

what is wrong with continuing to have them made under the principle of majority rule—meaning by the members of Congress who represent the majority of the American people?

So, Mr. Speaker, I cannot support this proposed change in the Constitution. Our country has gotten along well without it for two centuries. It is not needed. It would not solve any problem—in fact, it probably would create new ones—and it would weaken the basic principle of democratic government, majority rule. It should not be approved.

IN HONOR OF YONG SOO JUN

**HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Yong Soo Jun, who has actively promoted the interests of Korean-American entertainers.

Mr. Jun, who currently lives in Fresh Meadow, New York, moved to New York from Chicago in 1980, and immediately became affiliated with the Korean American Entertainers Association, which at the time, had about thirty members. Over the next six years, Mr. Jun participated in and helped organize many charitable events and performances for the Korean community throughout New York and New Jersey.

In 1986, for business purposes, Mr. Jun moved to Virginia, and spent the next ten years traveling from state to state. During this time, Mr. Jun constantly organized and participated in numerous events, bringing smiles to the faces of virtually everyone with whom he came into contact.

Upon his return to New York in 1996, Mr. Jun picked up where he left off. He immediately resumed his activity with the Korean American Entertainers Association, which by then had increased its membership to about 100, and became President of the organization in 2001. As President, Mr. Jun met Reverend Solomon Y. Kim, the pastor of the Miral Church, in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. Their collaboration has produced many special events, including a performance at Brookdale Hospital's Shulman Institute Nursing Home, and charity events for children with leukemia. A devoted husband and father, Mr. Jun used to view receiving an applause after one of his performances as his ultimate goal, but has found another calling in life in helping others in need.

Therefore, I would like to acknowledge Mr. Yong Soo Jun for his accomplishments and volunteer work for the communities of New York.

TRIBUTE TO CITY OF WESTMINSTER FOR DISTINGUISHED LOCAL GOVERNMENT AWARD

**HON. MARK UDALL**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the city of Westminster,

Colorado. This outstanding community was recently recognized at the 40th Annual Excellence in Government Awards Program hosted by the Denver Federal Executive Board as the recipient of the Distinguished Local Government Award.

Westminster, in the Congressional District I am proud to represent, has used the concept of "Improvement through Cooperation" as it strives to improve local services through a series of innovative intergovernmental cooperative agreements with local, state and federal government partners.

The City has taken a leadership role in providing strong, representative management on complex issues that affect citizens living in Westminster and surrounding communities. Westminster led the way in 1980, bringing the cities of Thornton and Northglenn and other stakeholders to set up a water-monitoring program that led to The Clear Creek Watershed Management Agreement in 1994. Over a period of 20 years the original agreement has been expanded to more than 23 entities that benefit from this successful watershed-monitoring program. Water quality has been improved and enhanced and many ancillary groups help in the sampling efforts, sample collection and quality assurance.

In 1986 Westminster negotiated a first of its kind intergovernmental agreement with the city of Thornton to address the development of the Interstate 25 corridor to make a commitment to study and plan for orderly growth and development. The goal was to simplify governmental structure and reduce and avoid friction between the two cities. This groundbreaking agreement crafted a joint land use plan, established annexation and service areas and revenue sharing.

In 1997, Westminster led the way again by taking the leadership on a second intergovernmental agreement with the cities of Broomfield and Thornton to study additional highway interchanges on Interstate 25 as the traffic impacts continued to grow. New intergovernmental agreements were signed, original agreements were amended to meet current needs and the citizens of these communities have highway corridors that are designed to address traffic demands.

Water rights and water quality are concerns for every western city. In a state with limited supplies and an expanding population, carefully negotiated water agreements are critical to limiting legal disputes and preserving financial resources. Fourteen years ago, Westminster provided regional leadership when it signed the Clear Creek Water Quality Agreement with three neighboring cities and the Coors Brewing Company. Citizens have cleaner, more abundant supplies of water and can be proud of the sophisticated legal agreement that has served the partnership for more than a decade.

Regional parks, libraries and recreation facilities have all been enhanced by cooperative agreements with neighboring cities and educational institutions. Strong intergovernmental agreements expand services for local residents in several communities. New golf courses, fitness centers, ice skating arenas and parks with campsites, hiking trails, campgrounds and water recreation all provide exceptional leisure time activities.

On a personal note, I have, on my own, "adopted" a section of the Dry Creek open space in Westminster as a way to help main-

tain the quality of life and the environment of this community. Through these efforts, along with many volunteers, I have witnessed firsthand the pride that the citizens of this city have for their community and its environment. This dedication has also been manifest in the City's extensive oversight of the cleanup of the Rocky Flats facility, a former nuclear weapons production facility that exists just west of Westminster. The City was one of the first to suggest that this site be converted into a national wildlife refuge once it is cleaned and closed.

Westminster continues to find innovative ways to partner with private corporations, sister communities, public officials and local citizens to bring a superior quality of life to its residents. I applaud Westminster for the outstanding examples of cooperative agreements that have been instituted and look forward to their continued success on behalf of the Coloradans they serve.

COMMEMORATING HARRIS COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPUTY SHANE BENNETT

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise this evening to honor the memory of a brave law enforcement officer, Harris County Sheriff's Deputy Shane Bennett. Deputy Bennett was killed early Wednesday morning, as he and two other deputies charged into a home and stopped a robbery and assault on an innocent family.

He and his fellow officers were summoned by a 911 call from a teenaged girl. Five gang members had broken into their house, and were in threatening the ten people inside with guns. Tragically, it appears that they had made a mistake, since they were demanding jewelry, money, and drugs, none of which these innocent people possessed.

While only two members of the family were shot, a woman of 22 and her 3 month old son, the outcome could have been much worse if the officers had not arrived and come to the family's rescue.

These assailants were all members of the Latin Kings street gang, and two of them had criminal records, including weapons possession charges. Two of them were killed by the officers, and the rest were tracked down and captured by an intensive manhunt through the nearby woods and homes by officers from a half-dozen local police agencies.

After hearing of the shooting, law-enforcement officers from all over the Houston area gathered at Memorial Hermann Hospital, prepared to roll up their sleeves and give the gift of life for their brother in arms.

Sadly, as they arrived, they were met with the news of Deputy Bennett's death, and could do nothing but comfort his family, and each other.

Shane Bennett, 29 years old, was a member of the class of 1990 at Spring High School, in north Harris County. He had been patrolling the second patrol district, which covers 300 square miles of unincorporated Harris County, since 1997.

His colleagues remember him as a dedicated officer, who loved his job. He was

known for his eagerness to combat the drug trade in this area, and was often involved in breaking up meth labs, a dangerous job due to the volatility of the chemicals used in the process.

Ed Christensen, president of the Harris County Deputies' Association, remembered him as a tireless and hardworking officer. He also said, "Shane died a hero. What would have happened if he hadn't been there? He laid down his life and gave the ultimate sacrifice. He absolutely laid down his life for his fellow man."

Deputy Bennett is survived by his wife, Teresa, and his 20 month old daughter, Alyssa. According to reports, as he lay mortally wounded, the name of the young girl who will never know her father was the last words he was able to speak.

We are indebted to Shane Bennett for his courage, and we share the grief of his family and offer kind words, knowing that it is a poor substitute for their loss.

Every day, ordinary men and women make an extraordinary commitment when they put on the badge that symbolizes the oath they took to protect and serve, the badge that also makes them a target. Every day, they leave their families behind, not knowing if they will come home that night.

Congress should continue to make sure that we keep our commitment to the law enforcement by providing funding for more officers, better equipment, and advanced training. It not only saves the lives of officers, but it makes our families, our homes, and our neighborhoods a safer place to live.

HONORING SUFFOLK COUNTY OFFICERS AND LOIS APRILE AND DENISE BRENNAN

**HON. FELIX J. GRUCCI, JR.**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. GRUCCI. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Suffolk County Officers Lois Aprile and Denise Brennan who have been selected as the recipients of the Rotary Club of Smithtown's 32nd Annual Peter J. Biegion Award.

Police Officers Aprile and Brennan were appointed to the Suffolk County Police Department on January 25, 1988. After graduating from the Police Academy they were assigned to the Fourth Precinct, assuming the duty of patrol officers. Their professional association and friendship go back many years.

It wasn't long after being assigned to the Fourth Precinct that it became evident that these two energetic officers were committed to establishing programs to benefit a wide range of community interests. In recognition of these efforts, they were both assigned to the Fourth Precinct COPE Unit in 1995.

Police Officer Aprile is certified as a crime prevention officer, a school—resource officer and a DARE instructor. She is currently working toward the completion of a master's degree in counseling at C.W. Post, L.I.U. She is a member of several committees, including the Sachem Committee on Drugs, Hauppauge School District Drug Task Force and is a board member of the Smithtown Veterans Youth Program. She is also a member of the

Long Island Association of Crime Prevention Officers.

She acts as a volunteer for the Boy Scouts/Cub Scouts and serves as a religion education instructor for St. Philip and James Church. She gives freely of her time to the Special Olympics, Toys for Tots and various community outreach groups.

As one of the precinct's school liaison officers she helped create a program at the Smithtown Middle School to decrease problems among students relating to theft, fighting and other misconduct.

She has been recognized as cop of the month and has received several awards from public officials for her work with the Smithtown Veteran's Youth Program.

Police Officer Brennan has received certifications as a school resource officer and crime prevention officer. She is a member of the NYS Juvenile Officers Association.

She also serves as one of our school liaison officers and sits on several committees addressing youth development and delinquency prevention programs. She is a member of the S.A.F.E. Schools Committee, Kings Park Compass, Sachem Teen Driving Committee and the Raynor Park Youth Program.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACHIEVEMENTS OF 19TH CENTURY ITALIAN-AMERICAN INVENTOR ANTONIO MEUCCI

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH D. HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 11, 2002*

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of legislation considered by the House this week which calls attention to an under recognized historical figure, Antonio Meucci, and his work on an invention that we today know as the telephone. Mr. Meucci is a testament to the hard work and innovation that made America great.

Most Americans know the story of Alexander Graham Bell, the man given sole credit for the invention of the telephone. This resolution makes clear, though, that another man made enormous strides in laying the groundwork for the invention, an Italian immigrant by the name of Antonio Meucci.

Antonio Meucci was born near Florence, Italy, in 1808. He studied mechanical engineering at Florence's Academy of Fine Arts and then worked in the Teatro della Pergola and various other theaters as a stage technician until 1835, when he accepted a job as a scenic designer and stage technician in Havana, Cuba.

Fascinated by research, Meucci read every scientific tract he could get his hands on, and spent all his spare time in Havana on research, inventing a new method of galvanizing metals that he applied to military equipment for the Cuban government. At the same time, he continued his work in the theater and pursued his experiments.

As a result of his research, Meucci had developed a method of using electric shocks to treat various illnesses. One day, while preparing to administer such a treatment, Meucci heard his friend's voice over the piece of copper wire running between them. He realized

he had stumbled onto something much more important than any other discovery he had ever made, and he spent the next ten years bringing the principle to a practical stage. The following decade was to be spent perfecting the original device.

Antonio Meucci called his work on this project, "teletrofano." Meucci was unable to commercialize his invention because he did not speak enough English to navigate the American business community, and, having spent most of his life savings on his work, he was unable to raise sufficient funds to pay his way through the patent process. Instead, he had to settle for a caveat, a one-year renewable notice of an impending patent, which Meucci first filed in 1871.

While a brilliant inventor, Meucci was victim of a series of financial and personal misfortunes. A Western Union affiliate laboratory—where Meucci was keeping his models to demonstrate his work—reportedly lost his working models, and as Meucci—was subsidizing off public assistance, he could not afford the \$10 necessary to renew the caveat in 1874. In 1876, Alexander Graham Bell, who conducted experiments in the same laboratory where Meucci's materials had been stored, was granted a patent, and thereafter credited with inventing the telephone. Nine months later, the government moved to annul Bell's patent on the grounds of fraud and misrepresentation, which the Supreme Court remanded for trial.

Meucci died in 1889, the Bell patent expired in 1893 and the case was discounted as moot without ever uncovering the true inventor of the telephone. If Meucci were able to renew his caveat, a patent to Bell could have never been issued.

The world of science and invention is a highly competitive one, where inventors compete to make and market their discoveries. It is only right that we call attention to the work of one brilliant inventor who history has not given his proper due, and who made enormous contributions toward the invention of this device. I urge support for the bill.

RECOGNIZING WILBERFORCE UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT DR. JOHN L. HENDERSON

**HON. DAVID L. HOBSON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 13, 2002*

Mr. HOBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Dr. John L. Henderson, who, for the past 14 years, has served as the president of Wilberforce University, which is located in Greene County, Ohio in the 7th Congressional District.

On June 30th, Dr. Henderson will be retiring after a distinguished career in which he served at Wilberforce and in leadership positions at Xavier University, the University of Cincinnati, Sinclair Community College and Cincinnati Technical College. He also has taught education, counseling and psychology courses since 1966.

Dr. Henderson's tenure at Wilberforce has been marked by many accomplishments, not the least of which is the institution's physical growth. Some of the major facilities constructed during his tenure include: a health