

it was created in 2002. Our rapidly evolving economy requires robust and adaptable trade enforcement, and I'm glad this legislation strengthens our Customs and Border Protection's ability to fulfill this duty. Without these tools in place we would not be able to meet the demands of our growing global economy. This legislation contains important provisions that will enhance and improve our customs procedures and duty laws. Our outdated customs and border policies would be improved by streamlining rules to stop importers from dodging U.S. antidumping and countervailing duties while adding new protections for intellectual property.

That being said, while leaders from across the globe were negotiating the largest climate agreement in history, Congress was debating a bill that intentionally bypassed our nation's ability to address climate change. This legislation provided an opportunity for us to strengthen our commitment to combatting climate change and to hold other nations accountable for their actions—but we let that opportunity slide. Congress cannot continue to pass the buck on this issue, and we should use agreements such as this to hold our trade partners to higher standards. That is why I voted against this legislation, and I urge my colleagues to address these issues. If we do not act now, we set a dangerous precedent for future agreements.

HONORING CHUCK SEEMAN FOR
HIS LEADERSHIP AT UCFS

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to thank Mr. Chuck Seeman, President and CEO of United Children and Family Services (UCFS) in Norwich, Connecticut for his 20 years of transformative leadership in eastern Connecticut. While Chuck has held command of UCFS, he has strengthened the organization's financial stability and has expanded services to make UCFS an exemplary community health organization serving the Norwich region and beyond.

This year, to celebrate National Health Center Week, UCFS displayed a flag on the Norwich town green for every client they have served in the past year. The green was covered with 17,000 flags—a visual reminder of the impact that this organization has on our community, and a testament to Chuck's leadership. That same day, I was pleased to announce that after years of hard work on the part of Chuck and his staff, UCFS had received "federally qualified status" that will allow them to expand and enhance the excellent medical, dental, behavioral, and eldercare services to their patients. This announcement was the culmination of nearly five years of advocacy, and will mean that UCFS will thrive and grow for decades to come.

As Chuck retires from his position as CEO this month, I can confidently say that his innovative leadership style, dedication, and drive have made a world of difference for families in eastern Connecticut. I am honored to have worked with Chuck to advocate for improved access to healthcare for our neighbors and I thank him for his steadfast commitment and vision.

Beyond his laudable contributions to his community's health and wellness, Chuck has been an approachable and friendly leader, beloved by the many hundreds of UCFS employees. Although I anticipate that Chuck will continue to contribute to his Connecticut community after leaving his current position, I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him a restful retirement, and offering a big thank you for his decades of work advocating for community health in eastern Connecticut.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 1, I was unable to record my presence.

HONORING THE LIFE OF ERNIE
GLAVE

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues MIKE HONDA and ANNA ESHOO to honor an important member of our community, Mr. Ernie Glave, who passed away on December 22, 2015. Ernie will be remembered for his dedication to San Jose as both a businessman and to the public, especially veterans.

Ernie proudly ran his downtown jewelry shop for over 30 years and was widely known for his exceptional work ethic. Even during the economic recession, while many stores fled to the suburbs or shut down completely, Ernie worked 6 days a week with remarkable enthusiasm and professionalism. He also took pride in downtown San Jose and was known as a leader in the Small Businessman's Association.

An Army World War II veteran, Ernie was also a passionate advocate for veterans. He worked hard to keep the San Jose Veterans Day Parade as one of the largest military pageants in the Western United States. Dedicated to the United Veterans Council, Ernie often spoke at local veterans events and commended their unbreakable bond and commitment to country. When we commemorate Memorial Day at Oak Hill Memorial Park every year, Ernie was always there, always working, always caring.

Today, we honor the life of Ernie Glave. Ernie's commitment to his country and community can only be matched with the strength of his hallmark vise grip. We thank him for his contributions to San Jose and join his loved ones in celebrating his incredible life. He will be deeply missed.

IN HONOR OF THE LEGACY OF
LATE HARRIS COUNTY COMMIS-
SIONER EL FRANCO LEE

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to honor the memory of a noble public servant and trailblazer: Harris County Commissioner El Franco Lee. Elected in 1985, after serving in the Texas House of Representatives for five years, Commissioner Lee became the first African American to sit on the Harris County Commissioners Court. He selflessly served Harris County's Precinct 1 for more than a quarter-century with exceptional distinction.

Commissioner Lee was not just a holder of public trust but a pioneer and community leader. He used his compassion and experience to boldly advocate for his constituents and the betterment of his community. Commissioner Lee will be specifically remembered for his impassioned advocacy for better healthcare access and educational opportunities throughout the inner city, as well as his support for the Harris County Precinct One Street Olympics Program.

Mr. Speaker, I am fortunate enough to say that I knew and worked alongside Commissioner Lee. I believe that when history records the legacy of Commissioner Lee, he will be forever remembered for his caring and candid demeanor as he worked to serve his constituents, his county, as well as his country.

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON DE-
FEATS FLORIDA STATE AND
WINS THE PEACH BOWL

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 6, 2016

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a few weeks ago I spoke on the House floor about the brilliant season the Houston Cougars and their coach, Tom Herman, experienced this year. In that speech I mentioned how the Cougars had a huge fight coming up on New Year's Eve against the traditional blue-blood, powerhouse Florida State Seminoles. Well, December 31st and 2015 have come and gone, and the Houston Cougars finished the year 13-1 with a 38-24 victory over the Seminoles in the Peach Bowl.

Coach Tom Herman may be known as an offensive innovator, but this team fought hard on both sides of the ball. The Cougars' fast-moving and hard-hitting defense rattled Florida State's offense, while their quick-paced and prolific offense sped past the Seminoles' defense. Folks, this game was one for the ages and solidified this season as one of the greatest in Cougar history. There can't be enough said about the resiliency and fight this team showed all year. I'm proud to call myself an alumnus and a Houston Cougar for life.

The Houston Cougars woke up for the first time in 2016 as Peach Bowl champions and proved to the doubters that they could play with anybody in the country. 2015 started in uncertainty for the program: they were breaking in a new coach, a new system, and in their