

august body would surely agree has no equal in Congress when it comes to supporting our troops—was not even consulted or given the opportunity to take part in the drafting of this resolution to ensure a well-deserved bipartisan tribute is paid to our troops in Iraq.

Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I take this opportunity to extend my own personal praise and appreciation for the sacrifices and outstanding service of our brave men and women in Iraq.

Like all Americans, I am extremely proud of their service, their commitment, and, yes, their willingness, if necessary, to pay the ultimate price to protect our country at home and abroad.

Brave men and women such as Lance Corporal Henry Lopez, Army Spec. Joo H. Bahk, and Corporal Alex Argumedo, and Marines Jonathan Kirkpatrick, Juan Silva and Javier Martinez, and many others from my 34th Congressional District who are true heroes in every sense of the word.

Like all Americans, I am grateful to the thousands of soldiers who have been wounded in battle and whose lives have been forever changed because of their severe injuries suffered on our behalf. I had the privilege of meeting with some of them at Walter Reed Army Medical Center last year, and I found the experience both moving and humbling. They are truly an inspiration and deserve our praise and the support they need to heal. They also deserve and have earned every opportunity we can give them and their families to look forward to a better future.

And Mr. Speaker, to compensate for that which H.R. 557 fails to do, I offer my deep personal sorrow, regret, and respect to those like Army Specialist Jason Kristoffer Chappell and Army Spc. Jose L. Mora who paid the ultimate price for our country. And to all the families who lost a loved one, I extend my most heartfelt condolences.

In closing Mr. Speaker, let me, once again, extend my praise and appreciation for the sacrifices made by our troops in Iraq and throughout the world. Every day, in ways both large and small, they make us all very proud to be Americans. May God continue to bless them and keep them safe.

HONORING DANIEL J. WUENSCHEL
ON HIS RETIREMENT AS EXECUTIVE
DIRECTOR OF THE CAMBRIDGE
HOUSING AUTHORITY

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure but great sadness that I rise today to honor Daniel J. Wuenschel on his impending retirement from the Cambridge Housing Authority.

Dan has served as executive director of the Cambridge Housing Authority since 1978. During his tenure, he has been a tireless advocate for affordable housing in the City of Cambridge. Dan's work in the reconstruction and redevelopment of the city's aging public housing stock has garnered several State and national awards and served as a prototype for a national public housing redevelopment program. He also directed CHA efforts to produce over 700 additional units of affordable housing

in more than 15 different locations throughout the city. His work has been essential in ensuring that Cambridge has an economically diverse population at a time of skyrocketing housing costs in Massachusetts.

Dan has been honored with the 1986 Governor's Design Award, the 1989 Massachusetts Historical Commission's Preservation Award, the 1990 Ford Foundation/Harvard University Innovations in State & Local Government Award, and a 1998 Boston Society of Architects' Citation for Urban Planning. The CHA has also been recognized many times for its superior work in providing service to its residents.

Dan has also been an innovator in the public housing field. The CHA recently opened Neville Manor at Fresh Pond, a 71-unit, mixed-income assisted living facility and Neville Center, a 112 bed skilled nursing facility. He also secured a HOPE VI grant to rehabilitate the John F. Kennedy Apartments, a 69-unit affordable housing complex for seniors. CHA has also been instrumental in supporting numerous nonprofit affordable housing developers in Cambridge.

As executive director, he led the Cambridge Housing Authority in its role as cofounder of the National Council of Large Public Housing Authorities. He became the first president of CLPHA, an office he held for 6 years, during which time CLPHA became the premier industry group representing housing authority interests at the national level and here in Washington, DC.

Mr. Speaker, Dan Wuenschel has provided a home for thousands of families and my district and this country are the better for it. We are extremely grateful for all of his work, and he will be sorely missed. Dan, congratulations on a job well done.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS
AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS
OF KENNETH A. GUENTHER

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions and accomplishments of an extraordinary man who, for a quarter century, devoted his whole heart, mind and spirit to the success of the Nation's community banks. Today the Independent Community Bankers of America at their National Convention is honoring and celebrating Kenneth A. Guenther, as he completes 25 years of leadership.

As president and chief executive officer, Ken Guenther has led the ICBA with an uncompromising intellect, conviction and courage. Through unceasing effort, he strengthened the trade association to help shepherd community banks through a period of remarkable challenges and change for the banking industry.

Throughout his tenure, Ken Guenther has represented community banks with unflagging passion, credibility and tenacity in Washington. He demonstrated foresight and innovation in harnessing the collective economic might of community banks to assure their future. His integrity and commitment to excellence will be long remembered. His lasting legacy will be a

vibrant community banking industry, the foundation of America's economic prosperity and liberty.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the quarter century of incomparable service and dedication Kenneth A. Guenther has devoted to the Nation's community banks.

TRIBUTE TO REV. DR. GADSON L.
GRAHAM

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a devoted and inspirational member of my community, Rev. Dr. Gadson L. Graham, on the occasion of his 45th Pastoral Anniversary.

Dr. Graham will be honored this month by the members of the Canaan Baptist Church of Paterson, New Jersey, and I am honored to join with them in extending my best wishes to this man who has dedicated his life's work to serving others. He has ministered to our community as a preacher, a teacher, a mentor, and a counselor.

In 1975, Dr. Graham founded the Haitian Project, Canaan Baptist Church's first foreign mission program, and has extended this global outreach to many other countries, including Liberia, Senegal, Benin, and Uganda. His global ministry has offered him the opportunity to meet with members of the British Parliament, the Honorable Nelson Mandela, President of South Africa, and His Excellency Robert Mugabe, President of Zimbabwe.

Dr. Graham serves on the Board of Directors for the New Jersey Performing Arts Center and serves as Advisory Board President of the Rutgers School of Nursing, both in Newark, New Jersey. Among his many honors and awards, he was named Pastor of the Year by Brothers in Blue, a Policeman's Fraternal Organization in the City of Paterson; was the first African American minister to mentor African American students at Fairleigh Dickinson University in Teaneck; and was the recipient of the Z-HOPE HONOREE Award, given by Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc., State of New Jersey, and Rho Tau Zeta Chapter of Paterson for his humanitarian pursuits to uplift women and their families in Haiti, Africa and other countries.

I am grateful for Dr. Graham's leadership in the community, and I value his commitment to meeting the needs of his brothers and sisters in Paterson, the United States, and around the world.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending thanks to Dr. Graham for 45 years of pastoral ministry; and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him the strength and grace to continue for many years to come.

CONGRATULATIONS TO "THE"
EAGLE PRIDE BAND

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention the "THE" Eagle Pride Band from

Calhoun, Missouri, has been selected to perform at the Indianapolis 500 in May. For the 26 students who participate in the band this honor is well deserved.

The students have been recognized for their combined talents, but they also deserve credit for efforts on behalf of those in need. A benefit concert held in the fall raised over \$2,000 for needy families in Calhoun. In December 2001, following the terrorist attacks on Washington and New York City, the band put on a patriotic concert. Over 700 attended, and the contributions for relief efforts exceeded \$4,000.

Continuing its tradition of excellence, in May the band will travel to Indiana to perform at the Indianapolis 500, participating in a parade, a prerace ceremony and at a special performance at the Indiana State Capitol.

Mr. Speaker, the students of "THE" Eagle Pride Band, under the direction of Brandon Harris, represent their school, their community, and their State with honor and distinction. I am certain that the Members of the House will join me in congratulating them on their accomplishments and thanking them for their dedication to helping others.

TRIBUTE TO MR. CONNIE L. RICHARD

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a valued member of my district, Mr. Connie Richard. Mr. Richard has been a respected educator and administrator in the Newark Public School System for 35 years and will celebrate his retirement on March 26, 2004.

Mr. Richard was born in Chattanooga, Tennessee, but moved to Newark as a young child with his parents and sister. During his teenage years, he and his sister, Belita, were active participants in the Newark YMCA/YWCA programs that I directed. His sister, Belita, was one of the two Newark High School teenagers selected to participate in a YMCA-sponsored international travel program, which included a 3-week tour of Brazil, Ecuador, and Peru. His dedication to his studies and his academic achievements earned him a scholarship to study at the College of Santa Fe in New Mexico. He returned to Newark after graduation and began his career with the public school system.

For the past 35 years, he has worked tirelessly within the Newark Public School System as both teacher and administrator. He has served as Project Coordinator of Elementary Reading Centers, District Title I Coordinator, Central Office Title I Coordinator, Chapter I Supervisor, Director of Special Projects, and Special Assistant to SLT Assistant Superintendent.

Never content to end his day when working hours were over, he has been an active volunteer with the Sussex Avenue Recreation Program, the Alexander Street School Aerospace Club, and neighborhood athletic and leadership programs. He is a member of the New Jersey Education Association, the New Jersey Minority Caucus, the Association of School Administrators, the New Jersey Association of Federal Program Administrators, the Associa-

tion for Supervision and Curriculum Development, the National Association of Federal Program Administrators, the National Coalition of Title I/Chapter I Parents, the New Jersey Congress of Parents and Teachers, and the Organization of African American Administrators.

I can assure you that his retirement will be as active as his working life, full of time spent with family and friends, enjoying camping, athletics, and great jazz music, traveling to destinations both familiar and uncharted, and honing his woodcarving skills. I salute Mr. Richard for his dedication to the students, parents, and teachers in our community. I am proud to have him in my district, and I am proud of the legacy he has left for our public school system. Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Mr. Richard for his lifetime of public service, and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him a happy, fulfilling retirement.

HONORING THE CAREER OF DONALD J. SMITH ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. MAXINE WATERS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to honor a wonderful public servant and a good friend who has made pioneering contributions to the field of public housing administration in the City of Los Angeles and throughout our country, Donald Smith.

Don will be retiring on April 30 as executive director of the Housing Authority for the City of Los Angeles (HACLA). For 32 years, Don has played a vital role in improving the lives of countless families by helping them to obtain clean, safe, and affordable housing; and he will be sorely missed. His expertise, sound judgment, and good humor are tremendously rare and valuable assets. He will be leaving very big shoes to fill.

Don began his career as HACLA's director of management from 1971 to 1980 before moving to the Los Angeles County Community Development Commission, where he served as assistant director of the housing division, director of assisted housing, and assistant executive director of housing. In 1994, Don returned to the HACLA as executive director.

Since Don's return, HACLA has been rated as a "high performer" by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) in recognition of its high lease rate in public housing and its record of achieving 100 percent section 8 voucher utilization even in a difficult market. In addition, under Don's leadership, HACLA was the first housing authority to receive a Welfare-to-Work grant from the U.S. Department of Labor and subsequently received local and national recognition for its excellence and success with this program.

During Don's tenure, HACLA has helped to improve and beautify my City of Los Angeles by demolishing public housing that dates from the 1940s and replacing it with vibrant, mixed-income communities including Harbor Village/Normont Terrace in the Harbor area and Pico Aliso and Aliso Village/Pueblo del Sol in Boyle Heights. Don was a prime reason why HUD chose the HACLA to administer all of its section 8 properties in 10 Southern California counties.

HACLA is a state-chartered public agency that administers the largest stock of affordable housing in the Los Angeles area. While the HACLA gets the majority of its funding through HUD, Don has built many key partnerships with city and State agencies, nonprofit foundations, community-based organizations, and private developers, which have proven invaluable to achieving HACLA's mission.

Mr. Speaker, in recognition of his dedication to the City of Los Angeles and the thousands of people he has helped, I have introduced a resolution recognizing Don for his outstanding work. I hope that the Congress will join me in thanking Don for his service to Los Angeles and to our Nation.

Thank you, Don, for your tremendous work and for your friendship. I wish you all the best in your retirement.

SENSENBRENNER REMARKS BEFORE THE U.S. JUDICIAL CONFERENCE REGARDING CONGRESSIONAL OVERSIGHT RESPONSIBILITY OF THE JUDICIARY

HON. TOM FEENEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 23, 2004

Mr. FEENEY. Mr. Speaker, this Member commends this remarkable speech because of its brevity and clarity and the extraordinary manner in which the speaker explains the appropriate and honorable role of federal judges.

House Judiciary Committee Chairman F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, Jr. (R-Wis.) spoke this morning before the Judicial Conference, a body composed of federal judges of districts and levels from across the country and headed by Supreme Court Chief Justice William Rehnquist. Chairman SENSENBRENNER delivered the following remarks:

Thank you for the invitation to speak this morning before the Judicial Conference of the United States.

As we all know, the Founders of our Republic drafted a blueprint for self-government that has endured for well over two centuries because it delineated a balanced relationship among the legislative, executive, and judicial branches. The tripartite system engrafted into our Constitution has served as a model charter of government for nations around the world; and the intellectual legacy of our Founders is the proud birthright of every American.

The Founders anticipated, indeed welcomed, a dynamic interplay among the branches of government. For example, in a speech to the House of Representatives in 1789 concerning the proper role of the judicial branch, James Madison stated: "I acknowledge, in the ordinary course of government, that the exposition of the laws and Constitution devolves upon the judicial; but I beg to know upon what principle it can be contended that any one department draws from the Constitution greater powers than another, in marking out the limits of the powers of the several departments." The relationships among the federal branches over the course of our nation's history has been typified by comity and mutual respect. While sometimes rivalrous, relations among the branches have been free of the destructive impulses that have proven ruinous to other nations.

The relative tranquility in these inter-branch relations is at least partly attributable to the clarity with which the Constitution assigns authority to each branch.