

to bring about funding for the National Undersea Research Program, the Integrated Ocean Observing Program, and a range of fisheries research programs.

No stranger to the community, Dr. Grassle is a member of numerous professional organizations, including the New Jersey Academy of Sciences, the American Society of Naturalists, the Estuarine Research Federation, the National Association of Marine Laboratories and the Oceanography Society, to name a few. He also served as Past President of the International Association of Biological Oceanographers.

Madam Speaker, Dr. Grassle's infectious enthusiasm and abiding loyalty to our coastal regions are only surpassed by his genuine desire to embrace and enhance the community around him. As he celebrates his time with Rutgers University, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude for Dr. Grassle's leadership, commitment, and service.

ON RESOLUTION REGARDING IMPEACHMENT OF PRESIDENT BUSH

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I do not think the House should today take up the question of exercising our Constitutional authority to impeach the President and asking the Senate to try him on charges that, if proved, would result in his removal from office.

That does not mean I have turned or will turn a blind eye to the numerous misjudgments of President Bush or that I think his administration has been above reproach. On the contrary, I think that the Bush Administration has been a distinct failure. I am convinced that this President will not be treated well by historians. His failures of judgment and leadership span domestic and foreign affairs in a way that will likely haunt future generations for years to come—failures which are cited in the resolution proposed by the gentleman from Ohio.

But the question now before the House is not what we think of President Bush's actions and those of his Administration. Instead, we are being asked whether we should now, today, proceed to charge that he has violated his constitutional oath to faithfully execute the duties of his office and to defend the Constitution and thus should be impeached and brought to trial in the Senate.

The resolution sets forth what its author says are the specific statements and actions of the president that constitute violations of his oath. I also find those statements and actions deeply troubling and agree that they draw a picture of an Administration that has been characterized by hubris, bad judgment and arrogance. The picture is an unattractive one; but bad judgment, hubris and arrogance are not the constitutional grounds for impeachment.

The resolution raises serious questions about the way this president has used his position, both in communicating with the American people and in shaping policy. But as of today I am not prepared to say that there are adequate grounds to conclude that the failures

of this Administration in fact constitute grounds for impeachment—and I do not think that Members of the House should be called upon to reach that conclusion today.

Before the House is asked to reach such a draconian conclusion, the president should have an opportunity to respond to the resolution's charges and the statements and actions it cites in support of those charges. Before we are asked to vote on the resolution, we should have the benefit of hearing from appropriate legal experts and other qualified witness and the Judiciary Committee should prepare a report that will provide the basis for any debate here on the floor of the House.

Impeachment is not entirely a legal question. It is partly political, which is why the Constitution entrusts it to Congress and not the courts. But I think it is essential that any decision to impeach any federal official should come only through a careful, thorough process that provides adequate due process for the accused and lays the proper foundation for a sound decision.

That was the process followed by the Judiciary Committee, under the able leadership of Chairman Peter Rodino, when it considered and ultimately approved articles of impeachment against President Richard Nixon in July of 1974. In my opinion, that set the example of how the process should work. I think to do otherwise, as the author of this resolution seeks to do, would further weaken the civility toward our colleagues and respect for those with whom we disagree that should be the basis for our service in Congress and would only add to the polarization and rancor that are all too prevalent in the nation's political debates. Therefore, Madam Speaker, I must oppose consideration of this resolution at this time.

SALUTING THE LIFE AND MUSIC OF THE LATE BO DIDDLEY

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 9, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to draw attention to the life and legacy of a man whose work in Rock 'n' Roll has been called "ground breaking." Bo Diddley was born Ellas Otha Bates in McComb, Mississippi, on December 30, 1928 and passed away on June 2, 2008 at the age of 79.

Diddley was raised by his mother's cousin, Gussie McDaniel, whose surname he legally adopted. The family moved to Chicago when Diddley was seven. Bo broke new ground in rock and roll's formative years with his unique guitar work, indelible African rhythms, inventive songwriting, and larger-than-life persona. He will forever be known for popularizing one of the foundational rhythms of rock and roll: the Bo Diddley beat. He employed it in his namesake song, "Bo Diddley" (which earned him a rightful place in the Grammy Hall Of Fame). This African-based rhythm pattern was picked up from Diddley by other artists and has been a distinctive and recurring element in rock and roll through the decades. His beats have influenced the music of artists such as Buddy Holly, the Rolling Stones, Johnny Otis, the Strangeloves, the Who, and Bruce Springsteen.

Diddley is the author of a body of songs—including "Who Do You Love?" "Road Runner," "Mona," "Before You Accuse Me" and "I'm a Man"—that are among the earliest examples of rock and roll rising out of rhythm and blues. Diddley married into his music two worlds he knew well—the Deep South and the streets of Chicago. He formed a band called the Hipsters while in high school and landed a regular spot at the 708 Club on Chicago's South Side in 1951.

Diddley's earliest records were contemporaneous with those of label mate Chuck Berry. He signed with the Checkers label in 1955 and his debut single was a two-sided classic that paired "Bo Diddley" with "I'm a Man." It was the first in a string of groundbreaking songs that walked the fine line between rhythm & blues and rock & roll. Others included "Diddley Daddy," "Pretty Thing" and "Road Runner," which were all Top Twenty R&B hits. Oddly, Diddley's only crossover success came with "Say Man," a laugh-filled exchange of jive talk between Diddley and his maraca player, Jerome Green. Their verbal sparring derived from the African-American pastime of "signifying" or "doing the dozens" and foreshadowed the battle rapping of the present day.

Diddley was also an inventor, devising his own tremolo effect and playing a unique, rectangular "cigar box" guitar that he designed in 1958. His ever-fertile mind also inspired him to set up one of the first home studios. The prolific singer/guitarist released a string of albums whose titles—including Bo Diddley Is a Gunslinger and Have Guitar, Will Travel—bolstered his self-invented legend.

Diddley also traveled with the rock and roll revues of the day. He retained his iconic status as a rock and roll pioneer, steadily releasing albums on Checkers through the mid-Seventies. Meanwhile, Diddley continued to work the live circuit in tireless fashion.

Bo Diddley was one of rock 'n' roll's true pioneers. He has been righteously outspoken on the subject of underpayment, bad contracts and other rip-offs that denied many early rock and rollers (he among them) what was due them and in 1987 he was inducted into the Rock 'n' Roll Hall of Fame.

A regular at Harlem's Apollo Theatre, Bo Diddley has indelibly stamped his mark on rhythm and blues, rock 'n' roll and popular music. His innovative trademark rhythm, his electric custom built cigar box guitar, and his wild stage shows predate all others. Diddley leaves a permanent mark on American music and culture, and our deepest sympathies go out to his family, friends and fans. The 'Bo Diddley beat' surely will continue on.

HONORING THE AIR FORCE ESSAY CONTEST WINNER—ASHITA GANGULY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to place in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the following winning essay, which Ashita Ganguly, a Senior at Paris High School in Paris, Texas, submitted to the Air Force Essay Contest.