

living that somehow makes what happened even harder to believe and accept.

Meg knew the impermanence of life. She lost her mother to cancer and a sister to cystic fibrosis. So she made the most of every single day.

The poet, William Blake, wrote that:

He who binds himself to a joy
Does the winged life destroy
But he who kisses the joy as it flies
Lives in eternity's sunrise.

No force, not even life itself, could bind Meg Donovan or ground her flight. She was only 47. But, in that time, her gifts to those of us who are gathered here and to those from around the world who have benefited directly or indirectly from her commitment, were full and rich.

This morning, as she looks down upon us, I know that she would expect us to cry and that, if she could, she would herself hand us the tissues. But she would also want us to be thankful for our time together, and to dedicate ourselves to improving our own lives by helping others.

We are sad today, but our sorrow is accompanied by the abundance of joy in the memories we share, the life we celebrate and the love that surrounds us.

May that joy melt, over time, the clouds of our grief.

May Meg's family, especially, draw comfort from our affection and from the deep respect we held for her.

And may Meg Donovan rest in peace, for we will never, never forget her.

COMPENSATION OF RETIRED MILITARY

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 5, 1998

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to submit the following for inclusion in the RECORD on behalf of the veterans of Rhode Island.

[From the State of Rhode Island in General Assembly, January Session, A.D. 1998]

JOINT RESOLUTION MEMORIALIZING CONGRESS TO AMEND TITLE TEN, UNITED STATES CODE, RELATING TO THE COMPENSATION OF RETIRED MILITARY

Introduced by: Representative Pires.

Date introduced: March 25, 1998.

Referred to: Committee on Finance.

Whereas, American servicemen and women have dedicated their careers to protect the rights we all enjoy; and

Whereas, Career military personnel endured hardships, privation, the threat of death, disability and long separations from their families in service to our country; and

Whereas, Integral to the success of our military forces are those soldiers and sailors who have made a career of defending our great nation in peace and war from the revolutionary war to present day; and

Whereas, There exists a gross inequity in the federal statutes that denies disabled career military equal rights to receive Veterans Administration disability compensation concurrent with receipt of earned military retired pay; and

Whereas, Legislation has been introduced in the United States Congress to remedy this inequity applicable to career military dating back to the nineteenth century; and

Whereas, The injustice concerns those veterans who are both retired with a minimum of 20 years, are denied concurrent receipt of

hard earned military longevity retirement pay and Veterans Administration awards for service connected with disability; and

Whereas, Career military earn retirement benefits based on longevity of twenty years for honorable and faithful service and rank at time of retirement; and

Whereas, Veterans administered compensations serve a different purpose from longevity retired pay and are intended to compensate for pain, suffering, disfigurement, chemicals, wound injuries and a loss of earning ability and have a minimum requirement of 90 days of active duty; and

Whereas, The prevailing idea that military retirement pay is "free" is false. There is a contribution to retirement pay, which is calculated to reduce military base pay and retirement pay by approximately seven percent when pay and allowances are computed and approved by Congress; and

Whereas, Traditionally, a career military person receives a lower pay and retirement than his or her civilian counterpart and has invested a life of hardships and long hours without the benefit of overtime pay and lack of freedom of expression through the unions; and

Whereas, The Veterans Administration awards dependents allowances to disabled veterans with a thirty percent (30%) disability or more for each dependent, which allowances are increased with the amount of disability; and

Whereas, The Department of Defense deducts the entire amounts of dependents allowance, essentially leaving the disabled military retiree with no dependents allowance and that extends the discrimination to the families of military longevity retirees; and

Whereas, It is unfair to require disabled military retirees to fund their own Veterans Administration compensation by deductions on a dollar for dollar basis in the Department of Defense; and

Whereas, No such deduction applies to similarly situated federal civil service or Congressional retirement benefits to receive Veterans Administration compensation; and

Whereas, A statutory change is necessary to correct this injustice and discrimination in order to insure that America's commitment to national and international goals be matched by the same allegiance to those who sacrificed on behalf of those goals; now therefore be it

Resolved, That the General Assembly of the State of Rhode Island and Providence Plantations hereby urges the United States Congress to amend title ten, United States Code relating to the compensation of retired military, permitting concurrent receipt of military retired pay and Veterans Administration compensation, including dependents allowances; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of State be and he hereby is authorized and directed to transmit a duly certified copy of this resolution to the President of the United States, Secretary of Defense, Senate Majority and Minority Leaders of the U.S. Congress, Speaker of the House, Committee Chairman of the Senate Armed Forces Committee and Veterans Affairs Committee, House Committee Chairman, National Security and Veterans Affairs Committee, and each member of the Rhode Island Delegation to Congress.

LANE MEMORIAL CHRISTIAN
METHODIST EPISCOPAL CHURCH
1866-1998

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 5, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Lane Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church, one of the District's most distinguished congregations, on the occasion of its 132th Anniversary and Homecoming Celebration. Lane has a long history of community service and has touched the lives of thousands through its outreach ministries that include the "Break of Life" Ministry and the Clothes Closet.

Lane was established in 1866 under the pastorate of the late Reverend Henson Primrose. The original and present site at 14th and C Street, NE was purchased with the assistance of General O.O. Howard, head of the Freedmen's Bureau and founder of Howard University. Participating in the purchase were Lane officers: Jacob Crumpton, James Green and Benjamin Whitaker.

In 1898, under the leadership of the Reverend J.R. White, the original white frame building was torn down, and a brick edifice was erected. In 1924, under the direction of Reverend P.L. Moore, an addition was constructed in the rear of the church. Following the death, in 1937, of the Right Reverend Isaac Lane, Fifth Bishop of the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, the East Washington Mission was renamed Lane Chapel in his honor. In 1945, under the pastorate of Reverend C.E. Kelly, the mortgage was paid off and the church was renovated. The parsonage, at 1615 East Capitol Street, NE, was purchased, in 1951, while Reverend W.C. Doty was the pastor.

The church was deeded to the Colored Methodist Episcopal Church, and in 1954, the denomination's name was changed to the Christian Methodist Episcopal Church. Reverend Giles R. Wright served as pastor from 1954-1959. Under his leadership, the church purchased two adjacent lots. In 1977, during the pastorate of Reverend Allen W. Singh, an Educational Building was erected on the two lots. Further renovations were made while Reverend Marshall Jenifer was pastor, including a unique set of stained glass windows and a mural. The windows tell the story of the denomination's illustrious history and proclaims its Christian message. The church offices and parsonage were renovated in 1993, and air conditioning was installed in the sanctuary.

Outstanding among the many former pastors of Lane are, Reverend A.W. Womack, who was elected Bishop in 1950, and Reverend M.L. Breeding who, in 1954, was elected General Secretary of the Department of Kingdom Extension.

Over the years, many sons of Lane have answered the call to the ministry. The church has witnessed the acceptance of the call by five of its sons and two of its daughters: Joseph Carter, Walter Gaskin, Joseph Collins, Oliver Chase, Charles H. Roman, Azarine Mayes McClellan and Paulette M.E. Stevens. The Reverends Helen S. Clanton, Drexel N. Mitchell and Kenneth K. Dubose have served as associate ministers and received their first charges from this congregation. The present

pastor, the Reverend H. Shirley Clanton, was assigned to Lane on August 2, 1998.

Mr. Speaker, the Lane Memorial Christian Methodist Episcopal Church is a beacon of light and hope in this city. I ask this body to join me in celebrating its rich history and tradition of spiritual, civic, and social activism.

HONORING PRIVATE FIRST CLASS
BERNARD McADAMS III

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 5, 1998

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay my respects to a young man from my district who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Bernard McAdams was proudly serving his country at Suwon Air Base as a member of the First 43rd Air Defense Artillery Battalion, south of Seoul, South Korea. In less than two years in the military, McAdams won commendations for sharpshooting, bravery, and leadership. Yet, his ultimate act of leadership ultimately cost him his life.

Last month, Private McAdams was assisting civilians amidst torrential rains on the Korean peninsula when he and two other soldiers were killed in a mudslide. However, while these great forces of nature were able to sweep him away from his family and friends, no power exists that can ever rob us of the sprint that he left behind. A graduate of Penfield High School near Rochester, New York, Bernard McAdams was known for his kindness, his intelligence, and his generosity. He grew up participating in activities such as the Boy Scouts, and Jack and Jill of America, a volunteer service club. He was a lover of Shakespeare, history, sports and art. In particular, many will remember him for his skill and interest in cartooning. Private McAdams was also a man of faith who was known for often reading and re-reading the Bible.

Mr. Speaker, the people who knew Private First Class Bernard McAdams III will forever be touched by the short time that he had in this world. This young man died as he lived, as a hero and as a role model. I send my condolences to his family and on behalf of my colleagues, offer my thanks and admiration for representing this nation with honor and dignity.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO MODIFY THE TAX ON COM-
MERCIAL AVIATION FOR ISLAND
AIRPORTS

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 5, 1998

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, today Congressman DELAHUNT and I are introducing legislation to modify the tax on commercial aviation to and from airports located on sparsely populated islands. Senator CHAFEE has introduced companion legislation in the Senate.

The Taxpayer Relief Act of 1997 replaced the 10 percent airline ticket tax with a combination ticket tax and per passenger segment charge. Under prior law, domestic air pas-

senger transportation was subject to an excise tax equal to 10 percent of the amount of the ticket price. The new formula, which is gradually phased-in, is a combination of a 7.5 percent excise tax on the price of a ticket and a fixed fee of \$3 per segment.

Congress enacted a new formula to ensure a long-term stable funding source for the Airport and Airway Trust Fund. The formula was changed to reflect a user-based approach to pay for the use of FAA service and facilities. This new formula has resulted in inequities for short distance flights between an island and the mainland. When fully phased-in, the new tax formula could represent as much as 18 percent of the ticket price of a short distance flight to an island.

Short distance flights between islands and a mainland make little demand on Air Traffic Control (ATC) services as these flights do not use ATC centers, and rarely use departure or arrival control. These short island flights usually are transferred from the departure control tower to the destination control tower.

Air and ferry transportation provide islands with a vital link to the mainland for shopping, employment, health care and other needs. For these communities, air and ferry service maintain a delicate balance, where both are needed to meet the communities' needs for mainland access.

The new formula is harsh on island communities and for this reason, the legislation I am introducing will provide more equitable tax treatment for short distance flights to and from islands. This legislation would modify the tax to allow island airports to pay a 10 percent excise tax instead of the new formula which includes a segment fee. The legislation defines an island airport as an airport located on an island with population of 20,000 or less, 400,000 or fewer commercial passengers departing by air from such airport, and 50 percent or more of the initial flight segments of such commercial passengers are 100 miles or less.

I urge my colleagues to review this legislation and to consider addressing the inequities that were created by the new ticket tax formula.

TRIBUTE TO CATHLEEN KEN-
NEDY—OUTSTANDING COMMU-
NITY COLLEGE PROFESSOR OF
THE YEAR

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 5, 1998

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to invite my colleagues to join me in congratulating my constituent and a fellow educator, Professor Cathleen Kennedy of the College of San Mateo, for her extraordinary dedication to teaching, her commitment to students, and her innovative teaching methods.

Recently, Mr. Speaker, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching named Professor Kennedy the Outstanding Community College Professor of the Year as a mark of her high achievement. Professor Kennedy was selected from among more than 500 faculty members nominated by colleges and universities across our country in the U.S. Professors of the Year program—the only na-

tional award program which recognizes college professors for their teaching.

As a former professional computer systems consultant, Professor Cathleen Kennedy left consulting to serve as a role model and help others achieve their dreams. She encourages her students to envision themselves as future programmers or engineers. By persuading the Network Professional Association and several corporations to help develop an on-campus Networking Technologies Lab, Professor Kennedy has provided her students the opportunity to access the latest computer hardware and software and allowed them to work with experienced professionals on the newest technologies. Among her other numerous accomplishments, Professor Kennedy also adapted an introductory computer science course for distance learning, providing multimedia materials and support for students through voicemail, e-mail, and the World Wide Web.

Mr. Speaker, Professor Cathleen Kennedy is a teacher who exemplifies the ideals of innovation and selflessness. She is truly the Outstanding Community College Professor of this nation. The College of San Mateo as well as all of San Mateo County are greatly rewarded by her presence and by the ideals of higher education that she represents so admirably. I urge my colleagues to join me in extending to her our best wishes and congratulations for her outstanding achievement.

HONORING THE AMERICAN
MUSLIM COMMUNITY

HON. THOMAS M. DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 5, 1998

Mr. DAVIS of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak for one minute about American Muslim involvement in our Nation's political process. Participation is a fundamental requirement for the strength of our democracy, so it is gratifying when I see a community making such great strides toward becoming politically active. The American Muslim community is drawing strength from their common interests to bring issues of concern to the forefront.

This summer, I had the pleasure of attending the American Muslim Council's (AMC) 7th Annual National Convention. The AMC was established in 1990 to provide a fair and accurate picture of the American Muslim community to policy makers. The theme of the convention was "Strengthening Our Common Ground." I was amazed at the diversity of this gathering. The attendees were from a wide variety of backgrounds with their American citizenship and religion as their common bonds. Important issues on their agenda included protection of Muslim families from harassment, media abuse, and obstacles for Muslim students in public schools.

I would like to bring your attention to an article by Larry Witham that recently appeared in the Washington Times. It aptly describes the Muslim community's quest to become more active in local and national politics.

The article explains that although many American Muslims are still absent from civic and political activities, increased involvement of the community has begun to make a positive difference. American Muslims have been