

employed by the Department of Energy or any of its contractors for an aggregate of at least 250 work days at Rocky Flats before January 1, 2006 would be a "member of the Special Exposure Cohort." Under EEOICPA, a member of the special exposure cohort suffering from one of the cancers specified in the Act is covered by the Act if the cancer was contracted after the person began employment at a covered facility.

Subsection (b) provides that someone employed by the Energy Department or any of its contractors for an aggregate of at least 250 work days at Rocky Flats before January 1, 2006 may apply for compensation or benefits under EEOICPA even if the person had previously been denied compensation or benefits under the Act. This is to make clear that the subsection (a)'s change in the law will apply to people who had applied previously.

COMMISSION TO STUDY THE POTENTIAL CREATION OF THE NATIONAL MUSEUM OF THE AMERICAN LATINO ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2007

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 512, a bill introduced by my good friend, Rep. XAVIER BECERRA (D-CA), expressing Congressional support for the establishment of a commission to study the potential creation of a National Museum of the American Latino.

As a Hispanic American and a former chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, I know the importance of creating a museum to honor and preserve the history of Latino Americans. We need to celebrate the diverse history, art, music, and literature of the Latino culture. We also need to make strides in increasing public awareness of the important contributions that Latino Americans have made in the United States. The establishment of this commission and subsequent museum would be an important step towards reaching this goal.

Mr. Speaker, as you are well aware, according to the United States Census Bureau, Hispanic Americans constitute fourteen percent of the total United States population and are the largest growing minority with a current population of 41.3 million Americans. In fact, the 16th Congressional District of El Paso, Texas is eighty-two percent Hispanic American. El Pasoans have a rich history which contributes to the tapestry of American culture.

The establishment of a National Museum of the American Latino is important to my constituents and Hispanics across the nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in supporting this important bill.

CONGRATULATING LORRAINE C. MILLER ON HER APPOINTMENT AS CLERK TO THE U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate

Lorraine Miller on her years of outstanding service and much deserved appointment as Clerk to the U.S. House of Representatives. I have known Lorraine Miller a number of years, and am certain that she will prove to be an outstanding Clerk.

On February 15, 2007, Lorraine Miller will be sworn in as the 35th Clerk of the House, and notably the first African-American Clerk. In this position she will be responsible for the legislative operations of the House floor, the voting system, oversight, and supervision of more than 100 staffers.

A native of Forth Worth, and a fellow Texan, Lorraine Miller began her career with the U.S. House with the office of then Majority Leader, Jim Wright. Following her service with Speaker Wright, she went onto serve on the staffs of Speaker Foley and Congressman JOHN LEWIS. In addition, during the Clinton Administration she served as Deputy Assistant to the President for Legislative Affairs for the House. She has also held high-level positions at the Federal Communications Commission and the Federal Trade Commission. Currently, Lorraine Miller serves as a Senior Advisor to Speaker PELOSI, and president of the Washington D.C. chapter of the NAACP.

Lorraine Miller has dedicated her career to public service and I can think of no one better to serve as Clerk. I am certain that she will serve the House with distinction. The recognition she is receiving is imminently well deserved, and I wish her all the success in the years ahead.

HERMOSA BEACH TURNS 100

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, many congressional districts have fine beaches, but the town of Hermosa Beach in my district is the official birthplace of surfing in California.

Originally purchased in 1900 by the Hermosa Beach Land and Water Company, the area consisted of little more than giant sand dunes and grain fields. It has since developed into a serene beach community with a population of over 18,000 residents, hundreds of shops, fine restaurants and a quiet, laid-back beach atmosphere.

Hermosa Beach celebrates its centennial this year, and will observe this most important milestone with a series of events, including a ribbon cutting-ceremony for the newly expanded Museum of the Hermosa Beach Historical Society; a luncheon in honor of long-time Hermosa Beach residents; a car show displaying automobiles from each decade, and the on-going "100 Acts of Beautification" Project—chaired by Public Works Commissioner and former member of my staff Michael DiVirgilio.

Hermosa Beach is the site of the Surfer's Walk of Fame, where the sport's pioneers and innovators are honored. I am a proud member of the Congressional Surfer Caucus and display my local "Jane's" surfboard in my Washington office. As the Beach Boys sang in 1963, "Catch a wave and you're sitting on top of the world / Don't be afraid to try the greatest sport around."

Jazz music is also a key component of Hermosa Beach's culture. In the 50's and

60's, the Lighthouse Cafe on Pier Avenue was the premier jazz club in the Los Angeles area. It attracted fans and performers from all over the world, including some of the foremost interpreters of the West Coast school of cool jazz like Chet Baker and Gerry Mulligan. The Hermosa Beach Jazz Walk is a living, breathing standing ovation to those legendary artists who enriched the region with their mellow sounds. This historic musical heritage is celebrated each year with the Annual Jazz Stroll Dedication and concert.

But Hermosa Beach is much more than the sum of its remarkable parts, it is also home to many hardworking, talented and conscientious individuals and families. I am thinking of people like the kids from Hermosa Valley School—now college age!—who joined me in Manhattan shortly after 9/11 to present a memorial quilt at the New York Firefighters Museum, or civic leaders like retiring Mayor Sam Edgerton, Councilmember and former Mayor J.R. Revitzsky, the police and firefighters, and so many others whose thoughtful planning and vision have allowed the city to flourish year after year.

It is an honor for me to represent this remarkable coastal community, and a privilege to celebrate 100 years of Hermosa Beach history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, on Monday, February 5, I was unavoidably detained in Colorado and so was not present for two votes:

Rollcall No. 74, on passage of H. Res. 94—Supporting the goals and ideals of National Consumer Protection Week; had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 75, on passage of H. Con. Res. 35—Supporting the goals and ideals of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day; had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

HAPPY NEW YEAR TO THE ORGANIZATION OF CHINESE AMERICANS

HON. JASON ALTMIRE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 7, 2007

Mr. ALTMIRE. Madam Speaker, I would like to wish the membership of the Organization of Chinese Americans a healthy and happy New Year for the year 4705, the year of the pig.

The New Year is a time for reflection and thanksgiving for the joys of life and loved ones and I am thankful for the richness that this organization brings to my region. Chinese Americans have made great contributions to western Pennsylvania and to our Nation as a whole and I am honored for this opportunity to wish them a wonderful year in 4705.

I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in wishing the members of the Organization of Chinese Americans a very happy and prosperous New year.