have not only had children but also grandchildren in camps in Kenya and Algeria. After more than two decades, the situation in Somalia remains unresolved, and Somali refugees are unable to resume their lives in their homeland. Yet they face an increasingly hostile Kenyan environment in which the government is unwilling to allow Somalis to establish financial independence outside refugee camps.

In Algeria, Sahrawis, refugees from the Western Sahara territory under the control of Morocco, have lived in camps in western Algeria since being chased out of the territory by the advance of hundreds of thousands of Moroccans in 1975. The Government of Algeria not only provides a home for the Sahrawis, but also supplies access to free education and health care. Still, income-generating activities by Sahrawis are discouraged to prevent competition with local Algerians.

Internally displaced persons also face serious challenges. In Nigeria, for example, more than 1.5 million people from northeastern Nigeria have fled attacks by Boko Haram and resulting Nigerian military activities. However, Nigeria is a patchwork of 36 states whose creation over the years has inflamed ethnic and religious tensions as state majorities became minorities suddenly. The Nigerian IDPs are generally living in communities rather than camps. The longer they remain in their current areas, the greater the chance their presence will inflame new unrest as the ethnic and religious balance in their new areas is again changed abruptly.

The United States and the rest of the international community face serious challenges in addressing the displacement of so many people. According to U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees Antonio Guterres, the “international response capacities are overstretched by the unprecedented rise in global forced displacement.” We must carefully consider the U.S. role in meeting the increasing challenge of Africa's displaced people, taking into consideration our moral imperative to help those in need, as well as strategic interests in preventing the kind of neglect that makes terrorist recruitment among displaced people easier than it should be.

CONGRATULATING KURT ZWIKL

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize a community leader who has worked tirelessly to transform the Schuylkill River Heritage Area into a prime destination for outdoor recreation as well as a definitive source of historical information about the significance of this scenic waterway, which flows from the heart of Pennsylvania's anthracite coal region to the City of Philadelphia.

Kurt Zwikl has spent the past 12 years as executive director of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area. He retired from the Pottstown-based non-profit organization on June 30th.

Thanks to his ability to foster community partnerships and his tireless advocacy, Kurt has expanded the number of miles available to bikers and walkers along the Schuylkill River Trail. Eventually, families and residents will be able to enjoy a unified, 130-mile trail system stretching from Schuylkill County to Philadelphia.

A partnership with neighboring Montgomery County Community College enabled the Schuylkill River Heritage Area to open the River of Revolutions Interpretive Center in Pottstown in 2012.

Students from local schools and tourists from around the world can view exhibits and discover how the Schuylkill River has helped secure our independence, fueled our prosperity and inspired stewardship and a deep appreciation for preserving irreplaceable natural resources.

And earlier this month, nearly 200 outdoor enthusiasts paddled 112 miles from Schuylkill Haven Island to Philadelphia during the "Schuylkill River Soujourn." This is an event that has grown each year under Kurt's leadership.

Mr. Speaker, I want to express my gratitude for Kurt Zwikl's tremendous accomplishments as executive director of the Schuylkill River Heritage Area—all of which have improved the public's access to and appreciation of the river and reinvigorated community pride in this amazing natural resource.

IN HONOR OF CONCORD POLICE
SERGEANT BUCKY SIMPSON**HON. RICHARD HUDSON**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor former Concord Police Sergeant Richard Howard "Bucky" Simpson, who passed away peacefully on June 24, 2015.

Sergeant Bucky Simpson was born on July 31, 1942, in Charlotte, North Carolina. He is survived by his wife, Susan Phillips Simpson of Concord; his children, Chad D. Simpson of Concord; Phillip A. Simpson and his wife, Jane Blackley Simpson, of Harrisburg; and his grandson, Garrett Parker Simpson.

Bucky was a distinguished Army Vietnam veteran who received many awards including the Purple Heart and Bronze Star. As a Concord Police Sergeant, he worked for 17 years

as a Juvenile Officer and helped implement the Drug Abuse Resistance Education (D.A.R.E.) program in Cabarrus County, North Carolina.

One of Bucky's greatest qualities was his ability to teach and help youth in the community. Bucky supervised the hiring of school crossing guards who were known as "Bucky's Angels," and he patiently taught Bike Safety and BB Gun Safety Training to hundreds of kids at Camp Spencer. He also faithfully served on the Board of Directors at the Boys and Girls Club where he once received the "Father of the Year Award." For his continued dedication to helping youth in Concord, Bucky once received the L.T. Williams Award from the North Carolina Officers' Association for being the "Most Outstanding Juvenile Officer" of the year.

Mr. Speaker, please join me today in celebrating former Concord Police Sergeant Bucky Simpson's life as a dedicated husband, father, and public servant.

IN HONOR OF MIKE ROOS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the long and distinguished public service career of our friend, Mr. Mike Roos. I had the great honor of working with Mike as colleagues in the California State Assembly along with several other current and former members of this House. I count myself fortunate to call him a good friend.

In 1999, Mike founded Mike Roos and Company, a public affairs firm that Mike shaped specializes in government relations, corporate issues management, media relations, and ballot measure campaigns. Prior to establishing Mike Roos and Company, Mike served as President and CEO of the Los Angeles Alliance for Restructuring Now, a coalition of business and civic leaders from the Los Angeles Area dedicated to implementing systemic reform and restructuring within the Los Angeles Unified School District. His significant efforts in this capacity have undoubtedly changed countless lives of children in the Los Angeles area for the better.

Mike's distinguished Assembly career began in 1977. He earned the love and respect of both his Democratic and Republican colleagues. His own caucus chose him Majority Floor Leader in his second term, a position he held until his 1987 election as Assembly Speaker Pro Tempore. He had the reputation as a genuine legislator—someone who used the power of lawmaking to make the lives of the People of California better. Perhaps his most well known achievement is the Mello Roos Community Facilities Act of 1982 and the Roberti-Roos Weapons Control Act of 1989. Mike authored the strictest laws to date protecting the confidentiality of HIV patients, as well as the law creating the Alternative Test Sites Program, which established centers where individuals could receive free, anonymous testing for the AIDS antibody. He consistently fought for a better education for all, authoring legislation prohibiting sex discrimination in California's educational institutions.

Prior to his election to the State Assembly, Mike served as the Executive Director of the

Coro Foundation, a leadership training program for future leaders in public service. Thanks to his substantial experience and insight, he continues to be a valuable consultant to civic and educational organizations, speaking on topics ranging from education reform to the legislative process in California politics.

Mr. Speaker, I know I speak for the whole House in thanking Mike for his years of service on behalf of the people of California. I know he looks forward to spending time with his family, including his four daughters Shelby, Melissa, Catherine, and Caroline. I wish him nothing but success and happiness.

CONGRATULATING CAMDENTON
HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE
MEDAL AWARD**HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Camdenton High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Camdenton High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE PRINCIPAL OF
THE YEAR AWARD NOMINEE FOR
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY PUB-
LIC SCHOOLS**HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Principal of the Year Award nominee for Prince William County Public Schools.

The Principal of the Year for Prince William County will receive the Distinguished Educational Leadership Award from the Washington Post. Nominated principals must demonstrate the ability to:

- Manage effectively
- Demonstrate and encourage creativity and innovation

- Foster cooperation between the school and the community

- Maintain a continuing dialogue with students and parents as well as faculty and staff

- Keep abreast of developments in the field of education

- Encourage team spirit

- Demonstrate leadership and exemplify commitment

- Continue to play an active role in the classroom

- Maintain their position as principal throughout the 2015–16 school year

- Participate in the five day 2015 DELA Seminar to be held July 2015

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the 2014–2015 nominee, Joyce Stockton of Philip Michael Pennington Traditional School, for Prince William County Schools, Principal of the year award.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending Ms. Stockton, Principal of the Year Award nominee for Prince William County Public Schools, and in thanking her for her dedication to leadership in our school system. Her continued service will ensure that students of Prince William County are provided with a world class education in a more vibrant learning community.

HONORING THE LIFE OF NORTHWEST
FLORIDA'S BELOVED
CLARENCE OLIN MARLER

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the life and legacy of Northwest Florida's beloved Clarence Olin Marler. On July 9, 2015, Destin, Florida—the “World's Luckiest Fishing Village”—and the recreational boating community suffered a great loss with his passing.

Olin Marler was born in Destin on October 10, 1934, to the late Clarence L. Marler and Gladys Marler. A proud Northwest Floridian, he also pursued his higher education in the area, graduating from the University of West Florida with a Bachelor of Science in Management. It was during his time working as a defense contractor with Vitro Services, now known as BAE Systems, that Olin began his career as a Charter Boat Captain, purchasing his first charter boat in 1965. As a result of his dedication and hard work, what began as a small weekend business, Olin Marler Charters would flourish into one of the oldest and most successful charter boat operations in the State of Florida, and over the years, Olin helped thousands of locals and tourists experience the God-given natural beauty of the Eastern Gulf of Mexico.

To some, Olin Marler will be remembered as a legendary boat captain; to others, he will be remembered for his great stories and his love of fishing. To his friends and family, however, he will forever be remembered as a loving husband, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather. While fishing and the smiles on his customers' faces brought Olin great happiness, his greatest blessing and love was his family.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life of Clarence Olin Marler. Without question, his contributions to the Northwest Florida economy will be felt for years to come; however, more important was the joy Olin brought to his customers, friends, and family, and the legacy he leaves behind. My wife Vicki and I extend our heartfelt prayers and condolences to his wife, Donna; sons, Greg and Andrew; daughter, Hannah; grandchildren, Caden Lee Olin Marler, Mallisa Marler Scott and Jacob Marler; great-grandchildren; and the entire Marler family.

BIRTHDAY WISHES

HON. TRENT KELLY

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. KELLY of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, July 10 is a special day to me. It marks the day of my first floor speech as a member of the United States House of Representatives, and I rise to recognize and celebrate two great men who have been influential in my life. They are John Forrest Kelly, my oldest son, who was born on this date in 1995, and my father, John M. Kelly, who was born on July 9, 1941.

I rise in recognition and honor of my son, John Forrest Kelly. John Forrest, or JFK as we commonly refer to him, was born in Tupelo, Mississippi to Sheila Stephens Kelly and me. John Forrest was the first grandchild for both his paternal and maternal lines. JFK is an extremely smart and articulate man. He graduated from Saltillo High School in 2013. During his high school career, he achieved high academic success. He was a well-liked and well-rounded student-athlete. He played one year of football and started for the Saltillo High School Tigers Baseball Team as an outfielder. After high school, he received academic scholarships and is currently a business major at the University of Mississippi; he is a member of the Pi Kappa Alpha Fraternity. John Forrest is an extremely bright young man, and I am confident of a bright future in whatever career path he chooses. I am extremely proud of him and his two siblings Morgan Grace (age 16) and Jackson Trent (age 9).

I rise in remembrance and honor of my father, John M. Kelly. John, commonly referred to as Big John, Papa John, Top, 1SG Kelly, or Papaw, was born on July 9, 1941 in Newton County, Mississippi to Madison Houston Kelly and Ludie Irene Robinson Kelly. The youngest child, his parents were small farmers in Newton County, Mississippi. John excelled in sports, playing basketball, baseball, and football for both Union and Decatur High Schools. He graduated in 1959 from Decatur High School. On June 3, 1961, he married Barbara Carolyn Mott Kelly. Married for 44 years, Big John and Barbara had three children: Lisa Renee Kelly Carley, and two sons, JOHN TRENT KELLY and James Kevin Kelly. With Barbara and his daughter Lisa by his side, Big John passed away from lung cancer on February 7, 2005, while both of his sons were deployed to Iraq as members of the 150th Engineer Battalion, 155th Brigade Combat Team.

Big John was a loving and caring father and a great provider for his family. John started out on the line in the furniture industry. Through hard work and intelligence, he worked his way up to managing furniture plants. He was a foreman, supervisor, superintendent and held many other leadership positions throughout his life. John always made time for family and community, coaching his sons, daughter and others in Union, Mississippi little league baseball until they went to high school.

In 1959, he joined the Mississippi Army National Guard until his retirement in 2001 at the mandatory retirement age of 60. He served with both his sons during his tenure in the National Guard, including mobilizing in 1990 for Desert Shield/Storm in the 134th Combat En-

gineer Company, 155th Armored Brigade. During Desert Storm, John was a Staff Sergeant and Engineer Squad Leader, I was an Engineer Second Lieutenant and Platoon Leader, and Kevin was a Specialist 4 and Engineer Soldier. John was First Sergeant for three of the four companies of the 150th Combat Engineer Battalion and retired as a Master Sergeant and Operations Sergeant in the 150th Engineer Battalion, 155th Heavy Brigade Combat Team.

Big John was always a caring and giving individual and was loved by most people who knew him. He was never too busy to help anyone in need. I have often said during my life if I am half the man my father was I will be a great man. He was a great husband to my wonderful mother, Barbara. He was a great inspiration and role model for me and my siblings and the best father and grandfather a man could ever ask to have.

Happy Birthday to my son, John Forrest Kelly, and to my father, John “Big John” “Daddy” Kelly. I thank and honor them both for being such a great influence in my life. I love them both with all my heart and soul. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to acknowledge and honor two very important men in my life, one with a great past, the other with a promising future.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in opposition to H.R. 5, the “Student Success Act,” which would harm the education of our nation's youth.

I thank Chairman KLINE, Ranking Member SCOTT, and all the members of the Committee on Education and the Workforce for their work to improve education for our nation's children.

Unfortunately, the bill before the House for consideration, should it become law, would harm our most vulnerable children, including those who attend urban and rural schools, and special needs children who need equal access to an excellent education.

In my 18th District of Texas, over 30% of students in the Houston Independent School district (HISD) live below the poverty line.

H.R. 5 threatens to cut over \$17 million from HISD, one of the largest reductions in Title I funding in the state of Texas.

I cannot stand by and support legislation that takes funds and resources away from children who are already struggling to meet their own basic needs.

This bill allows Title I “portability” which would allow states to redirect funds away from high concentrations of poverty and siphon monies to low-poverty schools.

This proposal, if enacted, would allow states to redirect funds away from districts with the highest concentrations of poverty, and into

more affluent districts with less need for such support.

The vast majority of the children affected by "portability," are black or Hispanic.

As legislators, as Americans, we have a generational responsibility to enhance the lives of those who will follow us, especially the most vulnerable.

H.R. 5 guts education funding, while diverting funds away from high-poverty schools by freezing funding at FY 2015 levels for three years, which represents over \$800 million in cuts to these programs compared to pre-sequester funding.

Mr. Chair, what does it say about our commitment to our youth that we are willing to cut funding for the future leaders of America?

For decades, we threw money at education without making sure our schools were actually improving, or whether we were giving teachers the tools they need, or whether our taxpayer dollars were being used effectively.

And our students too often paid the price.

The bill as it exists now allows for the establishment of separate, lower standards for students with developmental disabilities.

As a result of these standards, opportunities available for students with disabilities later in life would suffer considerably.

H.R. 5 converts much of the funding currently directed at English learners, migrant students, or at-risk students into block-grants, which would enable those funds to be spent outside the target populations.

Support for these students would also be eroded by suspending requirements that school districts improve the English-speaking ability of such students.

It is my concern as H.R. 5 is currently drafted abdicates the historic Federal role in elementary and secondary education of ensuring the educational progress of all of America's students, including students from low-income families, students with disabilities, English learners, and students of color.

'No Child Left Behind' needs to be fixed, but Republicans are pushing a bill that would gut education funding, eliminate and weaken protections for disadvantaged students, does not provide a well-rounded education for all students, and does not support educators.

The Statement of Administration Policy from the Obama administration agrees on the need for high-quality statewide annual testing as required in H.R. 5, so parents and teachers know how children and schools are doing from year to year and to allow for consistent measurement of school and student performance across the State.

However the administration has stated that this bill should do more to reduce redundant and unnecessary testing, such as asking States to limit the amount of time spent on standardized testing and requiring parental notification when testing is consuming too much classroom learning time.

In its current state the Obama administration recommends a veto of H.R. 5.

It is sobering to me, as the founder and co-chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus and someone who has long advocated on behalf of young people from all backgrounds, to see a bill that would have such a negative impact on the very children who need our help the most.

In addition to these sad truths, the bill currently under consideration would strike a devastating blow to our schools' ability to provide

the variety of programs that our children deserve.

It repeals dedicated funding for programs such as student safety, after and summer school programming, STEM education, education technology, arts education, literacy and block-grants support, forcing high-need districts to choose between funding vital services.

It should not be overlooked that one of these programs that is considered expendable is STEM-focused education, an area of importance both nationally and to my constituents in Houston.

The Houston region is one of the most important industrial bases in the world and was recently ranked the No. 1 U.S. manufacturing city by Manufacturers' News Inc.

Houston is also home to the largest medical complex in the world—the Texas Medical Center—and provides clinical health care, research and education at its 54 institutions.

These jobs, and truly the middle class of this decade as a whole, are dependent on workers who get the right STEM education and job training today.

Brookings' Metropolitan Policy Program's report "The Hidden STEM Economy" reported that in 2011, 26 million jobs or 20 percent of all occupations required knowledge in 1 or more STEM areas.

The same report stressed that fully half of all STEM jobs are available to workers without a 4 year degree and these jobs pay on average \$53,000 a year, which is 10 percent higher than jobs with similar education requirements.

To eliminate federal funding aimed at enhancing STEM education is to cripple an entire generation of America's youth, leaving them without skills that may be essential in securing their own future and the economic prosperity of our nation.

Finally, it must be addressed that the defining characteristic of our primary and secondary education system has been to prepare our students for college.

H.R. 5 does not contain any provisions that states consult with institutes of higher education in order to ensure that their academic standards are consistent with what will be demanded of those students once they graduate.

As a result, many students, even after receiving a high school diploma, will find themselves unprepared to pursue a college degree if they choose to.

We must look at the environments in which we are asking these students to succeed and ensure we have the best protections in place to provide safe educational institutions.

Amendment #93 of this bill, Jackson Lee Amendment, supports accountability-based programs and activities that are designed to enhance school safety, which may include research-based bullying prevention, cyberbullying prevention, disruption of recruitment activity by groups or individuals involved in violent extremism, and gang prevention programs as well as intervention programs regarding bullying.

H.R. 5 eliminates the current requirement that districts take action when their schools are under resourced and unable to meet the needs of all students.

Together with the lack of consideration and support for at-risk and low-income youth, this will result in those students being marginalized and denied educational opportunity rather than given the support and resources they so desperately need.

I urge all my colleagues to join with me and oppose the passage of H.R. 5.

CONGRATULATING ELDON HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Eldon High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Eldon High School for a job well done.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Chair, federal funding for biomedical research has been stagnant over the past several years, another victim of unwise and shortsighted sequestration and budget cuts that put deficit reduction before investments that can save lives.

With no increase to counter the effects of inflation and increased cost of research, NIH has lost 22 percent of its purchasing power over the last decade. NIH has been forced to cut or deny funding for thousands of promising studies that could hold the key to incredible breakthroughs.

We should do everything we can to bring cures to patients as quickly as possible. Far too many people suffer from rare, serious and deadly diseases, and its outrageous cures could be found except for the lack of funding. It's also important we make sure drugs are safe and actually do what they are intended to do. I have concerns with some of the proposed changes to FDA's approval process designed to speed drugs and devices to market. We need to be certain that the proposed changes will not subject patients to a high level of risk. I expect the Senate will review and fix those provisions when they take up the bill.

HR. 6 does what Congress has been unable to do because the Republican majority refuses to understand a simple fact: Funding biomedical research, just like investing in our roads and bridges, is an investment, not wasteful spending.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support for H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act which will help advance the discovery, development, and delivery of new treatments and cures for patients and will foster private sector innovation here in the U.S.

Arriving here today has been a long journey—full of lots of steps and some twists and turns along the way. I especially want to thank Legislative Counsel for their tireless efforts in helping translate our legislative aims into legislative language. They worked nights and weekends and were consummate professionals throughout the process. Specifically, I want to thank the following: Warren Burke, Ed Grossman, Jessica Shapiro, Michelle Vanek, and Jesse Cross.

I also want to thank the health care staff of the Congressional Budget Office for all their help in recent months. In addition to their role in estimating the budgetary effects of numerous policies in the bill, they were instrumental in helping us shape a number of proposals the Committee considered. I specifically want to thank Holly Harvey, Tom Bradley, Chad Chirico, and all their colleagues for their diligence and assistance through the process.

And I would be remiss if I did not again thank the outstanding team on Energy and Commerce, and most especially the Health team, led by Chief Health Counsel, Clay Alspach, supported by Josh Trent, Paul Edattel, John Stone, Robert Horne, Carly McWilliams, Michelle Rosenberg, Katie Novaria, Adrianna Simonelli, Traci Vitek and Graham Pittman—without whose expertise, wisdom and counsel, this legislative work would not be possible.

H.R. 6 was reported from Energy and Commerce Committee by a vote of 51–0 and advances conservative fiscal and regulatory reforms. Every dollar of advanced appropriations in the bill (which will sunset at the end of FY 2020) is offset with other permanent reforms—including billions of dollars in mandatory entitlement savings in Medicare and Medicaid.

But this is no ordinary mandatory spending—like the kind we usually see in entitlement spending such as Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid and Obamacare. This mandatory spending is for five years only and then stops or sunsets. This mandatory spending is fully paid for with mandatory spending cuts elsewhere that will not stop in five years, but are permanent reforms resulting in real savings. By comparison, the Ryan-Murray budget deal for health care savings yielded much less.

This innovative hybrid approach allows us to cut mandatory spending (entitlement spending) and use the savings to fund what would otherwise be a discretionary project—but in this case is 5-year dedicated spending on medical research.

Congressional Budget Office determined that H.R. 6 will reduce the deficit by \$500 mil-

lion over the first ten years, and at least another \$7 billion over the second decade.

The funds provided to the National Institutes for Health (NIH) and Food and Drug Administration (FDA) will be subject to explicit review and reprogramming through the annual appropriations process. Congress can review the dedicated funding and allocate it for specific initiatives.

Additionally, all the important policy riders that accompany federal funding through appropriations will be included—such as the Hyde Amendment and the Dickey-Wicker Amendment.

This bill also includes a policy that excludes authorized generics from Average Manufacturers' Price. This is a commonsense policy from the President's budget proposal, intended to ensure the appropriate calculation of Medicaid brand name rebates paid by manufacturers. The policy is not intended to effect Medicaid programs' pharmacy reimbursements. Instead, the provision, which many states support, will result in an increase in manufacturer rebates under Medicaid and thus save money for states and the federal government.

H.R. 6 will help America to innovate its way out of our entitlement crisis. The regulatory reforms included in H.R. 6 will accelerate the pace of discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures, thereby providing significant health care savings to the federal budget that will only grow over time.

By modernizing clinical trials, eliminating duplicative administrative requirements, and perhaps most importantly, making FDA less bureaucratic by advancing the voice and needs of patients in the drug and device approval process—H.R. 6 will make lasting, positive changes to the entire ecosystem of Cures. Over 250 patient groups have enthusiastically said “yes” and endorsed Cures.

I urge all of my colleagues to think of the patients and vote “AYE” in support of H.R. 6.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION
OF H.R. 6, 21ST CENTURY CURES
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am the Ranking Member of the Rules Committee. Rules, as you know, is the process committee.

Whether you are a majority or a minority member, you have rights, but they have been trampled on and abused with increasing regularity under this majority, and we have two glaring examples of that just today.

Mr. Speaker, this bill is important to all of us, and we all agree on the importance of putting more money into major research in the United States, we are falling behind other countries in finding the cures and the innovation for which we have been known for centuries. This is an important step that we are taking. This is a critically important bill, but process matters.

Mr. Speaker, after the Energy and Commerce Committee had voted out this bill unanimously, major changes were made with no committee input at all. They include a reduction of the amount of money that the com-

mittee had said would be put into the National Institutes of Health by \$1.250 billion, a very substantial sum.

They added some policy riders that literally made no sense. Why in the world would you put an abortion rider on a bill for medical research? As far as I know, the NIH and most medical universities doing this research do not perform abortion procedures. It was simply a way, again, to mollify members and make them vote for this bill.

Mr. Speaker, despite the importance of this bill, despite the fact that it came out of committee unanimously, despite the fact that so many people have worked on it, and despite the fact that good things were in it, the process was completely changed after it was over by rewriting major portions of it. That doesn't appear anywhere in the rules of the House.

Now, let's also think about what happened here last night during the debate on the Interior bill, which was considered under an open rule. After the Ranking Member, BETTY MCCOLLUM of Minnesota, had yielded back her time, a new amendment was offered at the request of Republican leadership in order to pick up enough votes to ensure final passage. This new amendment sought to undo two already adopted amendments that would restrict the display of the Confederate flags in National Park Service cemeteries. These amendments were initially noncontroversial—as they should have remained. In fact, they were adopted by voice vote. However, following a revolt by Members of the Republican Conference, Republican leadership offered this new amendment without any warning in order to gain more votes. In the end, the Majority pulled the entire bill in order to avoid taking a vote on their effort to place Confederate flags in U.S. cemeteries.

Mr. Speaker, and then this morning the Majority chose to send Leader PELOS's resolution to committee in order to avoid taking a vote on it. Her resolution would have required the removal of state flags containing the Confederate battle flag from the House wing of the Capitol, unless the flag is flown by an individual Member. Mr. MCGOVERN stated quite precisely that the resolution will die in committee—we will never see that one again. Unfortunately, that's what happens here, but Mr. Speaker, it is time it was stopped.

I was born in a border State, in Kentucky. I lived there most of my life. I was educated there. I never saw a Confederate flag in all those years. These battle flags that they are putting up appeared in the South after the civil rights legislation. They were the products of Strom Thurmond and the Dixiecrats. That is when they started to bloom all over. It is a symbol of pure hate or fear. It needs to go.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 OFFICERS
OF THE OCCOQUAN WOODBRIDGE
LORTON VOLUNTEER FIRE DE-
PARTMENT

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2015 Officers of the Occoquan Woodbridge Lorton Volunteer Fire Department. The 2015 officers and members of the

board of directors are taking leadership roles in one of Northern Virginia's longest standing volunteer fire departments. The O.W.L. Volunteer Fire Department was created to address the need for organized fire response capabilities in the growing suburbs of Northern Virginia. Organized in 1938 and chartered in 1940, the Department officially formed to become the only fire department between Fredericksburg and Alexandria. In the subsequent decades O.W.L. has expanded to staff three stations and provide emergency medical services.

The members of O.W.L. are dedicated community volunteers, and the 2015 officers and directors will be diligent stewards of this tradition of service. The 250 active O.W.L. members answer 14,000 calls and serve 60,000 people each year. Their job is demanding and the hours are long, but these brave men and women are driven by their dedication to public safety and the communities that they serve. We would all do well to follow their example.

I congratulate and commend the following 2015 incoming officers:

Department Chief: James F. McAllister

Fire Assistant Chiefs: Kurt Bolland, Michael Clark, Steve Godin, Wayne Haight, and Dave Williams

EMS Assistant Chief: Edward A. Craig

Fire Captains: Jonathan Baldwin, Joshua Culp, Tony Carroll, Tim LeClercq, Ryan Williams, and Justin Witt

EMS Captain: Diana Ondra

Fire Lieutenants: Lindsey Blasius, Jesus Castro, Mark Chandler, Jon Colpitts, Jonathan Holland, Billy Moore, Kody Perry, and Stewart Young

EMS Lieutenants: Chad Fritz, Tammy Hill, Aaron Hope, Cynthia Thackwray, and Sandra Williams

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating these remarkable volunteers on their new leadership positions, and in thanking all the members of the Occoquan Woodbridge Lorton Volunteer Fire Department for the vital service they provide to the Prince William County community.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
ANSAR SHRINERS OF SPRINGFIELD, ILLINOIS

HON. RODNEY DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. RODNEY DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Ansar Shriners of Springfield, Illinois on their 100th anniversary. To date, they are the seventeenth largest chapter of over two hundred Shriner chapters worldwide. The Shriners are a fraternity that believes in brotherhood, family, leadership, and giving back. They are dedicated to providing assistance to those in need.

Their philanthropic efforts enable the Shriner hospital network, containing nineteen children hospitals and three burn institutes, to provide care at no cost to their patients. The Shriner hospital network has cared for over one million children since its inception, providing expert pediatric specialty care regardless of their ability to pay.

The Ansar Shriners of Springfield exemplify the importance and power of community serv-

ice. I thank them for their continued support of the less fortunate and congratulate them on their 100th anniversary.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RECOVER ACT (REDUCING THE EFFECTS OF THE CYBERATTACK ON OPM VICTIMS EMERGENCY RESPONSE ACT OF 2015)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Reducing the Effects of the Cyberattack on OPM Victims Emergency Response Act of 2015 (the RECOVER Act), a bill to require the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to provide complimentary and comprehensive identity protection coverage to all individuals whose personally identifiable information was compromised during recent OPM data breaches. Senator BEN CARDIN (D-MD) has introduced the companion bill in the Senate. Yesterday, OPM reported that more than 21.5 million current and former federal employees have had their personal information compromised in a second OPM data breach, five times more than the 4.2 million already reported, for a grand total of 25.7 million federal employees and retirees. OPM said that the 21.5 million individuals whose background check records were compromised would receive only three years of credit monitoring and identity theft protection services and \$1 million in loss coverage, while the other 4.2 million individuals whose personnel records were compromised would receive 18 months of credit monitoring and \$1 million in loss coverage. In light of the scope of OPM's data breach and the limited protection that is proposed, I, along with my House colleagues CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, DON BEYER, DONNA EDWARDS, C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, GERALD CONNOLLY, and JOHN DELANEY introduce a bill that would provide free lifetime identity theft protection coverage that includes identity theft insurance for losses up to \$5 million. This protection is particularly necessary since the breach was discovered a year after hackers had already infiltrated OPM's system.

OPM's proposed protection would not protect current and former federal workers if hackers simply waited for a period of years before exploiting the stolen identities. However, our bill would give current and former federal employees some peace of mind.

The RECOVER Act is necessary to reduce the angst of our dedicated public servants resulting from this entire ordeal. OPM failed to protect our current and former federal employees. It follows that the government must do the right thing to make up for its mistake.

21ST CENTURY CURES ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 9, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 6) to accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of 21st century cures, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 6, the 21st Century Cures Act, a bipartisan piece of legislation that is vital to the future and health of our Nation's citizens and ecosystem.

This thoughtful legislation is the culmination of the hard work of my dedicated colleagues who have sought out and engaged in public conversations with patients, innovators, providers, regulators and researchers about how to move advances in science and medicine into new therapies.

This outreach has garnered the critical input and support of more than 370 patient and physician groups, state and local organizations, cancer centers, and research and life sciences.

I'm proud to be one of the cosponsors of H.R. 6, which represents a new national effort to find treatment and cures for thousands of unknown and rare diseases.

Looking to the various policies this legislation aims to address, it is important to highlight the commendable objectives and that will not only accelerate the discovery, development and delivery of new treatments and cures for thousands of serious and rare diseases, but it will also open the doors of innovation and the growth of health care system by enhancing and enriching the medical field for all Americans.

The most ambitious action calls for \$10 billion in mandatory funding to be delivered over the next five years to the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

NIH is part of our nation's top ranked educational research institutions in the world.

In order to maintain our global competitiveness in the biomedical field, we must invest in the industries that guarantee economic prosperity for our current and future economies.

It has been estimated that every \$1 of NIH funding generates about \$2.21 in local economic growth, and, in 2012, NIH funded research supported an estimated 402,000 jobs all across the U.S.

The bill's funding for NIH would provide for an annual 3% increases in the NIH budget, which has been stagnant for the past few years and which desperately needs more funding to capitalize on emerging scientific insights.

This increased funding not only aims to continue the sustainability of our economy but it also supports our President's initiative to provide more resources to the biomedical field.

The 21st Century Cure Act supports the President's Precision Medicine Initiative, which would advance a new model of participant-centered research to accelerate biomedical discoveries and provide clinicians with new tools and therapies tailored to individual patients' needs.

The Obama Administration believes they can build on their progress in improving the drug development and approval process by: incorporating patients' voices into the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) decision-making; encouraging the development and qualification of reliable biomarkers to accelerate work on important new therapies; and reducing barriers to initiating medical device trials.

In furtherance of this initiative, H.R. 6 allows for the creation of an "Innovation Fund" through the National Institute of Health.

This “Innovation Fund” is a welcome effort because it promotes the maintenance of the best biomedical workforce in the world and help to increase the diversity of the biomedical workforce.

In particular, the \$2 billion provided for the Innovation Fund, will not only increase the number of the research projects it supports but it also increases the cap for NIH’s loan repayment programs.

This would include a repayment program for clinical scientists who do research in health disparities and for clinical scientist from disadvantaged backgrounds, from \$35,000 per year to \$50,000 per year plus a yearly inflation for adjustment.

With the support of H.R. 6, underrepresented communities and those with disadvantaged backgrounds from across the country can undoubtedly provide the future researchers and workers of the biomedical workforce.

The Journal on STEM Education reported in 2011 that only 8.34% of the STEM doctorates awarded in 2006 were given to underrepresented minorities, despite making up approximately 28% of the U.S. population.

Furthermore, GAO noted that while the percentage of underrepresented minorities nationwide increased from 13% to 19% from 1994 to 2003, the total number of STEM doctorates awarded to the same group dropped during this period from 8,335 to 7,310.

In response, the National Institute of General Medical Sciences (NIGMS) created the Minority Opportunities in Research (MORE) Division and similar academic intervention programs.

The MORE programs are comprised of four primary components: research experience, mentoring and advisement, supplemental instruction and workshops, and financial support.

In 2007, NIGMS’ annual budget was \$1.9 billion, of which nearly \$126 million was spent on its MORE programs.

This amount includes the Minority Biomedical Research Support-Research Initiative for Scientific Enhancement (MBRS-RISE) program, the Minority Access to Research Careers (MARC), Post-baccalaureate Research Education Program (PREP), and the Bridges to the Baccalaureate and Bridges to the PhD programs.

The amount of funds dedicated to these programs reflects the commitment by the science and research community to the goals of the MORE Division in addressing this problem.

Increased funding set forth in H.R. 6 will only strengthen NIH’s focus on diversifying the biomedical workforce by requiring NIH to focus on ensuring participation from scientists from underrepresented communities.

In addition to addressing the needs of underrepresented communities, H.R. 6 also calls for specific action to increase representation of racial minorities.

The 21st Century Cures Act acknowledges that there are disturbing statistics on the low numbers of African Americans, Hispanics and Native Americans pursuing academic qualification and participating in scientific research.

Under H.R. 6, the National Institute on Minority Health and Health Disparities will necessarily include strategies for increasing representation of minority communities in its strategic plan.

I am proud to say that H.R. 6 includes the Jackson Lee Amendment, which makes a good bill even better by ensuring that the national goals of finding and bringing more cures and treatments to patients and strengthening the biomedical innovation ecosystem in the United States is aided by an expanding pool of diverse and talented medical researchers.

Specifically, the Jackson Lee Amendment provides: The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall conduct outreach to historically Black colleges and universities, Hispanic-serving institutions, Native American colleges, and rural colleges to ensure that health professionals from underrepresented populations are aware of research opportunities under this Act.

Many racial health disparities stem from lack of access to effective test, treatments and cures for illnesses that have devastating consequences for African American, Hispanic and Native American populations.

For example:

1. African-Americans represent 12% of the U.S. population but only 5% of clinical trial participants.

2. Hispanics make up 16% of the population but only 1% of clinical trial participants.

3. Women are under-represented in cardiovascular device trials, which have 67% male participation.

The most significant barriers limiting clinical participation are race, age, and sex of participants:

1. Women and minority patients are more difficult to recruit.

2. Women and minority physicians have less experience and are relatively more costly to engage.

3. Minority patients with limited English proficiency can require costly translation services. Physicians are the gateway to the patient.

Increasing diversity of those conducting research will have implications on the types of conditions that are researched and the participants in clinical trials that are seeking answers to illnesses like lupus, triple negative breast cancer, and sickle cell disease that can be difficult to detect, treat and cure.

Certain medical illnesses have been known to have higher prevalence in certain demographic groups, including type II diabetes, lupus, sickle cell anemia, and Triple Negative Breast Cancer for which African Americans are more than twice as likely to be diagnosed on average.

Lupus, triple negative breast cancer and sickle cell disease are of particular concern because they are often difficult to diagnose and disproportionately impact persons of color and especially women.

In particular, Lupus is a chronic, complex and prevalent autoimmune disease that affects more than 1.5 million Americans. Yet, Lupus is one of America’s least recognized major diseases.

More than 90% of lupus sufferers are women, mostly young women between the ages of 15 to 44, and women of color are two to three times more at risk for lupus than Caucasians.

Triple negative breast cancer also disproportionately impacts younger women, African American women, Hispanic/Latina women, and women with a “BRCA₁ genetic mutation, which is prevalent in Jewish women.

More than 30% of all breast cancer diagnoses in African American are of the triple negative variety, and African American women

are far more susceptible to this dangerous subtype than white or Hispanic women.

Additionally, there are about 2 million people that carry the sickle cell trait and with about 100,000 having the disease.

According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, sickle cell trait is common among African Americans and occurs in about 1 in 12, and sickle cell disease occurs in about 1 out of every 500 African-American births, compared to about 1 out of every 36,000 Hispanic-American births.

Treatments for Lupus, triple negative breast cancer and sickle cell disease are not progressing as quickly as desired by patients, researchers, and policy makers.

We must support the advancement of legislation that will allow for the remediation and end of health care disparities and the promotion of research parity for diseases such as lupus, triple negative breast cancer, sickle cell disease, and countless other rare and serious diseases.

Race and ethnicity have also been shown to affect the effectiveness of and response to certain drugs, such as anti-hypertensive therapies in the treatment of hypertension in African Americans and anti-depressants in Hispanics.

Increased diversity in research trials could help researchers find better, more precise ways to fight diseases that disproportionately impact certain populations, and may be important for the safe and effective use of new therapies.

As one of the most diverse cities in the country, Houston is the 4th largest city in the United States and the 5th most populated metropolitan area in the nation.

Houston is home to the largest medical complex in the world—the Texas Medical Center, which provides clinical health care, research and education at its 54 institutions.

The University of Houston, ranked number three out of all other colleges and universities in Texas, is an example of a premier institution that can produce students with advanced STEM degrees who would be able to join a progressing biomedical field.

Another important requirement of H.R. 6 is that it would require the National Institutes of Health to publically report the number of children by race and gender who participate in NIH funded clinical trials.

This legislation would help ensure that children of all races are adequately represented in clinical trials and that we can determine the safety and effectiveness of drugs on children of all demographic backgrounds.

With 10,000 known diseases, 7,000 of which are rare, and treatments for only 500 of them—clear there is much work to do.

Medical research saves lives and improves the quality of life for millions of Americans because the government provides a steady and reliable commitment to basic research into cures for debilitating and deadly diseases.

Given the array of commendable initiatives, H.R. 6 is a necessary piece of legislation that will accelerate the discovery, development, and delivery of promising new treatments and cures for all patients while investing in our nation’s ability to maintain the best and most diverse biomedical workforce in the world.

Mr. Chair, I call for the support of all of my colleagues in ensuring the passage of the important legislation.

CONGRATULATING FESTUS HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Festus High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Festus High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE 2015 NATIONAL CAPITAL "A CINDERELLA BALL" AND THE TENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE HOUSE, INC.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2015 National Capital "A Cinderella Ball" and the tenth anniversary of The House, Inc.

Founded in 2005, The House, Inc. is a nationally recognized youth development program and offers out-of-school programs for pre-teens and teens in the greater Washington metropolitan region. Named by the Catalogue for Philanthropy: Greater Washington as "One of the Best," The House ensures that our youth are equipped with the knowledge and skills needed to become future leaders.

The House, Inc. is also the founder of the National Capital "A Cinderella Ball," which has been held annually in Washington, D.C., since 2006. The Ball, which honors military families whose children are affected by a disability or life-threatening illness, provides the opportunity for children who are sometimes sidelined from social events to enjoy a formal event featuring dinner, entertainment, and awards presentation. This is a moving and rewarding evening for these students and their families, and it is entirely organized by teen members of The House, Inc. Student Leadership Center.

This year The House, Inc. Student Leadership Center is honored to have the First Lady of the United States of America, Michelle Obama, serving as Honorary Chair of the Ball. Alongside the First Lady, former Secretary of State, Colin L. Powell and Mrs. Alma J. Powell are recognized as 2015 Honorary Committee Members. Washington Redskin quarterback, Robert Griffin III, whose parents both served in the United States Army, will be a featured speaker, and entertainment will be provided by Grammy Award-winning R&B recording artist, dance music entertainer and actor, Chris Brown.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the National Capital Area "A Cinderella Ball" and the tenth anniversary of The House, Inc. I thank the Student Leadership Center for its tireless efforts on behalf of

teens in our community and its dedication to creating brighter futures for the youth of Prince William County, Virginia.

TRIBUTE TO RILEY WEEHLER

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Mr. Riley Weehler for winning two state championships at the Iowa High School Rodeo state finals on June 5, 2015. Riley is the son of Neil and Jill Weehler from Maloy, Iowa.

Riley placed first in tie down calf roping and partnered with Payden Dawson from Maryville, MO to capture the team roping crown. His win is the culmination of many years of long practices and competitions throughout his high school career. He has qualified for the 67th National Finals Rodeo in Rock Springs, Wyoming on July 12–18.

Mr. Speaker, I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Riley Weehler on a job well done, and wishing him nothing but continued success at the National Rodeo Finals and his future in collegiate rodeo.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on July 10, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call #431—AYE.

Roll Call #432—NO.

Roll Call #433—AYE.

HONORING KEVIN SUTHERLAND

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend, Kevin Sutherland, a young man whose always cheerful personality, gentle nature and caring spirit touched all of us who knew him. Kevin was taken from us much, much too soon this past July 4th.

Kevin Sutherland was born and grew up in Trumbull, Connecticut, to Theresa and Douglas Sutherland. Kevin first caught the political bug when he joined his father collecting petition signatures door-to-door. The early political exposure proved to have a powerful effect on Kevin. He became involved in local Connecticut politics and quickly embraced the importance and value of personally engaging in public service.

At just the age of 15, Kevin further honed his political skills by working in Congressman Jim Himes' 2008 and 2010 congressional campaigns in Bridgeport, Connecticut up until his graduation from Trumbull High School in 2009. Following his passion for political activ-

ism, Kevin attended American University in Washington, D.C., the epicenter of political action.

At American University, Kevin was active in student government and served as Student Government Secretary for two years. In addition, Kevin discovered his passion and talent for communications and design. He applied his time and talents politically by serving as the Communications Director of the American University College Democrats and also served as the New Media Coordinator for the Kennedy Political Union.

After graduating from American University in 2013, Kevin took his passion for politics and began working professionally with the Lone Star Project, a Democratic political research and communications organization. Kevin's hard work and talent for graphic design then led him to New Blue Interactive, where he could apply his political passion and experience to many Democratic candidates and causes.

Kevin's love and gift for graphic design and photography filled his spare time as well. Kevin embraced living in Washington, D.C. by capturing the sights and sounds of our beautiful Capital city. When traveling to other places, Kevin would return with the essence of his travels captured visually. He graciously shared his work and, in doing so, not only showcased his talent but let us all share in the joy of his experience. It is a gift he gave without knowing and one that we will always cherish just as we cherish knowing this wonderful young man.

In honor and remembrance of Kevin Sutherland, whose warm and kind heart touched many lives, I submit this statement.

CONGRATULATING HERMANN HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Hermann High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Hermann High School for a job well done.

HUMBLE ISD NAMED WINNER OF H-E-B EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS PROGRAM

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the Humble Independent School District (ISD) was named the 2015 Large District winner of the H-E-B Excellence in Education Awards program. H-E-B is a state-wide grocery chain in Texas.

Humble ISD competed alongside six large districts statewide to win the cash prize of

\$100,000 and the title of 2015 H-E-B Large District Winner.

The H-E-B Excellence in Education Award recognizes the outstanding teachers, principals, and students of Humble ISD.

Humble ISD has announced that they will dedicate the \$100,000 award to innovative education grants which are awarded to teachers through the Humble ISD Education Foundation. As a former teacher, and husband and father of teachers, I understand the hard work it takes to achieve such an honor.

Congratulations to the outstanding students and teachers of Humble ISD. The people of the Humble and Houston community are fortunate to have such a school district.

And that's just the way it is.

2015 INSTALLATION OF OFFICERS FOR THE EASTERN PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY DISABLED AMERICAN VETERANS CHAPTER 48

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 2015 installation of officers for the Eastern Prince William County Disabled American Veterans Chapter 48. Surrounded by the Pentagon, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Belvoir, and the Marine Corps Base Quantico, Chapter 48 plays a vital role in the lives of the more than 50,000 veterans and active duty service members residing in Prince William County.

It is with great honor I submit the names of the following Chapter 48 Officers:

Commander—Ron Burgess
Senior Vice Commander—Ben Petrone
Junior Vice Commander—Darin Dsouza
Treasurer—Tim Perry
Chaplain—Kristi Pappas

Established by Congressional charter over 90 years ago, the DAV serves as an organization of veterans dedicated to ensuring the general well being of disabled military veterans of the United States Armed Forces and their families. Operating independently of federal funding, the DAV Organization consists of more than 1900 local chapters and 1.2 million members. Whether it be assistance with filing disability compensation claims or transportation assistance to ensure the safe transport of wounded or ill veterans to their medical appointments, the DAV is readily available for veterans in need.

While a new executive board has been elected, the mission of Chapter 48 remains in alignment with that of the national DAV: "empowering veterans to lead high-quality lives with respect and dignity." Over the past 30 years, Chapter 48 has donated over \$200,000 to the Hunter Holmes McGuire Veterans Administration Medical Center in Richmond to ensure access to a full range of benefits for veterans and their families as well as public education programs on the sacrifices and needs of veterans as they transition back into civilian life.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleague join me in recognizing the men and women of the Eastern Prince William County Disabled American Veterans Chapter 48 for their service to our country and steadfast commitment to their fellow heroes of the Armed Services.

RECOGNIZING LIBBY ARY, BEN HEISERMAN, JUSTINE SANDERS, LAUREL TEAL AND FIONA WICHT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Libby Ary, Ben Heiserman, Justine Sanders, Laurel Teal and Fiona Wicht for their hard work and dedication to the people of Colorado's Sixth District as interns in my Washington, DC office for the summer of the 114th Congress, First Session.

The work of these young men and women has been exemplary and I know they all have bright futures. They served as tour guides, interacted with constituents, and learned a great deal about our nation's legislative process. I was glad to be able to offer this educational opportunity to these five and look forward to seeing them build their careers in public service.

All five of our interns have made plans to continue their education in Colorado and throughout the United States. I am certain they will succeed in their new roles and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Libby Ary, Ben Heiserman, Justine Sanders, Laurel Teal and Fiona Wicht for their service this summer.

HONORING SIMON LOWES

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Simon Lowes, of California's 11th District, upon the occasion of his retirement from Chevron.

After graduating with a Bachelor's Degree in Chemical Engineering from the University of Birmingham in England, Simon began his 48-year career at Chevron in 1967 working as a process engineer at the Richmond Chevron Refinery. After subsequently earning a Master's Degree in Finance at the University of Pennsylvania, Simon continued to build an impressive resume, holding over 15 challenging positions over the next four decades in Indonesia, Nigeria, the Ivory Coast, Singapore, the United Kingdom, and the United States.

Among Simon's most noted accomplishments was his leadership in developing Chevron's Angola Partnership Initiative. Following a 27-year civil war that ravaged Angola's economy, Simon helped to design a social investment initiative to rebuild local capacity and stimulate economic recovery. Due in large part to his efforts, in partnership with the U.S. Agency for International Development, Chevron's unprecedented \$25 million commitment to this effort helped over 2 million people re-establish food security.

Simon was also instrumental in launching the Chevron Aceh Recovery Initiative, which assisted victims of the 2004 tsunami in Indonesia. Through a series of micro-finance programs and the establishment of a polytechnic institute, this program provided job training and livelihoods to thousands of distressed Indonesians.

In recent years, Simon has drawn on his extensive overseas experience to help lead Chevron's Corporate Social Responsibility strategy. As a result of this project and his many other endeavors, Simon's colleagues within Chevron and the development community have come to know him as a passionate innovator, a trusted and loyal mentor and, above all, an eternal optimist.

Simon leaves Chevron with the respect, admiration and gratitude of those who have had the pleasure of working with him, and the knowledge that he has positively impacted not only Chevron, but thousands of people around the world.

I would also like to recognize Simon's devoted wife, Shirley, and their three accomplished children, Aubrey, Chris and Ashley. Together, they built a family-focused life filled with new adventures, embracing each opportunity with curiosity and enthusiasm.

We extend our appreciation for a job well done, and wish Simon a well-deserved retirement.

CONGRATULATING OSAGE HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Osage High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Osage High School for a job well done.

CONGRATULATING THE UNITED STATES BOWLING CONGRESS

HON. MARC A. VEASEY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. VEASEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate the United States Bowling Congress, headquartered in the 33rd Congressional District, in Arlington, Texas which I have the privilege of representing for leading the International Bowling Campus Youth Development Initiative and being the winner of the 2015 Sports Teach Respect Initiative Values and Excellence (STRIVE) Organization of the Year.

On Tuesday, July 14, Representatives of the U.S. Bowling Congress will be in the nation's capital to accept the STRIVE award as part of the National Youth Sports Week activities being hosted by the National Council of Youth Sports (NCYS) along with various fun sports related participation stations and youth sports participants.

Each year the NCYS recognizes five finalist organizations that meet the "kids first" approach. Nominations are submitted by the public nationwide and each team is accessed

on how well they implement best practices and policies that protect kids and promote safety. The five finalist organizations are listed on the NCYS website for voting by the public. The STRIVE Award is then presented to organizations that exhibit heartfelt passion and dedication to helping kids succeed in sports, while maintaining a commitment to safety procedures. The STRIVE award recipient receives a \$5,000 donation.

Comprised of numerous representatives in the youth sports industry, NCYS was founded in 1979, and its membership represents more than 200 organizations/corporations serving 60,000,000 registered participants in organized youth sports programs. NCYS is the largest known organization in America representing the youth sports industry, and its members include organizations such as, the American Association of Cheerleading Coaches and Administrators (Cheer Safe), American Legion Baseball, American Youth Soccer Organization, Jewish Community Centers Association of North America, YMCA of America, Pop Warner, Special Olympics North America, and U.S. Tennis Association.

International Bowling Campus Youth Development is a joint effort of the United States Bowling Congress (USBC) and Bowling Proprietors Association of America (BPAA). It is the largest organization serving youth bowling (145,000 youth bowlers last season) that supports a ladder-based development system designed for the growth of the athlete. Since the inception of the U.S. Bowling Congress' SMART program, more than \$6 million scholarships have been awarded nationally to youth bowlers through organized league and tournament competition. They also collaborate with external amateur athletic organizations to protect the amateur status of student-athletes within bowling, as well as other sports.

I commend the International Bowling Campus Youth Development and the U.S. Bowling Congress on this wonderful achievement and their work in Arlington and around the country, as well as the National Council of Youth Sports on the work it does as the go-to source for youth sports and safety programs.

RECOGNIZING THE RECIPIENTS OF
THE 2015 PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY
HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION
AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the recipients of the 2015 Prince William County Human Rights Commission Awards.

The Prince William Board of County Supervisors (BOCS) implemented the Human Rights Ordinance January 15, 1993, formally establishing the Human Rights Commission. Two years prior, the BOCS formed the Human Rights Study Committee to explore the needs of a community that was growing in population and diversity. An exhaustive effort that included numerous committee meetings and public hearings identified a strong community desire for a human rights ordinance and an agency to enforce it. The Human Rights Ordinance prohibits discriminatory practices based

on race, color, sex, national origin, religion, marital status, or disability, as well as in the consideration of employment, housing, public accommodations, education, and credit, in Prince William County.

The BOCS approved the ordinance in September 1992 to ensure that "each citizen is treated fairly, provided equal protection of the law, and equal opportunity to participate in the benefits, rights, and privileges of community life." Residents enlist the services of the commission if they feel their rights have been violated in the areas of employment, fair housing, credit, education and public accommodation.

In celebration of Universal Human Rights Day, the Human Rights Commission recognizes individuals and organizations that promote the principles of human rights in Prince William County. It is my honor to submit the recipients of the 2015 Prince William County Human Rights Commission Awards:

Eleana Boyer
Albert Brooks
Cynthia Brown
Victoria Graham
Luke Torian, 2nd Delegate

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the recipients of the 2015 Prince William County Human Rights Commission Awards. We owe a deep debt of gratitude to these honorees for their efforts to safeguard our most basic rights and remind us of our common humanity. Let us use their example to rededicate ourselves to the fight against inequity and injustice.

HONORING MR. BILL ALTAFFER

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, the people of Tucson lost a tremendous presence in our community with the recent passing of Bill Altaffer. An attorney by trade and a humanitarian at heart, Bill was deeply committed to improving the quality of life in Arizona, across the country and around the world.

After graduating with honors from Pitzer College and earning his law degree from the University of Arizona, he served as associate general counsel to three Indian nations, assisting their governments in the interpretation of their constitutions and the enactment of environmental protection legislation.

Bill's affiliations speak volumes about his commitment to helping others. He was a member of the Muscular Dystrophy Association's (MDA) National Task Force Steering Committee, and a member and past chairman of the Southern Arizona Task Force on Public Awareness. In 1995, he received the MDA's National Personal Achievement Award, and in 2002, received the Tucson Human Relations Commission's Rabbi Albert T. Bilgray Make a Difference Award for his lifelong activism for human rights and social change based on the rule of law.

Bill and his wife, Colette, led the groundbreaking effort to enact the Inclusive Home Design Ordinance in Pima County, Arizona. This visitability ordinance requires new single-family houses to meet minimum accessibility standards, thereby promoting the independence of people with disabilities. It remains

the most progressive legislation of its type in the country today.

It was through this visitability ordinance effort that I first came to know both Bill and Colette. I immediately admired their commitment to their cause, and equally as important, their commitment to each other. The love they shared for each other was an inspiration to anyone who met them. They truly were soul mates, meant to be partners in their lives and in their vision for helping others.

Together they spent countless hours educating elected officials and their staffs, home builders, and community members alike about the incredibly positive impact that simple alterations to home designs can have for individuals with disabilities. Their efforts will benefit our community for decades to come. Bill and Colette guided the committee's efforts in creating and passing a visitability ordinance that propelled Pima County to the forefront of ensuring home accessibility for everyone. Their efforts helped many people remain in their homes, and access the homes of friends and family with little significant costs added to the price of a new home.

Bill may be gone from our material world, but he will remain in the hearts and minds of anyone who was lucky enough to meet him. His life together with Colette is an inspiration to everyone sharing their lifelong commitment to fighting injustice.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 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 \$18,151,931,284,495.35. We've added \$7,525,054,235,582.27 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

CONGRATULATING SILEX HIGH
SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL
AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Silex High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Silex High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY OF PASTOR CHARLES ARTHUR LUNDY OF EBENEZER BAPTIST CHURCH IN WOODBRIDGE, VIRGINIA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th Pastoral Anniversary of Pastor Charles Arthur Lundy of Ebenezer Baptist Church in Woodbridge, Virginia.

Pastor Lundy has had a distinguished pastoral career. His spiritual journey began at the young age of 13, when he was baptized at the Wayland Baptist Church in Baltimore, Maryland, under Reverend W.W. Payne. In February of 1981, Pastor Lundy received the distinction of becoming a deacon. Three years later, he was licensed by Star Bethlehem Missionary Baptist Church in Triangle, Virginia, under the tutelage of Reverend Doctor Frederick S. Jones. Pastor Lundy was ordained a Gospel Minister in August of 1987 and served as director of Christian Education for Star Bethlehem.

On June 23, 1990, Pastor Lundy was called to preside over Ebenezer Baptist Church in Occoquan, Virginia. His first sermon was titled, "Stay in the Ship" and established "putting the family back together" as his pastoral focus. Since 1990, the congregation has grown from 120 to over 800, and the Church is known as a place of comfort and guidance. Dedicated to maintaining a welcoming place to worship, Pastor Lundy continues to lead worship services in the Church's Family Life Center while a new, larger sanctuary is being constructed. The Family Life Center was dedicated in 2000, and Pastor Lundy effectively supervised that project while simultaneously earning a Masters of Divinity from Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology at Virginia Union University, graduating Magna Cum Laude. To accommodate the evolving needs of his congregation, Pastor Lundy maintains a commitment to education; on May 9, 2015, Pastor Lundy received his Doctorate of Ministry Degree.

Pastor Lundy retired from the United States Marine Corps, after serving 26 years and rising to the rank of Major. Further showcasing his commitment to service, Pastor Lundy is a past-Parliamentarian for the Northern Virginia Baptist Association. He is the past-Chairman of the Nominating Committee and a former member of the Commission on Evangelism. He served as Assistant Secretary for the Northern Virginia Minister's Conference and as a former member of United Way for the National Capital Area. In 2009, Pastor Lundy was elected as President of the Samuel DeWitt Proctor School of Theology Alumni Association, and this year he received an Honorary Doctorate of Divinity Degree from Richmond Virginia Seminary.

He is married to the former Jacquelyn Hinton McWhite. They are the proud parents of five daughters and two sons, and grandparents of nine grandsons and two granddaughters.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Pastor Charles Arthur Lundy on his 25 years of service to Ebenezer Baptist Church. Pastor Lundy remains devoted to the

mission and vision of the Church and expanding the ministry's reach into the community.

RECOGNIZING WILL-GRUNDY MEDICAL CLINIC

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic in Joliet, Illinois, as it celebrates the one-year anniversary of its Wellness Program.

For more than three decades, the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic has helped those in need receive the medical care they deserve. Through partnerships with local charities, hospitals, businesses and individuals, the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic has offered free medical and dental service to thousands of patients in our community.

Last year, the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic launched the Wellness Program to encourage overall health in our area. Through this program, the volunteer medical and dental professionals not only treat patients, but also offer educational opportunities to promote healthy lifestyles. The Wellness Program features classes on basic physical fitness, nutrition, and how to cook healthy, well-rounded meals on any budget.

I would like to congratulate the Will-Grundy Medical Clinic on the one-year anniversary of its Wellness program and thank the staff and volunteers who work so hard to ensure that our community is a stronger, healthier place to raise a family.

RECOGNIZING THE 60TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE OPTIMISTS CLUB OF GREATER VIENNA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 60th Anniversary of the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna and to thank its members for their service to our community.

The Optimist Club of Greater Vienna was chartered by Optimist International on June 21, 1955. For sixty years the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna has served its mission, "to bring out the best in kids" and lived up to the Optimist International motto by being the "Friend of Youth" in our community.

This Club has served the youth of the Vienna community in numerous ways, including providing thousands of dollars in scholarships each year to local students through the Carol Waite Brennan Awards, the T.R. Cook Youth of Excellence Awards, the Communication Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing students; essay and other oratorical contests, and vocational scholarships.

The Club raises tens of thousands of dollars each year in support of pediatric cancer patients and research through the Walk and Family Fun Day for Growing Hope. Recognizing that it is never too early to serve one's

community, the Club promotes community service in elementary school students with the Helping Hands Awards. This emphasis on opportunities for youth to serve and lead continues with Octagon and Junior Optimist Clubs at local schools.

The annual Charles A. Robinson Respect for Law Awards fosters positive relations between the community and local law enforcement. Annual Christmas tree sales and other fundraisers support youth athletic teams, as well as academic, science and arts clubs at area schools. Club members dedicate hundreds of hours each year volunteering for youth-related activities, such as Special Olympics, Alternative House, Ethics Day, the Vienna Community Center Halloween Party, and more.

The Optimists have also contributed greatly to Vienna's community life by operating the Vienna Saturday Farmers Market since 2006, providing not only a marketplace for local, fresh, and healthy foods, but also a meeting place for Vienna residents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Optimist Club of Greater Vienna on its 60th Anniversary of service to the Vienna community and thanking its countless volunteers and supporters for helping to bring out the best in our kids.

TRIBUTE TO BEDFORD COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Bedford Community School District for receiving the Employer Support Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the highest recognition given by the Department of Defense to employers for their support of National Guard and Reserve members. Almost half of the U.S. Military is made up of National Guard and Reserve members, many of whom also hold jobs with civilian employers. The Freedom Award recognizes those employers that provide the most outstanding support for the Citizen Warriors.

I applaud and congratulate Bedford Community School District for earning this prestigious award. I am proud to represent them in the U.S. Congress and I know that my colleagues join me in congratulating the school and wishing them nothing but continued success in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on the afternoon of July 9, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted:

Roll Call #427—NO
Roll Call #428—AYE
Roll Call #429—YEA
Roll Call #430—AYE

CONGRATULATING ST. ELIZABETH HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating St. Elizabeth High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing St. Elizabeth High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE SPECIAL OLYMPICS

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the significance of the Special Olympics which has established strong and lasting competitive bonds worldwide while simultaneously teaching the world that all people, regardless of their personal struggles, possess the same courage and profound joy in the face of athletic competition.

The Special Olympics has dedicated itself to empowering individuals with intellectual disabilities to become physically fit, productive, and respected members of society through physical education and sport competition.

The origins of this important institution began in the 1950's when Eunice Kennedy Shriver witnessed how children and young adults with intellectual disabilities were being treated by their communities, throughout our country with incredible disrespect.

As her vision slowly came to reality, she began to hold special summer camps for young adults with disabilities in her own backyard.

Throughout the 1960's, Eunice Kennedy Shriver continued as the influential voice which assisted in shaping President John F. Kennedy's White House panel on people with intellectual disabilities.

Through her unwavering support and advocacy for our youth with intellectual disabilities to be no longer viewed as less than a full member of our society with nothing to provide, Eunice Kennedy Shriver created the first Special Olympics that were held on July 20, 1968 in Chicago, Illinois.

At the first Special Olympics, thousands of participants with a variety of intellectual disabilities from 26 U.S. states and Canada competed in track and field, swimming and floor hockey.

These young Americans came to prove they could compete despite their disability.

It is one thing to overcome obstacles to compete in sports recreationally but it takes a genuine drive for excellence to succeed in an arena that was once thought impossible for those with intellectual disabilities.

From that first Special Olympics competition in 1968, this organization began to gain the at-

ention of the world as well as expand the sport competitions at the games.

On February 5, 1977 the games marked the first International Special Olympics Winter Games, which was held in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

The Special Olympics continued to enhance the original mission of the organization through the creation of programs aimed at providing healthcare services to Special Olympics athletes worldwide.

This organization attracted bipartisan support in 2004, when President George W. Bush signed the "Special Olympics Sport and Empowerment Act."

That piece of bipartisan legislation gave \$15 million every year for five years to Special Olympics programs allowing them to continue their important work.

In February of 2012 the National Basketball Association and Special Olympics, held the first annual NBA Cares Unified Sports Basketball game in Houston, Texas, which allowed Special Olympic athletes to compete alongside professional athletes.

To think that a small summer day camp for intellectually challenged children and adults could evolve into a world-wide organization, is a testament to the lasting vision of Eunice Kennedy Shriver, its founder, and the commitment of volunteers, such as the 40,000 from Texas, to fulfill her dream.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Special Olympics along with the progress this important organization has made towards teaching the world those individuals with intellectual disabilities accept the same challenges as anyone else to compete and win.

25TH ANNUAL MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. YOUTH ORATORICAL CONTEST HOSTED BY THE PRINCE WILLIAM ALUMNAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA THETA SORORITY, INC.

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 25th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest hosted by the Prince William Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. and its education foundation.

We must continue the fortitude of those who came before us as we gather to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Voting Rights Act. The Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. left an indelible mark on our nation in his pursuit of civil rights through civil dialogue. Despite the violence perpetrated against Dr. King and other leaders of the Civil Rights Movement, Dr. King responded with reverent oratory and nonviolent resistance to condemn the injustice of social inequality. His legacy is one of tolerance and steadfast commitment to principled and peaceful communication.

Contestants in the MLK Youth Oratorical Contest pay tribute to Dr. King's legacy with their ability to exercise the strength of the spoken word. This skill will serve them well as they seize future leadership opportunities and forge the personal relationships necessary for effective community engagement and organizing.

I congratulate and applaud the following contestants in the 25th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Oratorical Contest:

MIDDLE SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Zoree Jones—Ronald Reagan Middle School
Ayesha Khurseed—Graham Park Middle School
Ksanet Mehari—Stonewall Middle School

HIGH SCHOOL CONTESTANTS

Jacob Gonzalez—Thomas Jefferson High School
Denzel Goodlin—Potomac High School
Norman Jones—Stonewall Jackson High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. for recognizing the benefit that Dr. King's teachings bring to the development of our youth. We lay the foundations of a more tolerant society when we nurture the ability to engage and communicate with one another in a way that respects our common humanity.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, July 10, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "NAY" on #431 and #432 and "YEA" on #433.

THE TEXANS OF WWI

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, we are quickly approaching the 100th anniversary of the United States' entrance into World War One; A war in which Texans played a critical role.

From the fields of Flanders and trenches of France, to the towns of Germany and bases on the home front, 200,000 Texans proudly served in the Armed Forces during the First World War, between 1917 and 1919; They went to a land they had never been and died for people they did not know.

5,000 Texans gave their lives.

Boys who grew up on farms in Texas suddenly became men as they found themselves in the muddy, rainy, and bloody trenches an ocean away.

Life in the trenches was hard. Men were constantly bombarded with artillery and machine gun fire. And they often faced the danger of going over the trenches and crossing no man's land, trying to repel the enemy forces attempting the same.

In the midst of battle and in the face of the enemy, some men displayed tremendous gallantry and were awarded medals for their actions.

Four of the brave souls awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor for their actions were from the great State of Texas.

Daniel R. Edwards, born in Mooreville, Texas, was a Private First Class in the U.S. Army on July 18, 1918. His citation reads that

on that day near Soissons, France “. . . he crawled alone into an enemy trench for the purpose of capturing or killing enemy soldiers . . . He killed 4 of the men and took the remaining 4 men prisoners.” While taking them to the rear, an artillery shell shattered one of Edwards’ legs. For his actions that day, Pfc. Edwards received the Medal of Honor.

David E. Hayden was born in Florence, Texas. He served as a Hospital Apprentice First Class in the U.S. Navy serving with the Marines. On September 15th, 1918, near Thiaucourt, France his brave actions earned him the Medal of Honor. His citation reads, “During the advance, when [his comrade in arms] was mortally wounded while crossing an open field swept by machinegun fire, Hayden unhesitatingly ran to his assistance and, finding him so severely wounded as to require immediate attention, disregarded his own personal safety to dress the wound under intense machinegun fire, and then carried the wounded man back to a place of safety.”

Samuel M. Sampler was born in Decatur, Texas. On October 8, 1918, near St. Etienne, France, the young U.S. Army Corporal became the third Texan in WWI to earn the Medal of Honor. When his company suffered severe casualties during an advance under machinegun fire, “Cpl. Sampler detected the position of the enemy machineguns . . . Armed with German handgrenades, which he had picked up, he left the line and rushed forward in the face of heavy fire until he was near the hostile nest, where he grenaded the position. His third grenade landed among the enemy, killing 2, silencing the machineguns, and causing the surrender of 28 Germans, who he sent to the rear as prisoners. As a result of his act the company was immediately enabled to resume the advance.”

These three Texans who earned the Medal of Honor were among the ones who survived the war.

A fourth Texan also earned the Medal of Honor during WWI, but gave his life during the actions for which he earned the medal posthumously.

David B. Barkley, of Hispanic descent, was born in 1899 in Laredo, Texas. His father was in the U.S. Army and his mother was a Mexican-American native of South Texas.

David enlisted in the Army before his 18th birthday. Not long after, he was sent to the frontlines in France. On November 9, 1918, Private Barkley’s actions went above and beyond the call of duty.

His Medal of Honor citation reads:

“When information was desired as to the enemy’s position on the opposite side of the Meuse River, Pvt. Barkley, with another soldier, volunteered without hesitation and swam the river to reconnoiter the exact location. He succeeded in reaching the opposite bank, despite the evident determination of the enemy to prevent a crossing. Having obtained his information, he again entered the water for his return, but before his goal was reached, he was seized with cramps and drowned.”

David Barkley’s body was not returned home until 1921. His body was laid in state at the Alamo, “The Cradle of Texas Freedom,” making him the second person to ever receive that honor, and then buried in San Antonio National Cemetery.

His brave actions were acknowledged at home and abroad. He received medals from France and Italy; an elementary school in San

Antonio was named in his honor; and, in 1941, Camp Barkley, a WWII Army installation, was named after him.

In 1989, the Army recognized Private Barkley as the first Hispanic Medal of Honor recipient.

Private Barkley, and the other Medal of Honor recipients from Texas, proudly served their state and country during the First World War, and they will forever be remembered for their brave actions.

100 years later we still remember the Texas boys of WWI, those that served and returned, those that served and returned with the wounds of war, and those that served and did not return.

And that’s just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING FRANCIS HOWELL NORTH HIGH SCHOOL FOR ITS PLACEMENT IN THE TOP 25 MISSOURI RANKED HIGH SCHOOLS

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Francis Howell North High School for its placement in the top 25 Missouri high schools as ranked by U.S. News and World Report.

This school’s administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout this past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you in joining me in recognizing Francis Howell North High School for a job well done.

2015 PRINCE WILLIAM CHAMBER SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Education and Innovation Committee of the Prince William Chamber and to recognize the scholastic achievements of the 2015 Prince William Chamber Scholarship Program winners. Focused on educating the workforce of today and tomorrow, the Prince William Chamber seeks to highlight the talents and achievements of high school seniors who have demonstrated a commitment to both academic success and community involvement. This year’s scholarship recipients are nothing short of exceptional and for that I wish to recognize the following individuals:

Matthew Critchley, Forest Park High School
Casey Peschka, Woodbridge Senior High School

Ann Stapor, C.D. Hylton High School

Matthew Critchley is a lifelong resident of Dumfries, Virginia. Given his deep roots in the community, Matthew has expressed a particular interest in the history and legacy of the Town of Dumfries. Currently he serves on the town’s Parks and Recreation Commission and volunteers at the Weems-Botts Museum

where he researches family genealogy, coordinates special events, and participates in Civil War reenactments. Matthew is a diligent student and boasts a superior academic record. Upon graduation from Forest Park High School, Matthew will be the first in his family to go to college. He will attend Virginia Commonwealth University in the fall, majoring in Criminal Justice.

Casey Peschka attends Woodbridge Senior High School and is a member of the Advanced Placement Scholars, National Honor Society, Viking Norsemen Community Service Club, and Student Activities Council. He serves as the Editor-in-Chief of the school newspaper, The Valkyrie, and as Team Captain of the Varsity Boys’ Lacrosse Team. One of Casey’s most notable achievements is serving as co-founder of “El Fuego” or “The Fire,” a recreational soccer team that raises funds for ACTS to help combat hunger and poverty in the local community. In college, Casey will major in Biology and Organic Chemistry and plans to pursue a career in medicine as an Oncologist.

Anna Stapor will graduate as valedictorian from C.D. Hylton High School in June. Anna’s teachers characterize her as an “exception among the exceptional.” With an extensive list of academic achievements, Anna won First Place in the Prince William Youth Salute and was named an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction. She is a member of the National Honor Society and the French Honor Society, and is also a recipient of the Presidents Volunteer Service Award. Throughout her high school career, Anna has participated in a number of clubs and organizations; among them, Virginia Girls State, National Council on Youth Leadership, Prince William Model United Nations, and AIU High School Diplomats. Anna was the Captain of Hylton’s Varsity Field Hockey and Lacrosse Team, receiving the following honors: Most Valuable Player, The Coaches Award, and Honorable Mention for All Conference Field Hockey Defender. In the fall, Anna will attend Virginia Tech and major in Industrial Design to design products to benefit poverty-stricken communities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending the 2015 Prince William Chamber Scholarship recipients for their achievements both in and out of the classroom and in thanking the Prince William Chamber of Commerce for their support of educational excellence.

TRIBUTE TO EMILY GRAVLIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Miss Emily Gravlin of Creston, Iowa, for winning a State Championship at the Iowa High School Rodeo State Finals on June 5th, 2015. Emily is the daughter of Michelle and Wayne Hanson and David Gravlin Sr.

Emily placed first in barrel racing after a successful season at various rodeos throughout Iowa. Her victory is the culmination of many years of hard work, training, and competing. She has qualified for the 67th National

Finals Rodeo in Rock Springs, Wyoming on July 12th–18th.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor and privilege to represent dedicated Iowans like Emily in the U.S. House of Representatives. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Emily for a great season, and wishing her nothing but continued success as she competes at the National Rodeo Finals this week and in all her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING WRIGHT CITY
HIGH SCHOOL ON ITS BRONZE
MEDAL AWARD

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Wright City High School on its Bronze Medal Award as a top Missouri High School from U.S. News and World Report.

This school's administration, teachers, and students should be commended for all of their hard work throughout the past year and for their commitment to education.

I ask you to join me in recognizing Wright City High School for a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE TEACHERS OF
PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY PUBLIC
SCHOOLS GAINING CERTIFI-
CATION FROM THE NATIONAL
BOARD FOR PROFESSIONAL
TEACHING STANDARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Prince William County Public School Division teachers who recently received certification from the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards. The National Board is an independent nonprofit organization governed by classroom teachers, school administrators, school board leaders, governors and state legislators, higher education officials, teacher union leaders, and business and community leaders.

The teachers have met the standards established by the National Board, and have undergone a rigorous application process that required they demonstrate the knowledge, skills and accomplishments that comprise teaching excellence. A Board Certified teacher supports a vision of teaching based on the following five core principles:

Teachers are committed to students and their learning;

Teachers know the subjects they teach and how to teach those subjects to students;

Teachers are responsible for managing and monitoring student learning;

Teachers think systematically about their practice and learn from experience; and

Teachers are members of learning communities.

I would like to extend my personal congratulations to the following National Board Certified Teachers for receiving their respective certifications.

Maureen Artist, Montclair Elementary School
Dina Baird-Berberoglu, Samuel L. Gravely
Elementary School

Shawn Baugh, Triangle Elementary School
Cynthia Brown, Montclair Elementary School
Jennifer Carter, Minnieville Elementary
School

Allyson Davis, Marsteller Middle School
Deborah Ellis, Minnieville Elementary
School

Megan Hostutler, Patriot High School
Heather Mainwaring, Montclair Elementary
School

Franki Miller, Old Bridge Elementary School
Kathryn Miller, Dale City Elementary School
Michael Neall, Student Learning

Joanne Ortiz, Marumsc Hills Elementary
School

Kimberly Papandrea, Special Education
Matthew Ragghianti, Osbourn Park High
School

Kelly Riley, Swans Creek Elementary
School

Barbara Rohr, West Gate Elementary
School

Lori Sterne, Stonewall Jackson High School
Lydia Stewart, Osbourn Park High School
Wendee Sukanovich, Montclair Elementary
School

Rebecca Utter, Battlefield High School

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in commending these teachers for their commitment to education and professional development. The Prince William County Public School Division delivers a world class education due to the tireless efforts of teachers who make excellence the standard.

TRIBUTE TO MRS. ALEAN
ANDERTON BROCK ON THE OCCA-
SION OF HER 66TH BIRTHDAY
CELEBRATION

HON. ALMA S. ADAMS

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of North Carolina's most deserving citizens, and a very special constituent, Mrs. Alean Anderton Brock. I applaud Mrs. Brock on several significant fronts, first and foremost as the dedicated and nurturing mother of Charlotte's own Olympian Boxer, Calvin Brock. Equally worthy of mentioning, Mr. Speaker, is Alean Brock's redefinition of courage which she exhibited throughout her battle as a two-time breast cancer survivor. During her former years, Alean attended Elizabeth City State University and was crowned their Homecoming Queens. Alean is compassionate and kind and imparts words of encouragement to everyone whom she meets; as a result, Alean has earned the "most favorite" person status among her family and friends who are spread across the United States.

Mr. Speaker, all who love and admire Alean Brock for her courage, determination, steadfastness and compassion, thought it would be appropriate to honor and pay tribute on the occasion of her 66th birthday.

Over the years, Mrs. Brock has exhibited unwavering courage, determination and has remained steadfast during her bouts with breast cancer. Those persons who are most familiar with Alean Brock will support the claim

that cancer never had a fighting chance with her. Cancer was no match because Alean knew the rules of the boxing game; after all, it was her son, Calvin's childhood dream to become the heavyweight boxing champion of the world. The main characters in Calvin's adventurous dream were constant, grounded and made many sacrifices. Those characters included Alean Brock, Calvin's father, Calvance Brock who doubled as Calvin's coach throughout his boxing career, and his precious sister Alexis.

Alean Brock fought the cancer like a champion and with all steadfastness continued to encourage Calvin to pursue his dream. Along the way, Calvin achieved the honor as National Golden Gloves Heavyweight Champion in 1998; and in 1999 with Alean standing tall, bruised by her cancer, but never defeated, Calvin won the U.S. Amateur Championship at 201 pounds. Alean, Calvance and Alexis cheered Calvin on to Sydney Australia where he participated as an U.S. Olympics Boxing Team Member during the 2000 Olympics. With strength and determination borrowed from his mom's playbook as she continued her battle with cancer, Calvin went forward to fight his first well-known opponent, Clifford Etienne, one of Mike Tyson's opponents whom Calvin defeated by round 3 TKO on January 21, 2005. Alean reached deep and found the zeal to cheer Calvin on to win the title of IBF World Title Challenger in 2006. Still continuing to throw knock out punches at her cancer, Alean dug down deep to find strength, but never wavered when she learned that Calvin would be forced into early retirement after suffering an injury that caused damage to the retinal in his right eye.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting that on July 18, 2015 family and friends will gather from all across the United States to pay tribute to Alean Brock, including her mother and father, Rebecca and Clinton Anderton, her daughter, Alexis Brock and the apples of her eye, her two grandchildren Jizelle and Brycen along with their parents Calvin and Yolanda Brock.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to rise and join me in paying tribute to Alean Anderton Brock, the picture of unwavering courage, determination and compassion that we all should strive to emulate.

PATRICIA APY: AMERICAN BAR
ASSOCIATION'S 2015 GRASSROOTS
ADVOCACY AWARD WINNER

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 13, 2015

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to call attention today to the great work and humanitarian achievements accomplished by Patricia Apy, who recently received the American Bar Association's 2015 Grassroots Advocacy Award.

A partner at Paras, Apy and Reiss, P.C. in Red Bank, New Jersey, Ms. Apy was selected for this extraordinary honor by the Board of Governors of the 400,000 member ABA—for her "outstanding support of legal protection and assistance to members of the military."

In announcing the award, the ABA noted that Ms. Apy is "recognized as one of the nation's leading experts in family law" who has

"focused her career on the needs of military families, serving as a teacher, advocate, lecturer, consultant and commentator on the complexities of international family law." The ABA also cited the countless pro bono hours, Ms. Apy has dedicated on Capitol Hill and at the New Jersey state legislature. They highlighted her equally effective advocacy on behalf of victims of international parental child abduction.

I first met Patricia Apy "Tricia" when she was serving as the lead American attorney for David Goldman, a New Jersey resident who fought five years for the return of his son Sean who was abducted by David's ex-wife to Brazil. Tricia delivered expert advice and counsel in David's long, arduous, but ultimately successful case.

As the chairman of the subcommittee that oversees human rights, I authored legislation to help bring an end to David and Sean's nightmare and I held—and continue to hold—Congressional hearings to ensure that other Americans are spared this pain. Tricia Apy has provided comprehensive, world-class testimony and analysis on the myriad of problems left behind parents face. Her insights were key as we drafted, the Sean and David Goldman International Child Abduction and Prevention and Return Act (The Goldman Act—PL 113–150), my law to help prevent international parental child abduction and secure the return of those children who have been abducted and remain separated from their left behind parent.

At the ABA award ceremony in her honor—hosted at the U.S. Supreme Court—Patricia Apy paid special tribute to the inspiration she draws from her parents, Joseph and Gloria McHale. Having served our Nation valiantly, decorated WW II hero Joseph McHale died at a young age in a VA hospital leaving Gloria to raise three children including Tricia who was only nine at the time. She credits their love and hard work with her success and it is with great pleasure that I share with my colleagues her moving comments and acceptance speech.

Patricia Apy, American Bar Association's 2015 Grassroots Advocacy Award Winner: "Freedom, Justice, Liberty . . . without Lawyers they're just words . . ." Nearly 20 years ago this was the theme of the American Bar Association annual meeting. At the time, we were accused of hyperbole, I don't believe that anyone would accuse us of hyperbole today. I am a member of an association of 400,000 professional advocates, to be distinguished in that number is a remarkable honor, and I am humbled by this recognition. I wish to express my appreciation to the Governmental Affairs Office and the Board of Governors of the ABA.

I believe that real advocacy, is evidence of what inspires you, the experiences you share and the opportunities you have had. I am a person of faith, and my faith informs me that nothing happens to us by accident. Which is why I should not have been surprised to find myself the newest liaison to the Standing Committee on Legal Assistance for Military Personnel for exactly one month on September 11, 2001. On that day, I went (as my brother Michael has coined it) from being a "mere lawyer" to a "protector of heroes". I like that moniker, understanding that it is one I can only aspire to.

I am so proud of the work that has been accomplished by the LAMP committee during my tenure on it, and by my colleagues, many of whom are in this room who have shared that laboring oar. The LAMP committee is chaired by General Officers, they are all

spectacular lawyers and American heroes. But the three men with whom I worked most closely, the incomparable Gen Earl Anderson, Brig Gen David Hague and my own "true north" Rear Adm. John Jenkins, former T-Jag of the Navy, taught me so much more than how to be a great advocate. They taught me about duty and honor, in doing so.

My opportunities for public advocacy, whether on behalf of the United States at the Hague, or consulting with or for our warfighters at the Pentagon, or on behalf of disenfranchised and marginalized women at the UN and the White House, or with my hand in the air testifying before the Congress have in large measure been opportunities afforded me because of my affiliation with the ABA. The people with whom I have worked, whether in the military, diplomacy or governance have typically devoted their personal and professional lives to the service of their country, usually in anonymity. I don't know why anyone would do so in this age of cynicism and partisanship. But they do, and we should all be proud and deeply grateful for the continued commitment to justice that ABA has afforded.

On the wall of my home hangs the Silver Star, and two Bronze Stars, the second with Oak leaf cluster in lieu of a third Bronze Star. My father died in a VA hospital when I was nine years old. I was raised and educated by the heroic efforts my mother, Gloria McHale, in extraordinarily modest means. It is not lost on me, how very improbable it is to be standing here in the Supreme Court of the United States, as the child of a deceased war veteran. I thank my husband David Apy, my family, my law partners and longtime paralegal, and many colleagues and friends in accepting this national recognition. My experience, my inspiration and my faith serve as the motivation for my advocacy.

I have closed each and every one of the over one thousand hours of continuing legal education that I have conducted with and for our military lawyers exactly the same way, never wanting any of them to go into harm's way without knowing for certain and for sure, that on behalf of my family we know that we sleep in peace at night only, due to their service and sacrifice. For that, and for this honor . . . I remain profoundly grateful.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 25, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. LEE. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 5, the so-called Student Success Act, which should really be called the Letting Our Students Down Act.

Instead of making much needed improvements to the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), H.R. 5 would weaken critical federal protections for our most vulnerable—including students of color, students with disabilities, low-income students, English-language learners (ELL), migrant students and LGBT students. It would gut our nation's edu-

cation funding by foolishly locking in Fiscal Year (FY) 2015 funding levels for the next 6 years—with no exceptions to adjust for inflation.

H.R. 5 would also divert critical Title I funds away from the highest poverty schools and districts—undermining our nation's commitment to ensuring that all students—regardless of their zip code or where they were born—should have equal access to high-quality education.

This is outrageous and it is wrong.

Simply put, H.R. 5 undermines our promise to students that they will have equal access to high-quality education.

So let's defeat this egregious bill and work to reauthorize ESEA that will reinvest in our future, help close the achievement gap, and prepare our students for a 21st Century workforce.

I urge my colleagues to vote NO on H.R. 5.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, July 14, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 15

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Kristen Marie Kulinowski, of New York, to be a Member of the Chemical Safety and Hazard Investigation Board for a term of five years, and Gregory Guy Nadeau, of Maine, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation.

SD-406

10 a.m.

Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's semi-annual report to Congress.

SD-538

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Business meeting to consider S. 1732, to authorize elements of the Department of Transportation.

SR-253

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine securing the border, focusing on understanding

<p>threats and strategies for the maritime border.</p> <p>2:15 p.m. Committee on Indian Affairs To hold an oversight hearing to examine juvenile justice in Indian Country, focusing on challenges and promising strategies.</p> <p>Special Committee on Aging To hold hearings to examine diabetes research, focusing on improving lives on the path to a cure.</p> <p>2:30 p.m. Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, Insurance, and Data Security To hold hearings to examine the governance and integrity of international soccer.</p> <p>Committee on Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Western Hemisphere, Transnational Crime, Civilian Security, Democracy, Human Rights, and Global Women's Issues To hold hearings to examine United States policy towards Haiti prior to the elections; to be immediately followed by a full committee hearing to examine the nominations of Perry L. Holloway, of South Carolina, to be Ambassador to the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Laura Farnsworth Dogu, of Texas, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Nicaragua, and Roberta S. Jacobson, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the United Mexican States.</p> <p>Joint Economic Committee To hold hearings to examine what lower labor force participation rates tell us about work opportunities and incentives.</p>	<p>JULY 16</p> <p>10 a.m. SD-342 Committee on Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry To hold hearings to examine pending Forest Service and forestry related bills.</p> <p>Committee on Finance To hold hearings to examine HealthCare.gov controls.</p> <p>SD-215 Committee on Foreign Relations To hold hearings to examine human rights around the world, focusing on corruption, Global Magnitsky, and modern slavery.</p> <p>SD-419 Committee on the Judiciary Business meeting to consider S. 1169, to reauthorize and improve the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act of 1974, and S. 1599, to provide anti-retaliation protections for antitrust whistleblowers.</p> <p>2 p.m. Committee on Foreign Relations Subcommittee on Africa and Global Health Policy To hold hearings to examine wildlife poaching.</p> <p>SD-419 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Subcommittee on Regulatory Affairs and Federal Management To hold hearings to examine the Office of Information and Regulatory Affairs's role in the regulatory process.</p> <p>SD-342 2:30 p.m. Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs To hold hearings to examine the semi-annual monetary policy report to Congress.</p> <p>SD-538 Select Committee on Intelligence To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.</p> <p>SH-219</p>	<p>2:45 p.m. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources Subcommittee on Public Lands, Forests, and Mining To hold hearings to examine S. 132, to improve timber management on Oregon and California Railroad and Coos Bay Wagon Road grant land, S. 326, to amend the Healthy Forests Restoration Act of 2003 to provide cancellation ceilings for stewardship end result contracting projects, and S. 1691, to expedite and prioritize forest management activities to achieve ecosystem restoration objectives.</p> <p>SD-366</p> <p>JULY 21</p> <p>10 a.m. Committee on the Judiciary To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Administration's immigration enforcement policies.</p> <p>SD-226</p> <p>JULY 22</p> <p>2:15 p.m. Committee on Indian Affairs To hold hearings to examine safeguarding the integrity of Indian gaming.</p> <p>SH-216</p> <p>AUGUST 4</p> <p>10 a.m. Committee on Energy and Natural Resources To hold hearings to examine the back-end of the nuclear fuel cycle and related legislation, including S. 854, to establish a new organization to manage nuclear waste, provide a consensual process for siting nuclear waste facilities, ensure adequate funding for managing nuclear waste.</p> <p>SD-366</p>
---	--	---