

In addition, Mr. Speaker, I am proud to announce that Mindy's name and contributions will be honored forever. Her name will join the names of other men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice while on duty as firefighters at the National Fallen Firefighters' Memorial's Roll of Honor. The memorial, located in Emmitsburg, Md., was designated by Congress as the official, national memorial to fallen firefighters, and it will be further sanctified by the addition of Mindy's name.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing and mourning the loss of Melinda Ohler for her sacrifice and contributions to the people of San Francisco. She will be sorely missed on the Peninsula, in her birthplace of Valparaiso, Ind., and in the hearts of many across this nation who had the privilege of knowing her. To know her was to admire her; her legacy will be one of compassion, selflessness, and a commitment to being all she could be.

COMMEMORATING INDIA'S
REPUBLIC DAY

HON. JOHN LINDER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. LINDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge an important national holiday in India, namely a celebration of the Indian people's long and protracted struggle for self-governance and freedom: Republic Day.

On January 26, 1950, India's constitution was ratified. The adoption of this constitution, which was greatly influenced by our Founding Fathers, makes India a model for nations across Asia and throughout the developing world.

As one of the world's most populated democracies, India is also a natural ally for our War on Terrorism. With its strategic location, India is a vital resource and a valued partner of the United States.

In a region too often afflicted with non-democratic governments, and wracked by intolerance across religious or ethnic lines, India truly stands out for its democracy and stability.

The Indian-American community within the United States has played a critical role in building this bridge between our two great nations, and I applaud their efforts.

HONORING THE HEROISM OF
MICHAEL ONUSKO

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. CASTLE. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to and honor the heroism of Mr. Michael Onusko of Lincoln, Delaware. His concern and care for the fellow citizens in his community resulted in a life being saved.

Mr. Onusko, a mail carrier with the United States Postal Service, deserves a hero's recognition for his actions that saved 81-year-old Houston, Delaware resident Margaret Phillips. While on his delivery route, Mr. Onusko noticed that Mrs. Phillips had not picked up her

mail from the previous day. Concerned for a friend for whom he had been carrying mail for 13 years, he walked toward the residence to check on Mrs. Phillips. Upon hearing Mrs. Phillips calling for help from the garage, he quickly alerted the police. Mrs. Phillips had fallen off a ladder in her garage and was suffering from hypothermia after lying incapacitated on the floor for almost an entire day. Had Mr. Onusko not checked on Mrs. Phillips, help might not have arrived in time.

Mr. Onusko displayed a quality that all Delawareans should look for in a role model—a deep sense of community and concern for fellow citizens. We should all hope to emulate Mr. Onusko's actions and reach out when we can to those in need. It is people like Mr. Onusko who inspire others to do great things, and to realize that each of us is a part of a community, and a nation that can only succeed if we look out for one another. America needs everyday heroes who display true concern and goodwill when called upon to help their fellow citizens. I am proud to say that Mr. Onusko exemplified these qualities with his actions, and his recognition, Mr. Speaker, is duly deserved.

Ordinary people who perform extraordinary acts of public service, like Michael Onusko from my great State of Delaware, are the true heroes in today's world, and are the true role models for the next generation of leaders, both inside and outside of Delaware's borders.

FURTHER CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS,
FISCAL YEAR 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 28, 2003

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the Obey Motion to Instruct.

We are four months into fiscal year 2003, yet 11 of the appropriations bills have yet to be enacted.

I am happy to see that we are close to wrapping up this appropriations process. But now is not the time to skip on the people's priorities. In our rush to finish, we must ensure that Homeland Security and our first responders are at the top of our list.

I urge the conferees to incorporate into the final conference report the language included in the omnibus bill by the other body.

In particular, I support the \$90 million to continue the health monitoring at Mount Sinai Hospital for the men and women who were on the front lines of defense on September 11th and the days that followed.

The other body included specific instructions to FEMA on this \$90 million.

Yesterday, several firefighters and rescue workers who worked the pile at Ground Zero were here in Washington to call attention to this very important issue. These brave heroes entered a battle zone of a new kind of war, and are really the first victims of the war. And we need to ensure they receive the medical care they deserve.

The need for this money was underscored in a report released this week by Mount Sinai Hospital showing that a majority of ground zero workers and volunteers screened for health problems have serious persistent illnesses from the disaster.

The initial screening program which ends this July will screen only about 9,000 of the approximately 40,000 rescue workers in need of medical attention. The analysis reveals that over 50 percent of the sample study have pulmonary illnesses, ear, nose and throat ailments, or persistent mental health problems.

The Doctors at Mt. Sinai believe the same statistics will hold for the roughly 3,500 responders they have seen to date. 78 percent of the participants reported at least one World Trade Center-related pulmonary symptom that first developed or worsened as a result of their rescue efforts; 52 percent reported mental health symptoms requiring further evaluation; and only about one-third of the sample participants had received any prior medical care for any of their symptoms and conditions.

In other words, for about one-third of these participants—their trip to Mount Sinai had been their only source of medical care; emphasizing the critical need to fully fund this program now, not later, not months down the road.

I urge my colleagues in the House to read the findings from the Mt. Sinai report—which can be found on my website: <http://www.wtcexams.org/>.

Medical monitoring delayed is proper health care denied. But again we face the challenge of securing the House support and the Administration's support and leadership to make this happen.

Medical monitoring delayed is proper health care denied. I hope that the conferees will include in the final conference report the language included in the omnibus bill by the other body.

The first responders were there for us when we needed them, now the question is will the federal government be there for them.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION
URGING REVIEW OF STEEL TARIFF
CONSEQUENCES FOR STEEL
CONSUMERS

HON. JOE KNOLLENBERG

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 29, 2003

Mr. KNOLLENBERG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution regarding the Steel Safeguard Program that was initiated on March 5, 2002. This resolution asks for little, but could mean everything to steel-consuming manufacturers in this country.

By introducing this resolution I, along with 51 of my colleagues, are merely asking that the President direct the International Trade Commission (ITC) to include in its mid-term review of the Steel Safeguard Program an assessment of the Program's impact on steel consumers. Currently the ITC is under no obligation to report on these effects. By affirmatively accepting our request, the President will have a complete picture of the economic effects of the Program when he considers in September of this year whether or not to extend the tariffs for another eighteen months.

Last March, the Bush Administration imposed tariffs on imported steel, some as high as 30 percent, in an attempt to limit low-price imports in order to give our domestic steel industry time to reorganize and become more competitive. At that time, it was obvious that