

community than Bernie Dittman. He is an outstanding example of the quality individuals who have devoted their lives to the field of broadcasting, and I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating him on this remarkable achievement. I know Bernie's colleagues, his family, and his many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of the First Congressional District and the entire state of Alabama.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF DEBBY LAWSON

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Debby Lawson for her dedication to teaching the students at Frazier Elementary in the Comal Independent School District.

Today's students that go through our nation's public school systems have an innate right to be taught the necessary skills to tackle all the challenges they will encounter through the course of their lives. Teachers provide them with this right day after day and in Debby Lawson's case she has been doing this for 30 years now.

Receiving her bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Texas in Austin, she has been able to take these tools learned in the college classroom and turn them into results in the elementary classroom. The learning environment promoted by Mrs. Lawson is one that teaches the students the values of communication between themselves and their fellow students. Her second grade students are encouraged to "support each other and celebrate the successes of their classmates." This provides our nation's children with the fundamentals to learning how to understand and work along side their peers, an invaluable asset to anyone no matter what age.

Teachers like Debby Lawson give our nation's children the necessary foundations to help them forge their minds into tomorrow's greats. I am honored to have this opportunity to recognize Debby Lawson for her dedication to teaching our community's children.

EMERGENCY IMMIGRATION WORKLOAD REDUCTION AND HOMELAND SECURITY ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2005

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. GRAVES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today still afraid for our nation's security. Not because of terror alerts, but because our borders remain porous. The enforcement of our immigration policy is impotent, resulting in a continued flood of illegal immigrants across our borders.

It is time for the federal government to stop letting unchecked mass immigration undermine the wages, safety, and benefits in one occupation after another. It is time for the federal government to moderate immigration and to treat American workers, citizen and immigrant, with the respect they deserve.

Our constituents did not elect us to help cheapen the quality of their lives by importing foreign workers at six to eight times the historical average. There is no getting around the fact that when we cheapen labor with unchecked illegal immigration, we cheapen our neighbors, both citizens and immigrants alike.

Today, I introduce the Emergency Immigration Workload Reduction and Homeland Security Enhancement Act of 2005. This legislation would suspend certain nonessential visas in order to provide temporary workload reduction critical to the success of the immigration component of the recently established Department of Homeland Security. These suspensions would be lifted following the certification by Secretary of Homeland Security to Congress that specific conditions ensuring the department's ability to carry out its enforcement responsibilities have been met.

Zealous enforcement of our immigration laws is a critical first step; however, Congress must look at the root causes of our policy flaws. In this era of global terrorism, we must re-evaluate our immigration policy and close these outstanding loopholes to give the Department of Homeland Security the tools it needs to protect our soil.

I call on my colleagues to join me in working to reform our immigration policies and to halt the cheapening of America's citizen and immigrant workers. Without real immigration reform, our borders will not be safe and our citizens will be at risk.

FORTY YEARS OF WORKING FOR PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the fortieth anniversary of the School for International Training in Brattleboro, Vermont. As one of the foremost schools for cross-cultural education in the world, its record is one trail-blazing effort after another, a whole series of initiatives that have transformed both the world, and the way education about the world is shaped.

The SIT, as it is known, was an outgrowth of the Experiment in International Living, which originated in 1932 when Donald Watt took twenty American teenagers to Europe to live together with teenagers from several European nations. Year after year that program grew and prospered.

In the wake of World War Two the Fulbright Program for the international exchange of scholars and the establishment of the Peace Corps increased this Nation's commitment to the exchange of citizens between different countries and cultures. The SIT was founded in order to provide training and ultimately advanced degrees to those who wanted to work and teach in a global context. It was an early and important resource for Peace Corps training—an unsurprising fact, given that Sergeant Shriver, the first Director of the Peace Corps, had in 1934 been a member of one of the earliest Experiment in International Living programs. The core of the SIT has remained the same for forty years: language training, field-based practice, and a commitment to internationalism.

The School for International Training is not only about technical training for international exchange and work. It has a central vision and a central mission: world peace. Its motto is, "Building peace through understanding—one person at a time." It has lived up to this motto by educating individuals to work in a world where human need is more important than political borders, religious groupings, ethnic identities, or geographical boundaries. It tries to construct a new world in which human beings are united rather than divided by working together to shape a more equitable and peaceful society.

Too often our world today is rent by violence or plundered by corporations looking only to make a quick profit. Building peace and community takes time and steadfast effort. It also takes vision, and a deep sense of generosity. The School for International Training—its leaders, its teachers, its generation of students—have devoted time, effort, vision and generosity in extraordinary measure.

As it celebrates its first forty years, I, the people of Vermont, and the citizens of both the American Nation and the world, wish the School for International Training forty more years of success.

HONORING MR. GENE A. LUNDQUIST

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 27, 2005

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and wish well in retirement Mr. Gene A. Lundquist, of Bakersfield, California. Gene has greatly served his community through the various organizations with which he has been involved.

Gene has recently retired from Calcot, Ltd., following 36 years of work within this corporation. In his most recent capacity, Gene was the Vice President of Calcot's Legislative and Public Affairs department. He was also a member of Calcot's management committee, and took part in Board of Directors' activities.

His career with Calcot began in 1969 and Gene made an impression on all of those who worked with him. He became well known by growers throughout California and Arizona, he represented Calcot at various functions, and he directed the grower relations program. Gene was always the liaison on which people could count. He guided the public affairs program, and assisted with farm legislation and legislators.

While growing and expanding in his various duties at Calcot, Gene also joined other beneficial organizations. He is the director of the Kern County Water Agency, of which he has been a member for over 20 years. This agency is the second largest contractor of state project water, after the Metropolitan Water District in Los Angeles. The Agricultural Council of California, the National Cotton Council, and the Seed Saving and Pricing Committee of California Cotton Planting Seed Distributors are just a few of the other councils and committees on which Gene has served.

Throughout his career Gene has been committed to providing information to the public on various important issues. He is, for example, currently the President of the Water Association of Kern County, a local water education organization.