

HONORING CONTRIBUTIONS OF
WOMEN, SYMBOLIZED BY "ROSIE
THE RIVETER," WHO SERVED ON
THE HOMEFRONT DURING
WORLD WAR II

SPEECH OF

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 2, 2004

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my support of H. Con. Res. 413, which honors the contributions of Rosie the Riveter—the brave women who served on the home front during World War II.

Over six million women served this county during World War II by taking on jobs that had been traditionally held by men. They served as welders, and engineers, and helped produce planes, trucks, guns and ammunition that were crucial to helping the U.S. achieve victory.

These brave women opened the doors toward equal rights and new employment opportunities, and highlighted the needs of working mothers, which in turn led to the creation of child care programs. Their efforts helped change social attitudes of traditional gender roles and allowed the women greater opportunities and independence.

I would like to join my colleagues in honoring the life and work of these great women and thank them for their contributions to this nation.

ON OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF DWIGHT (SPIKE) HELMICK

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of the retirement of Mr. D.O. 'Spike' Helmick Commissioner of the California Highway Patrol (CHP). Mr. Helmick has served the state of California in the California Highway Patrol for 35 years. Mr. Helmick has served as commissioner for the last 9 years and was appointed as the State's first director of Homeland Security.

Born in Texas in 1945 and raised in California, Commissioner Helmick graduated from Oroville High School. He is a graduate of the FBI's National Executive Institute and has completed graduate work in public administration through Golden Gate University. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Administration of Justice from Golden Gate University and received Associate of Arts degrees in Police Science and Business Administration from Yuba and Glendale Colleges. Mr. Helmick, who left his job in a clothing store in his Northern California hometown of Oroville to join the California Highway Patrol, graduated from the training academy in 1969. His first assignments were patrol duty in Glendale and other parts of Los Angeles County.

Commissioner Helmick has held every rank from Cadet to Deputy Commissioner. Prior to appointment as Commissioner in 1995, he served as Deputy Commissioner for six years. Before that he served as Chief of the CHP's

Coastal Division, which encompasses ten area offices and two inspection facilities from Santa Cruz to Ventura. Prior to being appointed Chief of the Division he served as Assistant Chief of Coastal Division from December 1986 through February 1989. From 1975 through 1986, Commissioner Helmick was assigned to the Office of Special Representative to the Legislature and commanded that office beginning in 1981. He also served in the South Los Angeles and Glendale Areas. On November 1, 1995, 'Spike' Helmick was appointed Commissioner of the CHP, commanding 6,730 uniformed and 3,200 nonuniformed personnel, located in 8 field divisions, 99 area commands, 16 commercial vehicle inspection facilities, 6 communications centers, and headquarters staff and executive offices. Mr. Helmick's duties ranged from heading up the state's homeland security programs in the aftermath of September 11, 2001, to assisting in riot control and aiding local departments in the fight against street gangs.

As Commissioner, Mr. Helmick initiated the concept of High Performance Policing within the CHP. Under his guidance, each CHP commander assesses the needs and expectations of the community served by their command. Delivery of service is tailored to satisfy both community and statewide needs.

Commissioner Helmick has continually emphasized the importance that the CHP workforce be representative of the state's diverse population so that the best services will be provided to all Californians. To this end, recruitment, hiring and promotion of women and ethnic minorities have been established as departmental priorities.

Support for Commissioner Helmick is widely based throughout California. His genuine concern for the needs of our state's citizens is evidenced by such diverse Department programs as Spanish language instruction of CHP employees, inclusion of cultural awareness training modules in recurrent training, and direction of Department resources to address specific crime and public safety issues.

There is no doubt that D.O. 'Spike' Helmick has been an outstanding public servant for the people of California. His distinguished career record speaks for itself. It has been my honor to work with Commissioner Helmick as both a State Senator and now as a Congressman. He is my friend and a friend to everyone in the California Highway Patrol. For these reasons I move that we recognize and honor D.O. 'Spike' Helmick for his outstanding achievements and service to the people of the State of California.

AMERICA'S BEST VA CLINIC

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I want to call the nation's attention to the exemplary work done by the staff of the Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic in Bennington, Vermont. Recently, the Federal Executive Association gave its "Federal Employee of the Year Award" to the entire Bennington VA Clinic staff.

As the Community Based Outpatient Clinic (CBOC) housed at the Vermont Veterans

Home in Bennington, the facility and its staff serves the primary health care needs of eligible veterans in the region of southwestern Vermont. Over 1800 veterans in Vermont get exceptional medical care from Dr. Peter King and his colleagues in the clinic. As a sign of their remarkable dedication to the health and well-being of veterans, the Bennington VA Clinic was rated among the top ten clinics in the nation in ten of twelve categories. Ranking so highly among the more than 850 community-based VA clinics is a clear indication of the extraordinary work done by the Bennington staff.

Established in 1998, the Bennington VA Clinic affords veterans a single primary care provider to coordinate their care on an ongoing basis. It, along with the Fort Ethan Allen CBOC in Colchester, the CBOC in Rutland, and the CBOC in Littleton, NH (which serves veterans in the St. Johnsbury area), makes primary medical care more accessible to those who cannot always make the long journey to our excellent VA facilities in White River Junction.

We in Vermont are proud both of our veterans, and of the dedicated people who honor them by meeting their medical needs.

HONORING KEN HAMLIN

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 8, 2004

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today on behalf of the members of American Legion Post 18 of Bay City, Michigan to pay tribute to their past Commander and life-time member, Mr. Ken Hamlin. The Legion will honor Mr. Hamlin during a special recognition ceremony to be held in Bay City.

Ken Hamlin was born in Bay City on June 15, 1928. He served in the U.S. Naval Reserve during World War II and the Korean War. He retired honorably from the Reserve in 1966. Ken has spent the majority of his life serving and protecting. His commitment to the U.S. Navy and American Legion Post 18 is without doubt commendable. Ken has been a member of the American Legion Post 18 of Bay City for 29 years. During his 29 years of service with the Post he has had the honor of being a post service officer for 23 of those years. Ken's dedication to the post and its veterans have not gone unnoticed. In 1994 he was named Post 18 Commander, and later was granted Life Membership status for outstanding service. Also during 1994 he was awarded the Bay County Veteran of the Year award. Aside from Post 18, Ken is also a member of VVA Chapter 494 and a lifetime member and Past Commander (5 times) of AMVETS Post 22. He was the Past Chef DeGear Voiture 690 Bay County, and Past President Bay City Bowling Association. He was elected to the Bay City Bowling Hall Of Fame in 1998, is a member of Post 18 Baseball committee, and a member of the Bay County Naval Ship Committee. One of his most noted contributions to the Bay City Veterans Council was the assistance he provided in forming the Bay County Color Guard with the late George Rowell. Ken's strength, pride and steadfastness in getting the job done whenever and however will always be remembered. He is a leader of high moral standards.