

"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