

CHILDREN'S SAFETY AND  
VIOLENT CRIME REDUCTION ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 8, 2006*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 4472, the Children's Safety and Violent Crime Reduction Act. By bringing to the floor bills that already passed the House but with a few key provisions stripped, the House leadership is using procedural maneuvers to thwart the bill supported by a bipartisan majority of House members and by a significant majority of Americans. I am particularly outraged that the leadership jettisoned the hate crimes provisions from H.R. 3132, which passed by a strong bipartisan vote of 223 to 199 last September.

While all of us want to protect our children, we cannot fully reduce crime and protect child safety without acknowledging the terrorizing impact that hate-motivated violence has in our society. I have serious concerns with several provisions included in H.R. 4472, most notably the provisions that would impose harsh, new mandatory minimums, expand the number of federal crimes that carry the death penalty, and subject children to adult trials and adult sentences. However, I have more concerns about what is not in the bill. Last September, the House voted to protect children from sexual predators *and* from the perpetrators of hate-crimes. This bill retreats from that position and will leave our children vulnerable to violence on the basis of their sexual orientation, disability, gender, ethnicity, race or religion. Our children deserve better from us.

I urge my colleagues to reject H.R. 4472 and enact long overdue hate crimes legislation that will send a clear message that hate violence has no place in America.

TRIBUTE TO LIEUTENANT BRENT  
DAVIS**HON. JO ANN EMERSON**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2006*

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplishment of Lieutenant Brent Davis of the Missouri State Highway Patrol. After 31 years of service, Lieutenant Davis is retiring, and he leaves a long legacy of honorable service behind.

Our first responders are rare people who prize service to others above all else. Highway Patrol officers like Lieutenant Davis put their lives on hold to perform a demanding, stressful job protecting the public. In Missouri, our Highway Patrol officers do more than supervise our highways. They are reliable first responders, they are vigilant in preventing crime, they are essential in our war against illegal drugs. They are also brave, considerate, fair and tough—and no one is a better example of these qualities than Lieutenant Davis.

Lieutenant Davis joined the Missouri State Highway Patrol on January 1, 1975, and was stationed at Sikeston after graduating recruit training. On August 1, 1986, he was promoted to corporal and became the assistant zone

commander for Zone 6, Sikeston. On August 1, 1989, Davis was promoted to sergeant and moved to Poplar Bluff as a zone sergeant. He worked on the road for 17 years. In September 1992, he became the Public Information Officer. Davis said he really enjoyed the Public Information/Education Officer for Troop E, where he served for 10 years. He was promoted to Lieutenant in September 2002, becoming the enforcement lieutenant for Troop E. In October 2003, Davis became the Special Services Lieutenant, in charge of Drivers Examination, Motor Vehicle Inspection and Commercial Vehicle Inspection Divisions.

Congratulations to Lieutenant Davis on his outstanding, selfless accomplishment of 31 years of service through the Missouri Highway Patrol. My thoughts are with Lieutenant Davis, his wife Janna, and the rest of his family and friends as they look back on his proud record of service and ahead to his retirement.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT  
FIRST CLASS CHRISTOPHER P.  
TOVAR**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant First Class Christopher P. Tovar for his service in the United States Army. Last month Sergeant Tovar was selected to model a statue depicting a soldier from World War II, which is now on display at an American Legion Memorial in Brinkley, Arkansas.

Sergeant Tovar entered the Army in Houston, Texas, on April 13, 1993. He enlisted as a Human Intelligence Collector and received Arabic Language training at the Defense Language Institute before being assigned to Fort Hood, Texas. Following that assignment, Christopher received further training in Mandarin-Chinese before being assigned to the 500th Military Intelligence Group, Camp Zama, Japan. There he worked as a liaison between the U.S. and Japanese police and intelligence agencies. Following the September 11th terrorist attacks, Sergeant Tovar accepted an assignment to the U.S. Army Recruiting Command to assist in bolstering the U.S. Army's pool of linguists.

Sergeant Tovar was assigned to Headquarters, 6th Recruiting Brigade in North Las Vegas, Nevada, in January 2002. He serves the recruiting command as the Foreign Language Advocate for the region, assisting the recruiting field force to identify and contract foreign language speakers into the Military Intelligence Field. His duties in this position include conducting presentations at high schools, community colleges, and specifically for high school language departments, attending heritage speaker festivals and acting as liaison between the field force and higher headquarters for language positions in the Army. Within the headquarters, Sergeant Tovar serves as the First Sergeant, in charge of the day-to-day activities of the soldiers working within the headquarters command; as Master Fitness Trainer, in charge of the physical training of the soldiers; and as the Equal Opportunity Representative, responsible for maintaining a positive work environment and conducting required training under this program.

Sergeant Tovar's awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, the Army Commendation Medal, the Army Achievement Medal, and the National Defense Service Medal. He was also awarded the Military Intelligence Corps' Knowlton Award for lifetime service to the Military Intelligence Corps.

Sergeant Tovar and his wife of 11 years, Lauren, live in Las Vegas with their one-year-old daughter, Madison.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Sergeant First Class Christopher P. Tovar on the floor of the House today. His exemplary service stands as an example to all military members and his continued service is greatly appreciated in this difficult time.

## RECOGNIZING DAVE PEREA

**HON. HILDA L. SOLIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2006*

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Dave Perea, a longtime Rosemead resident and Teamsters union member, who passed away on February 14, 2006.

Born and raised in East Los Angeles, Dave was the second oldest of 11 siblings and had 6 older half-siblings. Dave attended East Los Angeles schools including Hammel Elementary School, Belvedere Junior High, and Garfield High School. He also attended East Los Angeles College for a year before putting his studies aside to support his family during his father's illness.

Dave became a Teamster and held various jobs before joining Momentum Textiles, where he worked for 22 years and retired in 1998. He was a surrogate parent for the friends of his children and was affectionately known as the "Mayor of Charlotte Street."

In 2003 Dave became deeply involved with the grassroots organization, Save Our Community, which is committed to stopping plans to build a Wal-Mart in a pristine area just two blocks from his house. Dave was a driving force for Save Our Community and was instrumental in many of its efforts. Whenever anyone in the organization needed anything, he was there to lend a helping hand.

Dave is survived by his mother, Rosita, and 10 of his siblings; his wife, Mary Ellen; his daughters, Suzanne, Doreen, and Joanne; and his grandchildren, Nicholas, Andrew, Erica, Austin, Matthew, and Amber. He will be dearly missed by his family, friends, and the community.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN  
DANIEL L. VAN KIRK**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 14, 2006*

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today today to honor Captain Daniel L. Van Kirk for his service in the military. Last month, Daniel was chosen to model for one of two bronze statues depicting a sailor and soldier from World War II, that were placed at an American Legion Memorial in Brinkley Park, Arkansas.

Captain Daniel L. Van Kirk was born in St. Petersburg, Florida, on September 30, 1978.