

market. The U.S.-Korea FTA would allow nearly 95 percent of U.S. consumer and industrial exports to become duty free within the first three years of the agreement, and two-thirds of U.S. agricultural products will become duty free immediately.

Microsoft and Washington's many high-tech companies will benefit from Korea's eliminating duties on all products in this sector, as well as Korea's commitment to treat digital products equally regardless of whether they are transmitted in physical form or electronically. The agreement locks in and improves an open trade regime for technology-related services, such as telecommunications, computer and related services, and audiovisual and recreational services. It also strengthens protections for intellectual property by deterring piracy and unauthorized sharing of music, video, software and other content over the Internet.

Korea is a long-term customer for Boeing. In April 2005, Korean Air placed an order for up to 20 Boeing 787 Dreamliners in a deal worth approximately \$2.6 billion at list prices.

For Starbucks, this agreement will reverse a very bad trend. Coffee exporters had been excluded from previous trade agreements, including NAFTA and the Central American Free Trade Agreement. Under the Korea agreement, the bound tariff of nearly 30 percent will go immediately to zero.

Many of these products will be shipped through the ports of Seattle and Tacoma, which already benefit from strong relationships with Korean shippers Hanjin and Hyundai.

But it's not just large businesses and their workers that will benefit. In 2005, 89 percent of U.S. companies exporting to Korea were small or medium-sized. Washington beneficiaries include companies like Kaiser Aluminum in Spokane, and Trinity Glass International in Tacoma.

For Washington's farmers, the current 24-percent tariff on cherries would be immediately eliminated in the industry's top overseas growth market. The state's wine producers would finally have a fair chance to compete for Korean consumers. And Washington potato growers would immediately benefit from an 18-percent tariff reduction in a market that generated \$23 million in sales in 2006.

So what's next? This agreement will not pass without our active support. And we simply cannot take for granted the votes of our congressional delegation. Those who oppose trade have consistently been louder and more organized. And now they use a stagnant economy as their latest argument for voting down any trade agreement, despite export figures being the bright spot in our current economic data.

Washington state knows better. This agreement will have clear benefits for our region. But we must overcome a tough political season and an effective opposition to make this agreement a reality.

For Washington state, the agreement is a clear winner.

IN HONOR OF THE U.S. CHAMPION  
MOORPARK HIGH SCHOOL ACADEMIC  
DECATHLON TEAM

**HON. ELTON GALLEGLY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Moorpark High School Academic Decathlon Team as the United States Academic Decathlon Champions.

This is the third time in 9 years that Moorpark High School's team has won this premier scholastic contest. Prior to its win in 1999, no team from Ventura County, California, had even competed in the nationals.

This year's team made history, scoring 53,119 points, the highest ever scored in the decathlon's 40-year history. In winning the national title, the Moorpark team broke the record it set as California champions by 240 points.

Team members Angela Chen, Jonah Buck, Christie Calle, Colin Calle, Anaamika Campeau, Justine Levan, Chrissa Rutkai, Kris Sankaran, and Paul Watanabe are now recognized as the best and the brightest in the country. They are the pride of their school, their community and their country.

These youngsters won by literally dedicating their lives to the challenge. For 9 months they put in up to 40 hours a week beyond their school days to study and hone their skills. They gave up weekends, vacations, part-time jobs, and time with their families.

Their hard work paid off. Moorpark came home with more medals than any of the other 41 teams from throughout the country, including 36 for individual subjects.

Special honors go to Colin Calle, the top-scoring varsity student; Chrissa Rutkai, top scorer in the scholastic division; and Kris Sankaran, the second-highest individual scorer in the honors division.

Their coach, Larry Jones, worked as hard, if not harder, than his students and is as deserving of high praise. Coach Jones has coached all three U.S. Championship teams. He is a man of outstanding strength, patience, and perseverance.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in applauding nine outstanding students who made history while achieving a very prestigious goal—Angela Chen, Jonah Buck, Christie Calle, Colin Calle, Anaamika Campeau, Justine Levan, Chrissa Rutkai, Kris Sankaran, and Paul Watanabe—the 2008 U.S. Champion Moorpark High School Academic Decathlon Team.

WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

**HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, April 28, 2008, was Workers Memorial Day. The day is dedicated to remembering those who have lost their lives or have been injured as a result of unsafe health and safety conditions. However, it is also a day for us to recommit to the fight for safer working conditions for all who go to work every day.

On April 23, 2008, the Workforce Protections Subcommittee, which I chair, held a hearing on strengthening OSHA enforcement at companies with multistate facilities. Specifically, we examined the tragedies that have occurred at the Cintas industrial plants across the country and focused on the heartbreaking and preventable death of Eleazar Torres-Gomez, a 46-year-old washroom employee in Cintas's Tulsa, Oklahoma plant. His son, Emmanuel Torres, testified at the hearing about his father and his senseless death.

OSHA has fined Cintas \$2.78 million for the tragedy in Tulsa, the largest OSHA fine ever

assessed in the service sector. And Cintas has also been cited by OSHA for hazards at a handful of their other facilities in Columbus, Ohio, Central Islip, New York, and Mobile, Alabama.

However, as Randy Rabinowitz, one of our witnesses, testified, OSHA fails to address these hazards on a "company-wide" basis. In addition, she said that: "these large companies have the organizational resources to make health and safety improvements." Sadly, many companies choose not to make such improvements.

What we discovered at the hearing is that Cintas as a company has failed to address deadly hazards that it was aware of, and OSHA has failed to adequately enforce safe working conditions beyond the facility level until after a terrible tragedy occurs.

The subcommittee will be following up our hearing with actions to ensure that no other families have to go through what the Torres-Gomez family did. We must end these tragic and preventable accidents.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I regrettably missed a number of votes to attend to a family emergency. Had I been present for these votes I would have voted as follows:

On rollcall No. 224, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 1079, I would have voted "yea".

On rollcall No. 225, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H.R. 4332, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 226, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to S. 2739, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 227, Ordering the Previous Question for H.R. 5522, the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 228, Providing for the consideration of H.R. 5522, the Combustible Dust Explosion and Fire Prevention Act, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 229, Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to the Senate Amendment to the SAFETEA-LU Technical Corrections Act, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 230, the George Miller of California Amendment, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall No. 231, the Wilson of South Carolina Substitute Amendment, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 238, the Flake Motion to Instruct Conferees, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 239, to Suspend Rules and Agree to Senate Amendments, I would have voted "yea."

CINCO DE MAYO

**HON. DAVID G. REICHERT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, May 5, 2008*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Cinco de Mayo, a date which is