

Washington due to the current flooding crisis threatening families.

1) H.R. 1553—Small Bank Exam Cycle Reform Act—AYE

2) H.R. 1839—Reforming Access for Investments in Startup Enterprises—AYE

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROGER WILLIAMS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. WILLIAMS. Mr. Speaker, on Roll Call 518 on final passage of H.R. 348, Respectably and Professionally Invigorating Development Act of 2015, I would have voted Aye, which is consistent with my position on this legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INFORMATION CENTER

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize The Information Center on their 40th anniversary. The accomplishments of this long-standing non-profit agency exemplify the importance and strength of public-private partnerships in our communities.

Founded in 1975 in Taylor, Michigan, The Information Center was created to inform citizens of the over 10,000 resources available to them, including both private sector assistance and public services offered by their local, state, and federal governments. Since becoming the first organization in Michigan to be certified by the national Alliance for Information and Referral Services, the Information Center has become an indispensable tool for connecting people with the human service resources that fit their individual needs. Learning from their experience in our communities, The Information Center has expanded over the years and has initiated programs that address unemployment, health and wellness, housing, transportation, veterans services, financial and legal assistance, disability advocacy and other human services. In addition, The Information Center emphasizes support for our seniors by providing options for home care and caregiver training that respects the dignity and encourages the independence of older Americans.

For 40 years, The Information Center has held itself to the highest standards to ensure that our residents always have somewhere to turn. The most recent report from the Michigan Department of Community Health ranked The Information Center as best in the county and second best in the state for quality assurance in their work with seniors. Their tireless efforts have helped the citizens of Southeast Michigan with comprehensive, community-based programs that help control the cost of care for our elders and provide peace of mind to our families.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in gratitude to honor The Information Center on their 40th anniversary and wish them many more years of success.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATION'S FIRST COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTER

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding landmark to community health and welfare. This year marks the 50th anniversary of the nation's Community Health Center program. Community Health Centers (CHC) are the family doctor to over 23 million Americans and, as such, are the largest network of primary care providers in the country. The CHC model is distinguished by its comprehensive range of health services, recognizing the particular needs and characteristics of the communities they serve. Community Health Centers are located exclusively in medically underserved areas, providing needed care for communities and populations that do not have adequate access to care. Community involvement in CHCs is guaranteed by the requirement that Federal Qualified Health Centers must have governing boards of directors that have patients of the center holding at least 51% of the board seats.

In the 8th Congressional District of Massachusetts we are particularly proud because the nation's first community health center opened in December 1965 on Columbia Point in Boston's Dorchester neighborhood. Drs. Jack Geiger and Count Gibson of Tufts Medical School founded the Columbia Point Health Center in order to meet the needs of the residents of an isolated public housing project, cut off from the City's health resources. Drs. Geiger and Gibson opened a rural center shortly thereafter in the Delta region of Mississippi. From that start, the community health center program expanded throughout the country. In 1985, Columbia Point Health Center joined with the Neponset Health Center to form Harbor Health Services, Inc. And in 1990, the Columbia Point Health Center moved into a new building and was renamed Geiger Gibson Community Health Center in honor of the founders of the national movement.

Mr. Speaker, there are now over 1,270 community health centers providing services at 9,000 sites across the country. CHCs have become the primary source of medical, dental, behavioral health, substance abuse treatment, social services and other community health services for neighborhoods and rural communities that would otherwise be inadequately served. And CHCs have also provided employment and career opportunities for thousands of local residents.

Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago it all began in Dorchester, Massachusetts. I am proud to rise today to recognize and honor what has become a national model for providing services to our country's underserved areas and urge my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the efforts of our Community Health Centers.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

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

Today, it is \$18,150,557,110,995.00. We've added \$7,523,680,062,081.92 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.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. DOUG COLLINS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. COLLINS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate our nation's historic relationship with Taiwan on their 104th National Day. These occasions remind us to reflect on our past successes and look forward with renewed commitment to what we may accomplish together in the days and months ahead.

Just last week, the United States House of Representatives expressed in a resounding and unified voice our support of the 2016 National Defense Authorization Act. In this Act, Congress declared its support of Taiwan through numerous policy provisions, including the new "South China Sea Initiative".

It is more important now than ever, for this Administration to declare with a resounding voice that it joins with Congress in recognizing the importance of a vibrant bilateral relationship with Taiwan. We look forward with eager anticipation to Taiwan's exercise of democracy in their upcoming January elections. They are a model of freedom to a region plagued by instability and the heavy hand of government.

The Taiwan Strait is of critical importance to our national and global security and both the United States and Taiwan must continue to prioritize investment in defense capabilities that will secure its peace. I congratulate Taiwan on their 104th National Day and ask for their continued partnership with the United States.

CONGRATULATING MR. CHRIS SMITH

HON. BRAD R. WENSTRUP

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. WENSTRUP. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Chris Smith on his retirement and thank him for his many years of service to Clermont County and Ohio.

Chris Smith has a long and distinguished record of service to Clermont County, and is remembered for his invaluable commitment to the local economic development throughout his career.

With decades of business experience, including 20 years in the banking industry and

10 years in real estate, Chris' contributions in his many capacities of public service has been invaluable. Chris Smith served his community in numerous ways, including as the Director of the Clermont County Convention and Visitors Bureau, the Economic Development Director for Clermont County, and as an economic development staff member for Ohio Governor Bob Taft.

Due in part to his leadership, Clermont County has become a thriving hub of economic activity. The residential and economic growth of Clermont County is a testament to this hard work and success.

Also commendable is the positive and solutions-oriented attitude with which Chris has served. He has worked tirelessly to improve Clermont County over the years, always devoted to the big picture and listening to the people he serves, never asking or expecting anything in return.

Southwest Ohio is fortunate to have a local leader as committed to service and progress as Chris Smith is. Again, I congratulate Chris on his retirement, thank him for his public service, and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CAREER
OF COACH DAVID CLARK

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to congratulate Coach David Clark on his 1000th win as coach of the volleyball team of Jacksonville High School, in Jacksonville, Alabama.

Clark attended Saks High School, graduating in 1986, and enrolled in Auburn University. While there, he studied architecture and received a degree in environmental design.

After a short time living in Oregon, he returned to Alabama to pursue an education degree at Jacksonville State University. After graduation, he worked for one year at his former high school before becoming part of the Jacksonville High School coaching staff.

In his 23 years of coaching, he has led the Jacksonville Golden Eagles volleyball team to three state championship wins with four state runner up positions, as well as eight county and 16 area championships.

Coach Clark's 1000th win came Saturday, October 3rd during the Calhoun County volleyball tournament. He is only the 10th coach in the history of the Alabama High School Athletic Association to reach this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Coach David Clark on his achievement.

IN HONOR OF FREDERICK
DOUGLASS

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Frederick Douglass, a Maryland native who made tremendous contributions to

our country. This year marks the 170th anniversary of his first autobiography, *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself* which gives us a first glimpse of his remarkable life.

Born into chattel slavery on February 14, 1818 on the Wye Plantation near Tuckahoe, Maryland, Frederick Augustus Washington Bailey became internationally known as Frederick Douglass, a champion in his own time for eliminating slavery and an impassioned voice demanding freedom for all.

In 1838, he married Anna Murray, a free born black woman who provided him with money to escape slavery. Together they settled in New Bedford, Massachusetts and raised four children.

After escaping slavery, Mr. Douglass began to work for the abolition of slavery in the United States. In 1845, Mr. Douglass wrote and published the *Narrative of the Life of Frederick Douglass, An American Slave, Written by Himself*. It is the first of a trilogy of autobiographical writings. The second, entitled *My Bondage and My Freedom*, was published in 1855, and the final work, titled *The Life and Times of Frederick Douglass*, was published in 1881.

The first autobiography, like its successors, described the system of chattel slavery and Mr. Douglass' rejection of its premise that he, like other slaves, was not a human being. Stunningly direct in its portrayal of friends and foes, the autobiographies present the conflicts between freedom and slavery. This book recounts the honors of slavery, his courageous efforts to educate himself, and his harrowing but successful escape.

In 1847, Mr. Douglass published the *North Star*, a weekly abolitionist newspaper. It was the first of 4 newspapers he owned and wrote for as a journalist.

A strong supporter of women's rights, in 1848, Mr. Douglass attended the critical Seneca Falls Convention in Seneca Falls, New York for women's suffrage and supported women's right to vote.

In 1852, Mr. Douglass gave what is regarded as the greatest abolitionist speech, "What to the Slave Is the Fourth of July?" in Rochester, NY.

In 1863, during the middle of the Civil War, Mr. Douglass met with President Lincoln and successfully persuaded him to allow black men to fight for the Union. This led to the formation of the 54th Massachusetts Regiment, the first all-black combat regiment.

In addition to his writings, Mr. Douglass served his country in a number of government positions. In 1871, he was appointed by President Grant as Assistant Secretary to the Santo Domingo Commission. In 1876, he was appointed by President Hayes as United States Marshal for the District of Columbia. In 1881, he accepted an appointment from President Garfield as Recorder of Deeds for the District of Columbia. And in 1889, he was appointed by President Harrison as Minister and Consul General to Haiti.

In 1894, at the Metropolitan African Methodist Church in Washington, D.C., Mr. Douglass delivered "Lessons of the Hour," a searing critique of lynching.

A year later, at the age of 77, Mr. Douglass died of a heart attack at Cedar Hill, his home in the Anacostia neighborhood of Washington, D.C.

Today, Cedar Hill is a national historic site where visitors from around the world can learn

about the many contributions of Frederick Douglass, an American treasure who dedicated his life to winning freedom for all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JACKIE WALORSKI

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mrs. WALORSKI. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be in Washington, DC on October 7, 2015 due to a death in the family and thus missed the recorded votes on that day. On Roll Call Votes 536, 537, 538, and 540, I would have voted yea had I been present. On Roll Call Vote 539, I would have voted no had I been present.

IN HONOR OF RETIRED MAJOR
JESSE BALTAZAR

HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the accomplishments and service of retired Major Jesse Baltazar on this, his ninety-fifth birthday.

Major Baltazar's service includes over forty years of dedication to the United States military through the Battle of Bataan in World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam War. Still recovering from wounds suffered at the hands of a Japanese attack on his camp in 1942, Major Baltazar managed to escape "the Bataan Death March" after more than three days of marching. His bravery earned him the honor of a Bronze Star, a POW Medal, and a Purple Heart, which was awarded to him this past January.

As the first Filipino native commissioned into the United States Air Force, Major Baltazar is a true trail-blazer and has helped pave the way for the many men and women who have since immigrated to the United States and joined our military.

The United States has been blessed by the sacrifices of outstanding people such as Major Baltazar who have adopted this country as their own. I am proud to represent Major Baltazar and all of the selfless men and women who serve our nation in uniform. They are truly invaluable members of our society. The debt of gratitude owed to these men and women is impossible to repay, but today, we do our small part by recognizing one special man: Major Jesse Baltazar.

IN RECOGNITION OF WINTHROP
UNIVERSITY AND THE 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL
COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL

HON. MICK MULVANEY

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 8, 2015

Mr. MULVANEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winthrop University and the 50th