

expands the Hope Education Scholarship credit to cover K–12 education expenses. Under this bill, parents could use the Hope Scholarship to pay for private or religious school tuition or to offset the cost of home schooling. In addition, under the bill, all Americans could use the Hope Scholarship to make cash or in-kind donations to public schools. Thus, the Hope Scholarship could help working parents send their child to a private school, while other parents could take advantage of the Hope credit to help purchase new computers for their children's local public school.

Reducing taxes so that Americans can devote more of their own resources to education is the best way to improve America's schools, since individuals are more likely than federal bureaucrats to insist that schools be accountable for student performance. When the federal government controls the education dollar, schools will be held accountable for their compliance with bureaucratic paperwork requirements and mandates that have little to do with actual education. Federal rules and regulations also divert valuable resources away from classroom instruction.

The only way to reform America's education system is through restoring control of the education dollar to the American people so they can ensure schools provide their children a quality education. I therefore ask all of my colleagues to help improve education by returning education resources to the American people by cosponsoring the Hope Plus Scholarship Act.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING  
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE KANSAS  
CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the outstanding achievements and cultural legacy of the Kansas City Public Library in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I proudly represent. The Kansas City Public Library, having received the prestigious 2008 National Medal for Museum and Library Service presented by former First Lady Laura Bush for their "Books to Go" project, events and exhibits, represents preservation and celebration of Missouri's Fifth District's diverse history.

The Kansas City Public Library's role is to "actively provide timely, accurate and useful information; support individual of all ages pursuing a program of independent learning; and assists researchers in conducting in-depth study or investigation in specific subject areas". The library has come to serve nearly every contingent of the Fifth District population, in both urban and suburban areas, actively seeking to engage our citizens in classes, discussions, lectures and events. It allows our citizenry to explore its role as America's heartland evolving from a frontier city to a modern day metropolis with racial and cultural diversity. Through clubs, movies and exhibits, people of all ages can participate in the many opportunities that the library has to offer.

Under the wisdom and guidance of Chief Executive Crosby Kemper III and its Board of

Directors with Jonathan Kemper serving as Board President, the Kansas City Public Library has emerged as a crucial cultural center in our community. Housing and preserving in multimedia and primary source, the library system has come to foster intellectual enrichment through working collaboratively with our many world-class organizations of cultural preservation and celebration, such as the Ewing Marion Kauffman Foundation, Harry S. Truman Presidential Library and Museum, and the National World War I Museum, to name a few. Our hallowed library serves as an extension of the works of these fine institutions to ensure that not a corner of our community is denied the opportunity to share in our heritage.

Mr. Crosby Kemper, a graduate of the esteemed Yale University and member of one of Kansas City's most philanthropic families, serves tirelessly as a distinguished administrator and innovator to expose our community to intellectual growth. Due to his efforts and that of the Board of Directors, the Kansas City Public Library provides events and lectures that provoke thought, information and discussion. The library has become a focal point of intellectual conversation in our community.

Perhaps most importantly, the Kansas City Public Library houses the freedom of opportunity which our nation cherishes as the cornerstone of its efficacy. Our understanding of peace and justice requires an intellectual grounding in the events of our shared history. Through history, we find our cultural underpinnings and past solutions which evolve into today's paradigm.

For these reasons and more, I am proud to have nominated the Kansas City Public Library for the National Medal for Museum and Library Service. Madam Speaker, through their efforts, they have let loose imaginations, inspired change and become a cornerstone around which our entire community gathers. A city can only be as good as its public libraries, and we all take pride that ours is among America's very best. Please join me in congratulating the Kansas City Public Library, its Board, Crosby Kemper, and the staff, volunteers and supporters that help to make our state-of-the-art Kansas City Public Library a national award winner.

HONORING MAUD F. ROBINSON

**HON. FRANK R. WOLF**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Maud F. Robinson to the town of Vienna, Virginia. Maud will be retiring from the Vienna Town Council in June, after serving on the council since 2000.

Maud and her husband, Charles A. Robinson, Jr., moved to Vienna in 1951. Since that time, Mrs. Robinson has been involved in every aspect of life in the town. She has served as president of various local organizations, including the Vienna Women's Club, the Ayr Hill Garden Club, and Historic Vienna, Inc. She was a founding member and president of the town's library. She served as a member of Vienna's first Architectural Review Board and on the town's Business Liaison Committee. Among other honors, Mrs. Robinson was se-

lected as Citizen of the Year in Vienna in 1993 and 2000.

Mrs. Robinson was appointed to the Vienna Town Council in 2000, to fill the term of Jane Seeman, who was elected town mayor following the death of Charles Robinson. Mr. Robinson served as town mayor for 27 years. Mrs. Robinson was reelected four times to her seat on the council, for a total of nine years.

Mrs. Robinson is a graduate of Smith College and attended the University of Virginia Law School. She served as a WAVE lieutenant, junior grade, in the United States Navy.

Maud Robinson's commitment to Vienna's citizens and business community is unparalleled. She is a woman of the highest moral integrity and is a true role model for all of Vienna's citizens. I ask my colleagues to join with me today in honoring Maud Robinson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JERROLD NADLER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. NADLER. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, during consideration of the End GREEED Act (H.R. 1575), my vote was recorded as "no" on final passage of the bill (rollcall No. 178). I intended to vote "aye."

HONORING STEWARTS CREEK ELE-  
MENTARY SCHOOL TEACHER  
TREY DUKE

**HON. BART GORDON**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, April 2, 2009*

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Trey Duke, a teacher at Stewarts Creek Elementary School, who was a 2008 recipient of the Milken Family Foundation National Educator Award. Trey was the only Tennessee educator to receive the award in 2008, and he joins 56 other teachers from the state who have been honored with the award in the past.

The Milken National Educators Award program began in 1985 and is now the largest teacher recognition program in the United States. The award honors K–12 teachers, principals and specialists with \$25,000 individual awards and gives them the opportunity to participate in a national teachers conference. At the conference, award recipients engage in professional development and examine possible solutions to significant issues in education with leaders from academia, government, business and the community.

Prior to receiving the national award, Trey had only been teaching for five years. His creative teaching strategies, which include book clubs, music and PowerPoint presentations, have resulted in his fifth grade students not only meeting but exceeding proficiency goals. At the end of the year, he writes a poem detailing each student's progress and places the poem in his or her report card.

"I feel like part of my job is not just to instruct the students, but to make them excited and to make them want to come to school every day and to get them involved in what we

learn," Trey says. His commitment to his students extends beyond the classroom, as evidenced by his leadership roles at the school and system level. Trey is acting principal when Stewart's Creek Elementary School Principal Richard Zago is absent.

Congratulations, again, Trey. To impart a love of learning to children at this formative stage in their life is a gift they will carry with them and always prosper from.

HONORING ADMIRAL ROBERT E. PEARY

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge a great American and extraordinary explorer, Admiral Robert Edwin Peary, and the one hundredth anniversary of his expedition to the North Pole.

Peary was born on May 6, 1856 in Cresson, Pennsylvania. He graduated from Bowdoin College and joined the United States Navy in 1881. Peary made several expeditions throughout the Arctic, including Greenland, during this lifetime.

On April 6, 1909 Peary concluded his journey to the North Pole. He was accompanied by his longtime companion Matthew Henson and four Inuit men.

Throughout his life, he received many awards, honors, and honorary degrees. In 1911 Peary retired from the Navy with the rank of Rear Admiral. He died on February 20, 1920 in Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, at this time in history when the North Pole is so important to geopolitics, I hope that our nation will reflect on the hundredth anniversary of Admiral Peary's great accomplishment.

INTRODUCING THE MAKE COLLEGE AFFORDABLE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to help millions of Americans afford higher education by introducing the Make College Affordable Act of 2009, which makes college tuition tax deductible. Today the average cost of education at a state university is \$12,796 per year, and the cost of education at a private university is \$30,367 per year. These high costs have left many middle-class American families struggling to afford college for their children, who are often ineligible for financial aid. Therefore, middle-class students have no choice but to obtain student loans, and thus leave college saddled with massive debt.

Even families who plan and save well in advance for their children's education may have a difficult time because their savings are eroded by taxation and inflation. The Make College Affordable Act will help these middle-class students by allowing them, or their parents or

guardians who claim them as dependents, to deduct the cost of college tuition as well as the cost of student loan repayments.

The Make College Affordable Act will also help older or nontraditional students looking to improve their job skills or prepare for a career change, by pursuing higher education. In today's economy, the average American worker can expect to change jobs, and even careers, several times during his or her working life, making it more important than ever that working Americans be able to devote their resources to continuing their educations.

Helping the American people use their own money to ensure every qualified American can receive a college education is one of the best investments this Congress can make in the future. I therefore urge my colleagues to help strengthen America by ensuring more Americans can obtain college educations by co-sponsoring the Make College Affordable Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unable to participate in a series of votes on the floor of the House of Representatives today.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 180, a Bean (IL)/McMahon (NY) Amendment to H.R. 1664, a bill to amend the executive compensation provisions of the Emergency Economic Stabilization Act of 2008, I would have voted "nay" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 181, a Dahlkemper (PA) Amendment to H.R. 1664, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

Had I been present to vote on rollcall No. 182, final passage of H.R. 1664, I would have voted "aye" on the question.

THE PATRIOT CORPORATIONS OF AMERICA ACT: INVESTING IN AMERICA

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today we find ourselves in the grips of recession. As of this morning there were 5.7 million Americans without a job and we should be doing everything in our power to save jobs—and create new ones.

Today, I am introducing the Patriot Corporations of America Act, which encourages corporations to invest in the American people and the American economy. In this time of change we should lift the spirit of patriotism and create a new corporate ethic in America—one that unites workers and their employers in the mutual goal of building a stronger, more prosperous business that will contribute to a stronger, more prosperous America.

Since the adoption of the Declaration of Independence, we have benefited from the

great work and contributions of countless American patriots and Congress has always undertaken efforts to honor those men and women. The Patriot Corporations of America Act continues that tradition by rewarding companies that commit to America and American workers.

It angers Americans, and it angers me, when companies outsource jobs and relocate to avoid giving back to the country that afforded them the opportunity to succeed. Companies that continue to send American jobs abroad during these difficult times should not receive the same benefits as companies who are keeping jobs right here. It is time for the United States to reward companies that show a dedication to the American workforce.

The Patriot Corporation Act will move us along the path to recovery, while simultaneously giving a hand-up to "patriotic" companies that are struggling in the midst of a recession.

Bill Edley, a former State Representative in Illinois, and political scientist Robin Johnson of Monmouth College, introduced a new idea of turning the tables around with the Patriot Corporations of America Act. It would reward companies, like New Maryland Clothing and Tama Manufacturing, that care about our Nation, our communities, and American workers. I am honored to be introducing this commonsense concept in the form of legislation in the U.S. House of Representatives.

In exchange for preferential treatment in government contracting and a 5% tax rate reduction, Patriot Corporations would be asked to pledge their allegiance to our country by producing at least 90% of their goods and doing at least 50% of their research and development in the United States. They would limit top managements' compensation to no greater than 100 times that of their lowest-compensated full-time workers. They would show their commitment to their workers by contributing at least 5% of payroll to portable pension funds and by paying for at least 70% of the cost of health insurance plans. Finally, Patriot Corporations would simply be required to comply with existing federal regulations regarding the environment, workplace safety, consumer protections and labor relations, including maintaining neutrality in employee organizing drives.

Mr. Speaker, the Patriot Corporations for America Act would be revenue neutral. It would be paid for by closing corporate offshoring loopholes that have been exploited and, if necessary, reining in some of the new tax breaks for millionaires.

Patriot Corporations would create a new class of companies committed to uphold the dignity and prosperity of American workers as well as to selling their goods on the American market and around the world.

Patriot Corporations are an expression of the American spirit of our fore fathers and mothers when they took that brave step of declaring our independence and creating the United States of America.

I'm confident that between the Recovery Act and legislation like the Patriots Corporation Act—America will emerge stronger from this recession.

I am honored to be introducing this bill today and I encourage my colleagues to join me in saluting American businesses and workers.