

the creation for the creation of the National Commission to examine the various causes of violent radicalization and homegrown terrorism in order to propose concrete and meaningful recommendations and legislative strategies in order to alleviate these threats. It also establishes a Center of Excellence for the Prevention of Radicalization and Home Grown Terrorism that will study the social, criminal, political, psychological and economic roots of the problem as well as provide homeland security officials across the government with suggestions for preventing radicalization and home grown terrorism.

Furthermore, it requires our homeland security officials to thoroughly examine the experiences of other nations that have experienced homegrown terrorism so that our government might learn from those experiences. As such, H.R. 1955 does more than merely address the current situation with regard to homegrown terrorism but also works to identify the causes behind the problem and address them as well.

I strongly urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 62ND ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED NATIONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. POE. Madam Speaker, today we recognize the 62nd anniversary of the United Nations. The United Nations was founded in the aftermath of the Second World War. Leaders across the world came together to form this international organization with the hope that nations united in purpose might never again have to face the devastating consequences of a third World War. Since its inception, the mission of the United Nations has been focused on advancing the cause of fundamental human rights around the world. It is a noble cause.

Unfortunately, the lofty goals of this institution have been blemished by a record of past actions which challenge the U.N.'s very existence.

This year, Madam Speaker, I am serving as one of two Congressional Delegates to the United Nations. As a representative of the people I would be remiss, on this United Nations Day, if I did not address some of the concerns that Americans have with the United Nations. In a poll conducted last year by political consultant and pollster, Frank Luntz, 71 percent of Americans agreed that the U.N. is no longer effective and need to be reformed. In addition, the poll found that 75 percent of the participants agreed that the United Nations is no longer effective and needs to be held accountable. Most telling, for the first time since the U.N. was founded, a majority of Americans, 57 percent, believe that if the U.N. cannot be reformed it needs to be gotten rid of all together and replaced.

Like most Americans, Madam Speaker, I'm concerned with the ineffectiveness of the United Nations. I'm concerned with the anti-Semitic factions that exist within the U.N. I'm concerned with its hypocritical human rights record—claiming to preserve human rights, while not holding some of the world's worst human rights violators responsible. I'm con-

cerned with the corruption of U.N. officials and mismanagement of U.N. programs. And I'm concerned with the United Nations inability to actually take a lead in fighting the threat of global terrorism.

If the United Nations expects the United States to support its mission, it had better take the concerns of the American people seriously and implement the reforms that are necessary to gain the trust of the American public.

And that's just the way it is.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY L. JOHNSON

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Shirley L. Johnson, a remarkable woman who has distinguished herself with a long and impressive record of dedicated public service and advocacy for human rights and social justice.

A resident of Rockville, Maryland, Shirley worked for the U.S. Public Health Service where, for many years, she served as Deputy Director of the Department of Medicine. At the time of her retirement, she was Director of the Office of Program Development, Bureau of Health Professions. Her tenure at the government health agency spanned 37 years and was highlighted by numerous awards, including the Public Health Service Superior Service Award, the highest public service level award to be granted to a civilian.

Since her retirement, Shirley has worn many hats and taken volunteerism to new heights. An outspoken champion of health care for the disenfranchised, Shirley was appointed to the Montgomery County Commission on Health and served as its Commissioner from 1995–2000. She also served on the Board of the Primary Care Coalition of Montgomery County, a charitable organization committed to bringing high quality, accessible, and efficient health care services to low-income, uninsured county residents.

Combining her concern for public health with her knowledge of the governmental process, Shirley testified frequently before the Montgomery County Council and the Maryland General Assembly, urging lawmakers to pass legislation to ban smoking in public places. From 1997–98, she served on the board of directors of Smoke Free Maryland and as co-chair of the Montgomery County Smoke Free Coalition.

In the civil rights arena, Shirley challenged local officials to eliminate prejudice and injustice and lobbied persistently for fair housing to correct the discriminatory practices of landlords in Montgomery County.

Education always has been high on Shirley's agenda. This cum laude graduate of Howard University has worked tirelessly for scholarships for minority students and has spent countless hours teaching and promoting economic empowerment concepts to at-risk students in public schools.

An active Democrat, Shirley has been president of the Montgomery County District 19 Democratic Club for the past 5 years and serves as chair of Precinct 8–03 in Rockville. She counts as one of her proudest achievements her efforts to establish the African

American Democratic Club of Montgomery County, where she served as first vice president.

Shirley is a 1996 graduate of Leadership Montgomery, a program designed to train individuals to be effective leaders in the Montgomery County community. From 2000–06, she served on the Montgomery County Commission for Women, a resource and an important voice for women throughout the Washington metropolitan area.

In 2002, Shirley was inducted into the Montgomery County Human Rights Hall of Fame. Two years later, she was selected as the Volunteer of the Year by the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. In 2005, she was named a "Woman of Achievement" by the Montgomery County Business & Professional Women and received the "Community Services Award" from the Black Business and Professional Women's Clubs, Inc., the "Civil Rights Award" from the Montgomery County, Maryland Branch of the NAACP, and the "Distinguished Leadership Award" from the Community Leadership Association.

Madam Speaker, Shirley L. Johnson exemplifies community service. She is an individualist and an idealist who believes in equal opportunity for all men and women. She cares deeply about the quality of life in her community and is a model to others of what one person can accomplish through commitment, hard work and perseverance.

On Sunday, October 28, 2007, Shirley Johnson will be honored at an event at the Bauer Drive Community Center in Rockville, Maryland. Referred to by her friends as "One Classy Lady," Shirley will be "roasted, toasted, and appreciated." I am proud that she is my constituent and am pleased to add my praises to the chorus of family, colleagues and friends who will gather to salute her.

TRIBUTE TO ALABAMA POLITICAL JOURNALIST BOB INGRAM, 1926–2007

HON. TERRY EVERETT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 24, 2007

Mr. EVERETT. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to a man who for a generation symbolized great class and professionalism in Alabama political journalism, Bob Ingram.

Alabamians statewide, and, in particular, in the political and journalism communities, were saddened to learn of the passing of Bob Ingram on October 18 at the age of 81. To all those who knew him, Bob was an unquestioned authority on State politics. He possessed a comfortable familiarity with the historical and personal side of Alabama government and the key players who shaped it going back some 6 decades. He was unequalled in his political wisdom because he was a witness to and participant in government. He covered our State through both tough and brighter times but he never lost his love for Alabama and its often colorful political figures.

Bob began his career as a reporter for the Cherokee Herald in his hometown of Centre. His mother, the town librarian, instilled in him a passion for writing which not only pointed him on his way to a remarkable journalism career, but also to authoring several insightful books on the Alabama political scene.