

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLYMOUTH FRAGMENT SOCIETY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 200th Anniversary of the Plymouth Fragment Society of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

This exceptional organization was founded on February 13, 1818 with the goal of aiding families living in poverty. In response to the Embargo Act of 1807 and the War of 1812, Marie de Verdier Turner gathered with 183 women to sew garments for the poor. Their mission was expanded to provide aid such as milk, fuel, and rent to those who needed assistance. As one of the oldest continuously operating charitable organizations in the country, they have adapted to the changing needs of the community, guiding Plymouth through prosperous times and economic downturns, including the Great Depression.

The Plymouth Fragment Society, which was founded and run by dedicated and determined women, exemplifies the work women did for our communities long before they had the ability to engage in politics or business. Those who carry on this legacy remind us all of the power of dedicated individuals and their ability to effect lasting change.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the 200th Anniversary of the Plymouth Fragment Society for their dedication to bettering their community. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their invaluable service and wishing them all the best in the many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MCINTIRE-STENNIS ACT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the McIntire-Stennis Act District of Columbia Equality Act, which would amend the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act (Act) to make the District of Columbia eligible for funding. The District is treated as a state under federal programs with a few exceptions, most of them simply oversights or failures to update. This legislation would rectify the exception in the Act, ensuring equitable treatment for the District and allowing the District to benefit from the important funding opportunities available under the Act.

The Act provides U.S. states and territories with formula funds to support state-designated institutions' cooperative forestry research programs. The Act defines "State" to include Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. The District's notable, but faulty, absence from this definition makes it ineligible for grant funds that would support research at the University of the District of Columbia's (UDC) College of Agriculture, Urban Stability, and Environmental Science, a program that complements the city's ongoing forestry efforts.

UDC is the nation's only urban land-grant university.

We appreciate that Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam are included under the definition of "State," though, unlike the District of Columbia, their residents do not pay federal income taxes. It would be particularly troubling if the District, whose residents pay the highest amount per capita in federal income taxes, which support farm and other federal programs, were to continue to be excluded.

We have heard that the District may be excluded because of its lack of local timber production. However, the Act says, "[i]n making such apportionments, consideration shall be given to pertinent factors including" local timber production. Proximity to timber is, therefore, only one in a non-exclusive list of factors that are part of the larger analysis regarding the apportionments. Excluding the District from the definition of "State" merely because it is not located in an area with a timber industry runs counter to the intent of the Act. While timber production can be a factor in determining the amount of state allocations, there is no reason that the District should be excluded from the Act.

We believe, therefore, that the omission of the District must have been the result of an oversight during the original drafting of the Act. However, as you can imagine, this omission has serious consequences for the District, rendering UDC ineligible for these formula grant funds. Passage of this bill would allow students and researchers in the nation's capital to take part in this important forestry program.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNITION OF THE
#WEARINGIRISH CAMPAIGN

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the #WearingIrish social media campaign started by Margaret Molloy, and the Irish designers that will be recognized by the campaign this year.

For the past two years, Molloy has been encouraging her friends and family to wear Irish clothing and jewelry during March and highlighting their fashion choices by using the hashtag #WearingIrish. What started as a small endeavor has grown into a movement that has captured the attention of everyone from the President of Ireland to the top fashion industry leaders in New York City.

She launched the WearingIrish NYC 2018 competition this past March, which will bring Ireland's best fashion and accessory designers to the United States where they will have the opportunity to showcase their talent and gain exposure to leaders in the American fashion industry. Out of 170 applicants, 10 winners will make their way to the iconic Grand Central Terminal in New York to debut their collections.

The winning brands represent the best of modern Ireland: Áine, Alison Conneely, Bláithín Ennis, De Bruir, Inner Island, Jennifer Rothwell, Natalie B. Coleman, Sands and Hall,

The Tweed Project, and Triona. They should be commended for their impressive accomplishments in their field.

I believe that this competition comes at an important time for the U.S.-Ireland relationship. This modern friendship is built not just on shared heritage, but also on strong commercial and economic partnership. The #WearingIrish campaign embodies this spirit and only strengthens the bonds between our two nations. I congratulate Margaret and all of the winning designers on their efforts to make this possible. Their passion for Ireland resonates deeply with my own Irish-American heritage and embodies the forward facing, mutually beneficial relationship our two nations enjoy.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
DR. HORACE MITCHELL

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleague, Congressman DAVID VALADAO, to honor Dr. Horace Mitchell, President of California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB). Dr. Mitchell joined CSUB as its fourth president in 2004, and will be retiring after a near 50-year career in education later this month.

Horace began his professional career at his alma mater of Washington University, Missouri, where he received his PhD in Counseling Psychology. As a member of the faculty, he served in multiple positions, including Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Assistant Professor of Education and Black Studies, and Chair of the Black Studies Program. He went on to serve the University of California, first at Irvine for 17 years, and then Berkeley for nearly 10 years, before learning of an opportunity nestled in the southern part of California's San Joaquin Valley. It was at this school—CSUB—where Dr. Mitchell would leave perhaps the greatest mark of his decades-spanning career. Upon his arrival, Dr. Mitchell announced his goal of making CSUB the pride of the California State University System. Over the next decade, he worked tirelessly to make that vision a reality.

Dr. Mitchell saw an untapped potential in the students he served, and dedicated his career to helping the student body of CSUB reach heights they had never seen before. Under his guidance, CSUB attained both its highest enrollment rate, as well as its highest graduation rate in the University's 53-year history. CSUB has seen its profile rise under Dr. Mitchell's tenure and is frequently cited as one of America's top public universities for both its undergraduate and post-graduate programs. Additionally, Dr. Mitchell was the driving force behind CSUB's transition to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I athletics, allowing the Roadrunners to bring Bakersfield's best athletic talent to the national stage.

More than anything else, Dr. Mitchell will be remembered as a leader who put his students first, factoring the well being of CSUB's student body in every decision he made as President. To cultivate a more supportive learning environment, Dr. Mitchell changed CSUB's