

To help ensure that American assistance is spent appropriately, our legislation requires increased auditing, monitoring and evaluation, and includes rigorous reporting requirements. U.S. taxpayers—and the Pakistani people—should know that our assistance is making a real difference, and not being squandered.

For many years, the U.S. relationship with Pakistan has been characterized by fits and starts. Now that Pakistan has returned to an elected civilian democracy, it is important to emphasize our long-term commitment to the Pakistani people. To achieve that goal, our bill establishes a Pakistan Freedom and Prosperity Fund, a permanent fund in the U.S. Treasury that serves as a conduit for all social and economic development assistance. At the same time, we must take a hard look at what we want from Pakistan. We clearly want them to be a partner and a friend. In that spirit, we also expect them to take action against those who threaten Pakistani and American security interests. Our bill clarifies these expectations.

Achieving stability in Pakistan, however, will require more than economic assistance—it will also require us to provide Pakistan the tools it needs to protect its people, secure its borders and augment its ongoing counterterrorism operations. To that end, our bill authorizes increased Foreign Military Financing (FMF), while requiring that the vast majority of such assistance be used for counterterrorism and counterinsurgency purposes. It also authorizes increased assistance for International Military Education and Training (IMET), which will enhance cooperation between the U.S. and Pakistani militaries.

Finally, our bill requires that military assistance may only be provided to Pakistan if the President determines that the Government of Pakistan is continuing to cooperate with the United States in preventing proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and has both demonstrated a sustained commitment to combating terrorist groups and has made progress towards that end.

Madam Speaker, we cannot succeed in defeating al Qaeda by ourselves. We need a robust, long-term relationship with our strategic partners to prevail against those who threaten our national security. The PEACE Act will help us establish just such a relationship with Pakistan.

EDWARD M. KENNEDY SERVE
AMERICA ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 31, 2009

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of H.R. 1388, the Generations Invigorating Volunteerism Education (GIVE) Act of 2009, also known as the Edward M. Kennedy Serve America Act.

The GIVE Act is designed to support and encourage community service across the country in fields such as education and healthcare. This Act empowers more Americans to take an active role in their communities through public service. Civic participation has the power to not only build confidence in the individual but simultaneously prepare our nation for the future.

The GIVE Act creates 175,000 new service opportunities, increasing the number of participants in programs such as AmeriCorps and establishes new service programs such as the Clean Energy Corps, Education Corps, Healthy Futures Corps, and a Veterans Service Corps. One goal of the Act will be to strengthen and coordinate disaster relief efforts through the National Civilian Community Corps (NCCC) to provide relief for communities that have suffered natural disasters and emergencies.

Despite the economic challenges that our country currently faces, it is particularly encouraging that young Americans are serving in record numbers. Volunteerism among college students is especially high, with the percentage of college students who volunteer each year exceeding 30%. The GIVE Act will not only support existing volunteers but will also give younger students the opportunity to serve even before they enter college. The Summer of Service and Campus of Service Programs focus on encouraging middle and high school students to participate in volunteer activities and also assist college students with an interest in public service careers. These programs will place the prospect of a college education within the reach of many students by offering monetary assistance for college. Specifically, it increases the full-time education award that servicemembers can receive to \$5,350.

It is important to acknowledge that students are not the only ones taking the initiative to rebuild our country. Currently, Senior Corps consists of roughly 475,000 volunteers who collectively contribute 116 million hours of service each year. The GIVE Act will increase these figures by creating Silver Scholarships and Encore Fellowships to offer all Americans over the age of 55 the chance to transition into service after retirement.

I believe that service is key to building character and instilling values in our young people. Even before taking office, President Obama consistently called on all Americans to serve, and I believe his life exemplifies the power of public service. I am proud that Congress has answered his call for service through this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND PUBLIC
SERVICE OF SPEAKER CARLOS
P. TAITANO

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and public service of the Honorable Carlos Pangelinan Taitano, a distinguished resident of Guam who passed away on March 25, 2009. Carlos served our nation and the people of Guam as an officer in the United States Army, a community leader, businessman, attorney, Assemblyman in the Guam Congress, Senator in the 3rd Guam Legislature and Speaker of the 8th Guam Legislature.

Born on March 14, 1917 to Jose San Nicolas and Dolores P. Taitano of Hagatña, Carlos attended elementary and middle school on Guam. He subsequently moved to Hawaii to attend high school. After his high school graduation from McKinley High School in Hawaii,

Carlos enrolled in the University of Hawaii where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry in 1941. After graduation from the University of Hawaii, he was hired by the Honolulu Police Department as an Assistant Chemist. At the onset of World War II Carlos joined the United States Army and was commissioned as an officer. He participated in the campaign to liberate the Philippines. After the war, he was assigned to Fort Ruger, Hawaii and Fort Meade, Maryland. It was during the latter posting in Maryland that he married Marian Agueda Johnston.

Carlos and Marian returned to Guam in 1947, and in 1948 he was elected to the Guam Congress as an Assemblyman. Carlos was an advocate for United States citizenship for the Chamorro people who had endured a brutal enemy occupation. He famously organized a walkout by the Guam Congress on March 5, 1949 to call attention to Guam's quest for a civilian government to replace the post-war Naval government. He fed news of the walkout to the national media, and coverage of this event in national newspapers helped to raise awareness about the plight of the Chamorro people. This event gave momentum to Congressional efforts to pass the Organic Act of Guam in 1950 which granted United States citizenship to the Chamorros on Guam and established a civilian government. He was the only Chamorro in attendance at the White House signing ceremony of the Organic Act of Guam on August 1, 1950 by President Harry S. Truman.

Carlos was accepted to the law program at Georgetown University in Washington, D.C. where he graduated with a Juris Doctor degree in 1953. While at Georgetown University, Carlos participated in activities with the Guam community in the National Capital area and was instrumental in founding the Guam Territorial Society to promote Guam and our Chamorro culture.

In 1953 Carlos returned to Guam and helped to establish the Territorial Party of Guam, which later became the Republican Party of Guam. He was elected to the 3rd Guam Legislature in 1954. After serving one term in the Legislature, Carlos returned to his business interests which included the Micronesian Village, a gift shop featuring Micronesian and Chamorro arts and crafts. In the mid-1960s Carlos became the President and General Manager of Guam's Coca-Cola Bottling Company, a position he held for six years.

Carlos reentered public service in 1965 and was elected to the 8th Guam Legislature. He was selected by his colleagues to serve as Speaker, an honor that recognized his many contributions to Guam's political development. Under his leadership, the 8th Guam Legislature urged the United States Congress to expand self-governance for the people of Guam by amending the Organic Act to authorize the direct election of the Governor of Guam and to provide a Delegate to Congress. Carlos' vision for self-governance was passed by the 90th Congress in 1968 for the elected Governor and by the 92nd Congress in 1972 for the Delegate to Congress.

Carlos contributed his time and resources to civic organizations and government boards throughout his life to help improve our community. His civic contributions included notable service as the first president of the Guam Bar Association, past president of the Rotary Club of Guam, past chairman of the Guam Memorial Hospital Authority Board of Trustees, and

past president of the Reserve Officers Association of Guam.

Throughout his life, Carlos promoted the preservation and celebration of the Chamorro culture. He was among the first authors of plays and pageants depicting Chamorro epic tales, and he wrote essays calling attention to the need to do more to promote the Chamorro language and culture. He encouraged cultural groups to perform chants and dances that depicted Chamorro culture in the pre-contact era. He helped to found Pa'a Taotao Tano', an organization of cultural performers and their supporters who are dedicated to preserving a more authentic portrayal of Chamorro culture in song and dance. He promoted indigenous culture and pride at a time when Guam was undergoing many social and economic changes, and his voice reminded us then as now of the importance of the Chamorro culture to our people and to our nation.

The people of Guam will always remember Speaker Carlos Pangelinan Taitano as a visionary leader who was proud of his Chamorro heritage. He served our nation and our island as a soldier and statesman and his contributions will always be appreciated and

remembered. I join the people of Guam in extending our sympathy to Marian Taitano and to their children, Linda, Carl and Tyrone and their extended family. Speaker Carlos P. Taitano was a leader and public servant who inspired us in many ways and we honor his contributions to our island community and to our nation.

WORLD AUTISM AWARENESS DAY

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 2, 2009

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of the second annual World Autism Awareness Day. As the Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Health Care Caucus, I recognize the debilitating force that is autism and I am proud to recognize Worldwide Autism Awareness Day in order to bring attention to this life-altering and, too often, unrecognized disorder.

I am proud to consistently support medical research on autism and its causes. I have worked with many members of this body and many other individuals and groups to increase funding to the National Institutes of Health (NIH) in order to more fully understand the root causes and best prevention practices to minimize its debilitating effects.

But we must continue to work. Evidence shows that one in every 150 American children is affected by an Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD). Last year at this time, there was no medical detection or cure for autism. This year, there has been progress to uncover more about the root causes of ASD related disorders and why they may occur more often than expected among people who have certain other medical conditions.

Families need hope, and we must make a commitment to help them find the missing pieces to the puzzle. I urge all of my colleagues to continue supporting NIH funding so that—as groups like Autism Speaks and Families for Early Autism Treatment know—we can continue to fight against the fastest-growing developmental disability in the world.