

Counties AFL–CIO Labor Council and congratulating Kevin McCabe and Vincent Lane. Their efforts to ensure equal rights and opportunities for workers is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

COMMEMORATING THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2016

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 37th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.

The Republic of China (Taiwan) is not only our close economic and security partner but a friend with whom we share many principles and values. Signed into law in 1979, the Taiwan Relations Act established the legal basis for our bilateral relations with Taiwan. I am pleased to say the U.S.–Taiwan bilateral relationship has continued to expand and grow stronger over the past thirty-seven years. As President Ma Ying-jeou remarked during The American Chamber of Commerce 2016 Annual Hsieh Nien Fan Gala, this relationship has also reaped benefits for the peaceful state of the East Asia and Asia-Pacific regions: “First, the development of Taiwan–U.S. relations and the trilateral interaction involving the U.S., Taiwan, and the mainland over the past eight years have led to the warmest relations in more than 60 years.”

In a recent trip to Taiwan, I had the opportunity to experience firsthand our shared values and our close economic ties. In 2015, Taiwan was the United States' 9th largest trading partner and the bilateral trade between the United States and Taiwan reached \$67.4 billion. My home state of California has also benefited from the strong commercial partnership. For example, in 2014, California's export to Taiwan reached \$7.46 billion, making Taiwan California's 5th largest export market in Asia and 7th largest export market in the world.

Additionally, as we recently recognized the 70th Anniversary of the end of World War II, it is appropriate to remember Taiwan's important contributions to the alliance that defeated fascist militarism. The United States and Taiwan work closely and that partnership continued as the United States helped Taiwan to overcome challenges and thrive following the end of the fighting.

As a friend of Taiwan, I look forward to continuing to promote policies that reaffirm our mutual commitment to democratic and economic development. I urge my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 37th anniversary of the Taiwan Relations Act.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2016

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 \$19,203,187,186,595.43. We've added \$8,576,310,137,682.35 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

TRIBUTE TO BROOKE SUTPHIN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Brooke Sutphin for being recognized by her peers to receive the 2015 Customer Service of the Year Award from the Madison County Chamber of Commerce. Her company, b.Shannon Designs in Winterset, is known throughout the region for its unique product of personalized jewelry.

Brooke has been designing and creating jewelry since 1995 when she graduated from the University of Kansas with a Bachelor's Degree in Fine Arts. Her specialty is seeking a unique combination of contrast and textures which catch the eye. It has been said that “A customer doesn't care how much you know until they know how much you care.” (D. Ramon) Brooke Sutphin lives that motto every day in her dealings with the public. She cares about her community as much as she cares about her business and it shows with the recognition they bestowed upon her.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent Brooke and all the citizens of Madison County in the United States Congress. I also invite my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating her on receiving this award and in wishing her nothing but continued success.

RECOGNIZING APRIL 17 AS WORLD HEMOPHILIA DAY

HON. EARL L. “BUDDY” CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2016

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize April 17 as World Hemophilia Day, a day where the international community speaks as one to honor the hundreds of thousands of people across the globe suffering from hemophilia. Now, more than ever, we must renew our commitment to hemophilia patients, ensure that they can receive the most advanced care known to modern medicine, and redouble our efforts to discovering new treatments—and ultimately a cure—for this dangerous condition.

Hemophilia is a genetic disorder that prevents blood from clotting properly, making even seemingly slight injuries a terrifying prospect for a bleeding episode that can lead to serious injury and even death. While the disease is rare in statistical terms, an estimated 400 newborns are diagnosed with the disease every year, and approximately 20,000 hemophiliacs live in the United States at this very moment. And all too often, this vulnerable patient population is put into jeopardy by the financial hurdles obstructing access to the in-

tensive care needed for combatting such a pervasive disease.

Too many American families are faced with the daunting challenge of tackling the financial burden of hemophilia—a burden that can grow to \$250,000 a year or more. This World Hemophilia Day, I stand to speak out on behalf of the patients battling this complicated disease and hope that by raising awareness in this body, we move closer to a day where the treatment of hemophilia is practical, sustainable, and accessible for all Americans.

MARY BETH RADIGAN

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 18, 2016

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mary Beth Radigan, an outstanding educator and Hillsborough County's 2016 Teacher of the Year.

After graduating from Ohio University with a degree in Special Education, Ms. Radigan began her illustrious career in special-education classrooms, including nine years in Hillsborough County as an educator for autistic and intellectually delayed students. She currently serves as special education teacher at Plant High School in Tampa, Florida. As a proud parent of a Plant High School student, I know firsthand how invaluable an educator is in developing the potential in all children. Ms. Radigan's passion for education is so well established in our community that she was selected from a pool of hundreds of nominees as the Hillsborough County Teacher of the Year.

Accompanying her passion in the classroom, Ms. Radigan serves as a Special Olympics coach. Students in her classroom learn important life skills through numerous additional programs that she has spearheaded. In 2012, Ms. Radigan's class founded Pawbucks coffee, a coffee service, where her students have the opportunity to improve their job skills, social skills and independence. They are responsible for managing the business by making coffee, setting up the carts, selling and delivering coffee, answering phone orders and counting the total daily sales. Beyond practical skills, Pawbucks coffee has given students the opportunity to feel a great pride and a part of the school community.

In addition to the coffee service, she and her students founded an organic garden that recently received a Florida Agriculture in the Classroom grant to buy a hydroponic tower. You can also find her students leading the cheering section at the weekly football games through the Paw Prints Cheerleading. Hillsborough County Teacher of the Year Mary Beth Radigan has shown time and time again her unwavering commitment and compassion to go above and beyond for her students. She has created a meaningful and enriching experience for all of her students and will leave a lasting legacy as a teacher with endless compassion and drive.

It is one of my greatest honors to champion our community's excellent students and educators in Congress. On behalf of the constituents of the Fourteenth District of Florida it is our honor to recognize Mary Beth Radigan for her exemplary career of educating our community's youth.