

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A PROCLAMATION HONORING CODY CANNON FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Cody Cannon showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Cody Cannon was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Cody Cannon always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Cody Cannon on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

COMMENDING CAPTAIN RICHARD PHILLIPS, U.S. NAVY SEALS, AND THE U.S. NAVY IN SOMALI PIRATE HIJACKING

SPEECH OF

**HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 22, 2009*

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 339.

This resolution honors the incredible work of the United States Navy SEALs, and the crews of the USS *Bainbridge*, USS *Boxer*, USS *Halyburton* and Patrol Squadron (VP) 8. H. Res. 339 also recognizes the crew of the *Maersk Alabama* and the courage of Captain Richard Phillips.

The *Maersk Alabama* and her crew returned safely due to the remarkable service of the men and women of the U.S. Navy. In fact, this event has shown the importance of having a fleet capable of maintaining a global maritime presence that allows the Navy to respond to emergencies around the world.

We must also commend the actions of our remarkable Navy SEAL snipers. The special operations community rarely receives the recognition they deserve, nor do they seek it. While they do not look for notoriety, this resolution honors their service and recognizes their contributions to U.S. national security.

The success of the Navy SEAL snipers who saved Captain Phillips is a prime example of the superior training our SEALs receive; training that begins at Naval Amphibious Base Coronado and reinforced through multiple tours of duty in Iraq, Afghanistan, and now off the coast of Somalia.

Mr. Speaker, I know I join all Americans in welcoming this crew home with both great

pride and great relief and in honoring our brave service members for a job well done.

I hope all of my colleagues vote in favor of this important measure.

APRIL 29, 2009: MEDIA SHOW DOUBLE STANDARD IN TEA PARTY COVERAGE

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, recently, tens of thousands of Americans expressed their opposition to out-of-control government spending by participating in hundreds of TEA party protests around the country on Tax Day.

The national media responded by ignoring, dismissing, or blatantly ridiculing the protests.

There was no mention of the TEA parties the next day on the front pages of the Washington Post or New York Times, even though the Times found space on its front page for a story about protests in Afghanistan.

In contrast, the media covered liberal protests during President Bush's term frequently—and without criticism.

A Washington Times editorial argued that the media's handling of the TEA party protests went a step beyond bias. "Forget media bias," the Times wrote. "The liberal press judges stories before investigating them. That's prejudice."

Whether it's due to bias or prejudice, the national media failed to cover Americans' widespread resistance to big government. And that's the real story.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RON KLEIN**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, Thursday, April 23, 2009 I was unavoidably detained. Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 200.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MICHAEL EVANS FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Michael Evans showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Michael Evans was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Michael Evans always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Michael Evans on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

RECOGNIZING DOROTHY CULLEN OF VINELAND, NEW JERSEY

**HON. FRANK A. LOBIONDO**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. LOBIONDO. Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize Dorothy (Dotty) Cullen of Vineland, New Jersey for being awarded the MetLife Foundation's 2009 Older Volunteers Enrich America Award. Dotty has been involved with the Vineland Boys and Girls club for over 15 years, served on the Vineland Development Center Board for almost two decades, and has been a leader for veterans care throughout her life.

Not one to slow down, Dotty currently serves as the President of the Residents Council at the Baker House, where she herself resides. The Baker House has become known for its patriotism and dedication to the community, participating in Toys for Tots, National Guard packages for soldiers serving abroad, and Read Across America. For her unwavering service to her community and to the country, she was selected for this prestigious national honor.

I have personally known Dotty for more than 40 years and I can attest to the invaluable contributions she has made to her community. Her focus on recognizing the sacrifices of our veterans and providing them with the assistance they need is an inspiration to us all.

I offer my sincere congratulations to my dear friend, Dotty Cullen, for receiving this honor and thank her for her continued dedication to the residents of Vineland, the State of New Jersey, and the United States of America.

RECOGNIZING DAN SALLET ON THE DAY OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE AYER SCHOOL COMMITTEE

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. TSONGAS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Dan Sallet of Ayer, Massachusetts upon his retirement from the Ayer School Committee.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Respected throughout the community for his commitment to public service, Mr. Sallet is leaving the School Committee after 14 years of dedicated service, including serving as Chairman for six years. Sallet was instrumental in leading the schools out of significant financial difficulties in 2006–2007 and was a prime mover in establishing the Ayer Tri-Board, a joint committee of Selectmen, School and Finance Committees, which works cooperatively to develop budgets and resolve financial issues for the town. Mr. Sallet's words are respected as the voice of reason at Ayer Town Meetings.

Mr. Sallet has also represented the community as a member of Devens Education Advisory Committee (DEAC) and on the finance subcommittee for the Devens Disposition Executive Board. Mr. Sallet has also been active in Ayer youth baseball, soccer and basketball programs.

Mr. Sallet and his wife Julie have lived in Ayer since 1994 with their three children, Connor, Patrick and Molly.

I thank Mr. Sallet for his commitment to our community and congratulate him on his many years of service to the Town of Ayer and its children.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
CHRIS FAIRCHILD FOR WINNING  
THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE  
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Chris Fairchild showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Chris Fairchild was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Chris Fairchild always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Chris Fairchild on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

HONORING CHIEF JUSTICE ALMA  
L. LÓPEZ

**HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. GONZALEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Justice Alma L. López, a public servant who has dedicated her professional and personal life to empowering Hispanics in the spheres of law, education and politics. Justice López has been a passionate advocate, a dedicated jurist and kind friend to the San Antonio community.

Born in Laredo, Texas, she moved to San Antonio, Texas, where she was raised and educated. Justice López began her higher education at San Antonio College and then

went on to graduate from St. Mary's University with a B.B.A. and from St. Mary's Law School with a J.D. She practiced law for 25 years, twenty of those as a solo practitioner prior to being appointed to the court. She credits her choice of the law as a career to her maternal grandmother, who noticed that even at the age of five she had the skills of a mediator and negotiator.

Justice López made history when she became the first Hispanic woman to serve on the Fourth Court of Appeals. She has been a true leader becoming the first Hispanic woman to serve as Chief Justice in the State of Texas, as well as the first Hispanic woman to serve as a Chief Justice in the United States.

Justice López has been a strong advocate for the Hispanic community serving on a number of local, state, and national boards of directors. She is committed to being a role model not just for Hispanic women, but for the entire community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Chief Justice Alma López as we celebrate and honor her career and outstanding contributions to the community. Her dedication to justice and the City of San Antonio are remarkable and I wish her continued success in all her future endeavors.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PRE-  
SERVING THE AMERICAN HIS-  
TORICAL RECORD (PAHR) ACT

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today as a proud cosponsor of the Preserving the American Historical Record (PAHR) Act. I appreciate the work my friend, the gentleman from New York (Mr. HINCHEY), has done to develop this important legislation, which would greatly enhance efforts to preserve and disseminate our Nation's rich historical records.

Americans have long recognized the importance of preserving history through the support of such institutions as the Library of Congress, National Archives, and the Smithsonian Institution. However, efforts to preserve records held by State and local historical societies, archives, and libraries are currently hindered due to a lack of resources necessary to ensure adequate preservation.

The PAHR Act, which I also cosponsored during the 110th Congress (H.R. 6056), would authorize \$50 million annually for grants to States, local governments, and other entities to preserve these important records. In addition to preservation assistance, the PAHR Act will enhance safe access to those records for public use. Of note, the Act could result in the expanded use of a wide variety of access tools, including archival finding aids, documentary editions, indexes and images of key records online.

This measure will also support initiatives to use records in ways that highlight the importance of state, territorial, and community history. For instance, in New York's 23rd Congressional District, which I am proud to represent, there are some 300 non-profit organizations and more than 650 local governments that hold numerous records documenting both the people and history of central and northern

New York. A few examples of these records include:

The Adirondack Museum Library has the largest collection documenting that unique region, with records ranging from architectural drawings of "Great Camps," catalogs for J.H. Rushton canoes, early maps of the Adirondack Park, and recordings of Adirondack folk musicians.

The Essex County Historical Society holds records from Republic Steel that document not only the mining industry but the employment of hundreds of miners from Peru who lived and worked in Port Henry, New York in the 1920s.

The Lewis County Historical Society is home to the papers of Dr. Franklin Hough, the father of American forestry.

The Sackets Harbor Battlefield Historic Site Library houses manuscripts, documents, maps, archeological reports, and records related to the Sackets Harbor Battlefield, the War of 1812, and the Sackets Harbor Naval Station.

St. Lawrence University retains manuscripts which document the economic, social, political, religious, and cultural activities of Adirondack communities; environmental issues; the Lake Placid Winter Olympics; and the development of the St. Lawrence Seaway.

These are just a few citations outlining the wealth of historical records that could benefit through the enactment of the PAHR. Many other worthy examples exist throughout the nation. Accordingly, I look forward to working with the gentleman from New York to enact this legislation and thereby preserve additional aspects of America's rich history.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately I missed recorded votes on the House floor on Monday, April 27, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 207 (Motion to suspend the rules and Agree to H. Res. 329), "nay" on rollcall vote No. 208 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H.R. 1746), and "aye" on rollcall vote No. 209 (Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to H. Res. 335).

A PROCLAMATION HONORING  
WESTEN HALE FOR WINNING  
THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE  
BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Westen Hale showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Westen Hale was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Westen Hale always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional

District, I congratulate Westen Hale on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF SOUTHAMPTON HOSPITAL

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate an important milestone in the history of public health in the community of Southampton, New York. A century ago this year, a group of committed local doctors and philanthropic citizens founded Southampton Hospital, beginning a tradition of quality, compassionate care that continues today.

In 1908, two Southampton doctors received an emergency call from a woman living on the outskirts of the village. The doctors could not risk moving their patient to the nearest hospital, so they conducted a life-saving operation by kerosene lamp in the woman's attic. This incident crystallized the need for a local health care facility where modern emergency procedures could be performed in safety.

In 1909, Southampton Hospital received a charter from the State of New York and a modest home was acquired to house a dispensary and nurse. Since that time, the hospital facility at Meeting House Lane and Lewis Street has been expanded and augmented with the latest in medical technologies. Its mission to provide the highest standard of health care continues to be sustained by the generous and grateful community.

Today, Southampton Hospital offers a full range of inpatient and outpatient services and is staffed by more than 240 physicians, dentists, and other health professionals. Board-certified emergency physicians staff the hospital every hour of every day. In addition, satellite facilities have been established throughout the South Fork of Long Island to provide services in primary care, radiology, physical therapy and rehabilitation to the broader area.

Madam Speaker, as a native of Southampton, the Hospital is an institution especially close to my heart. Two years ago, the hospital administrators gave me a beautiful drawing depicting the hospital and grounds that I proudly display in my personal office in Washington. I was born at Southampton Hospital, as were my two daughters, and it has served my family well in times of distress and joy. As the hospital enters its second century, I offer its staff and administration my deep thanks and best wishes for the future.

HONORING THE STUDENTS OF THE INSULATE! PROGRAM FOR THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS TO WESTERN NORTH CAROLINA

**HON. HEATH SHULER**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the invaluable contributions of a group of altruistic college students from Warren Wilson College in Asheville, NC. INSULATE! is an ongoing project at Warren Wilson College through which students assist low income home-owners in reducing their utility bills and their carbon footprints by means of weatherization.

As part of the INSULATE! program, students weatherized 5 homes in five days during their Spring Break this year. The students were able to help one 84-year-old retiree who was spending over a third of her income on utilities alone. After the students' intervention, her utility costs have decreased over 20 percent.

Their efforts will be filmed later this year in an attempt to educate and empower those with similar ambitions on how to help reduce their carbon footprint.

The benefits of increased energy efficiency at a national level are immense. As the United States moves towards energy independence and a large-scale reduction of greenhouse gases, efficiency must play a major role. The ultimate goal of the INSULATE! program is ambitious, they seek to improve the lives of those less fortunate on an individualized basis. The potential on a national level is staggering—in Western North Carolina alone there are 44,000 eligible households. For each of these households helped by INSULATE! roughly two tons of carbon dioxide are prevented from escaping into the atmosphere each year.

On behalf of myself, and my constituents, I would like to thank the INSULATE! program for their contribution to meeting America's energy goals and for their assistance to those less fortunate in our community.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING WADE HOWARD FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Wade Howard showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Wade Howard was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Wade Howard always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Wade Howard on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

HONORING THE MABRY MIDDLE SCHOOL BAND PROGRAM

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Mabry Middle School Band, which is currently on a special trip to Washington, DC. Mabry Middle School is located in my hometown of Marietta in Georgia's 11th Congressional District. The Mabry Band Program, directed by Jill Barnocki and Kimberly Bruce, has 377 students enrolled in grades 6–8.

Madam Speaker, members of the band program consistently earn recognition in both the Georgia All-State Band and the Georgia District 12 Honor Band. All of the school's bands earned straight superior ratings in the Georgia Large Group Performance Evaluation. The Mabry Band program has also received invitations to perform at prestigious conferences and competitions throughout the country, including the International Band & Orchestra Conference in Chicago in 2008, the Georgia Music Educators Conference in Savannah, Georgia in 2007, the Southeastern Middle School Band Clinic at Troy State University in 2003, and the University of Georgia Mid-Fest in 2002.

Mabry Middle School has been an exemplary part of the Marietta City School System since it opened in November of 1978. The school is ranked in the top ten schools in the state of Georgia and is a Georgia School of Excellence. In 2005 Mabry Middle School was awarded the Scholastic and Intel's Schools of Distinction Award for Technology Innovation and Georgia's Silver Award for Academic Achievement. Mabry is also a 2008 No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School of Excellence. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the accomplishments of the students and band of Mabry Middle School.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID DWYER OF CONNECTICUT

**HON. JOHN B. LARSON**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to join me recognizing Mr. David Dwyer of Bristol, Connecticut. Mr. Dwyer is a lifelong Connecticut resident and has been employed by UPS for over 37 years, where he remains a member in good standing of the International Brotherhood of Teamsters Local 671.

He has also been a member of the Forestville Fishing Club, the oldest fishing club in America, since 1978. From 1984 through 1987, Mr. Dwyer served on the club's Board of Managers, and served as Second Vice President from 1987 through 1994. In 1994, Mr. Dwyer was elected President of the Forestville Fishing Club. During his tenure, among other notable accomplishments, he presided over the expansion of club boundaries and successfully completed the Grannis Pond Revitalization Project in 2009.

I wish to congratulate Mr. David Dwyer on his 14 years of dedicated and devoted service

as President of the Forestville Fishing Club, and encourage all of my colleagues to join me in wishing him the very best in all of his future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING J.D. HALE FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, J.D. Hale showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, J.D. Hale was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, J.D. Hale always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate J.D. Hale on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

HONORING BERNARD OLIVE

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bernard Olive, a respected and noble citizen of the city of Baytown.

Mr. Olive has been devoted to serving his community and through his devotion has been nominated for The Baytown Sun's Citizen of the Year award. Serving as the Fire Marshall for the city since 1992 as well as the Emergency Management Coordinator from 1999 to 2007 he has displayed a true commitment in aiding his fellow neighbors in times of need.

Along with his service Mr. Olive has shown an enthusiasm in volunteering throughout his community. Speaking to different organizations concerning hurricane preparedness, fire prevention, and other various topics he has become a source of knowledge that others seek for advice. Mr. Olive is a member of Cedar Bayou Masonic Lodge 321, a member of the 6th Cavalry Association of Living History, and is a board member on the Hill of Rest Cemetery, as well as the Baytown Heritage Society.

For his invaluable service to the City of Baytown community I extend my deepest gratitude, and honor Mr. Bernard Olive.

TRIBUTE TO MR. JIM SCHMIT

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SIMPSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the numerous organizers and volunteers of the 2009 Special Olympics

World Winter Games in Idaho. It was because of the hard work and dedication of the volunteers from Idaho and elsewhere and their commitment to Special Olympics that this great event was possible. I would like to recognize one volunteer in particular, Mr. Jim Schmit. Mr. Schmit served as the Chairman of the Games Fundraising Committee, and he did an exemplary job.

The Special Olympics World Winter Games attracted more than 2,000 athletes from nearly 100 countries. It was the largest multi-sport event ever held in the State of Idaho. While my home state was proud to host this prestigious event, we faced many unique challenges along the way. Host sites are typically named four years in advance of the Games, but Special Olympics International awarded the Games to Idaho just 24 months in advance. This left the Fundraising Games Committee with an extremely condensed timeframe in which to raise money and prepare for the event. The Committee faced an even greater challenge created by the difficult economic times that our businesses, corporations, and citizens confronted, which caused donations to charities and non-profits to drop significantly.

Working on an unpaid volunteer basis, Mr. Schmit worked tirelessly with businesses and corporations in Idaho and throughout the country to secure both monetary donations and in-kind donations of food and beverages for the athletes as well as supplies needed to run the events. He coordinated with the state and local governments to obtain assistance from them. In addition, Mr. Schmit worked closely with Senator Craig and me to help us in our efforts to secure federal funding in support of the Games. Faced with such a difficult economic environment, Mr. Schmit and his team were able to raise sufficient funds to put on the hugely successful Games and still have funds left over to donate back to the community.

Madam Speaker, I have had the honor of knowing and working with Mr. Schmit in his position as President of Qwest Idaho for many years. Today, I am honored to commend him for his tremendous work as the Chairman of the Games Fundraising Committee. His commitment and dedication were critical to making the Games such a huge success, and I would like to take this opportunity to recognize him for all of his hard work.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE RESTORATION ACT

**HON. CAROL SHEA-PORTER**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. SHEA-PORTER. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce today the Family and Medical Leave Restoration Act. Since its enactment in 1993, the Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA) has helped workers and family members to balance the responsibilities of the workplace with their or their family's medical needs. This job protected leave provides workers with the comfort of knowing that their job will be safe while they tend to their health needs, or the health needs of a loved one.

FMLA leave is unpaid leave, but it provides the worker with the basic assurance that their

job will be protected while taking the family or medical leave that they need. Unfortunately, the previous Administration issued new rules regarding the use of FMLA leave that place additional burdens on workers. Workers who find themselves in a position that requires FMLA leave should not have to worry about meeting additional requirements for accessing their FMLA leave.

The Family and Medical Leave Restoration Act will repeal the most restrictive of the new regulations, restoring the common sense—and fair—regulations that were previously in place. It also directs the new Secretary of Labor to revisit and revise other FMLA regulations that were promulgated under her predecessor.

I look forward to working with Secretary Solis—a proven champion for workers' rights—on this issue, and on behalf of the workers of New Hampshire and the nation.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING KYLE ONDERA FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Kyle Ondera showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Kyle Ondera was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Kyle Ondera always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Kyle Ondera on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

HONORING MELVIN GOINS

**HON. NICK J. RAHALL II**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor a great West Virginian, Melvin Goins. Like Jimmy Stewart's character in "It's a Wonderful Life," this Friday, surrounded by friends and family and the love and admiration of his community, Melvin Goins will be the richest man in Bramwell—a town noted for the millionaire coal barons who called it home at the turn of the 20th Century.

A phenomenally talented bluegrass musician, Melvin Goins has spent a lifetime making music and gaining fame throughout all of bluegrass country. His photo once graced the cover of Smithsonian Magazine. He was named an "Appalachian Treasure" by Morehead State University in 2000, and he was inducted into the "Bluegrass Hall of Fame." But I suspect that the recognition by his hometown of a local boy done well is, to him, the most sublime of all possible honors.

As a youngster, Melvin, along with his brother Ray who passed away in 2007, worked and

scraped to buy their first instrument—a banjo—a treasure they were afraid to reveal to their father, Glen. Fortunately for all of us, having received Glen Goins' approval of their fine purchase, the two sons soon embarked on a path that would take them to the heights of bluegrass renown.

Over the decades of their careers, the pair brought the sounds of a finely tuned string band to countless men and women throughout the world, who found delight in such tunes as "Mouse Tracks in the Bacon Grease." Likewise, gospel tunes as "I'll Fly Away" and "The Wayfarer Stranger" have touched many a heart and soul.

They played as part of the Lonesome Pine Fiddlers and the Clinch Mountain Boys, before going on their own to play as the Goins Brothers. But eventually Ray hung up his banjo and Melvin carried on, establishing the Windy Mountain Boys.

Over the years, Melvin's generosity, exemplified by the guidance and encouragement he gave so freely to younger musicians, earned him lifelong respect and gratitude. And despite his success, the once-dirt poor boy has never lost his sense of those basic values honed in the hills of his West Virginia home at the knee of his mother Pearl.

If it means keeping our feet firmly planted on Good Mother Earth and our head out of the clouds like Melvin Goins, then growing up "dirt poor" is a luxury more Americans should enjoy.

Melvin Goins life has spanned the days of the battery operated radio that provided the family's only entertainment to the age of the Internet, MP3 players, and iPods. Having spent the better part of his nearly 60 years on the road, performing live concerts at venues from the renowned to the unlikely, Melvin Goins now reaches his multitude of fans worldwide, in their own living rooms, through a virtual visit to YouTube.

Even in his 70's, Melvin continues a successful and busy musical career, remaining much in demand by all who enjoy a little pickin', singin' and a good story to boot.

That he has earned this continuous following throughout those decades of change is testament to the depth of Melvin's talent and the breadth of his musical appeal.

This Friday, I will join the people of Bramwell, West Virginia in celebrating "Melvin Goins Day." But today, I bring his extraordinary life and musical talent to the attention of the U.S. Congress and urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Melvin Goins, an American treasure.

RECOGNIZING THE BOLTON AND MENK FIRM FOR THEIR INNOVATIVE DESIGN OF A NEW WASTEWATER TREATMENT PLANT

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Bolton and Menk Firm for their innovative design of a new Wastewater Treatment Plant in the City of Buffalo, Minnesota. Their fresh ideas earned them a place of honor in the American Council of Engineering Companies 2009 Engineering Excellence Awards Competition.

This facility is the first of its kind in innovation and renewable resources for water treatment. The City of Buffalo, Minnesota asked for a state-of-the-art system and Bolton and Menk delivered. The facility provides a high quality treatment process and keeps the energy costs incredibly low to the city and its residents. By recycling and reusing, the wastewater treatment plant makes all biosolids disappear. Some of the biosolids are even reused in the community's road construction and repair. In the end, the City of Buffalo has one of the most eco-friendly and fiscally responsible wastewater treatment plants in America. In fact, estimated savings for the first year of operation are expected to exceed \$90,000 and \$500,000 in the next 20 years.

The 2009 Engineering Excellence Award has found a worthy recipient and I rise today to commend both Bolton and Menk for their innovation and attention to the needs of today's communities and the people of Buffalo, Minnesota for vision and a real commitment to excellence.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF PAUL SIDNEY

**HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and work of Paul Sidney, legendary radio personality and fixture of community life in Eastern Long Island for 45 years.

With his rapid patter and unpolished voice, Paul provided "local news of local interest" to generations of Long Islanders from the studios of WLNG radio in Sag Harbor. Joining the station in 1963 as programming director, he later became WLNG's vice-president, general manager and, eventually, president.

Paul was recognized as a pioneer in community radio when he was inducted into the New York State Broadcasters' Hall of Fame in 2007. One of his innovations at WLNG was his early embrace of on-location remote broadcasting. Local events from retail store openings to Easter Egg hunts could expect a visit from Paul in the station's mobile broadcasting bus, and anybody in attendance was eligible for an impromptu on-air interview.

Perhaps what endeared Paul most to his listeners was his dedication to keeping WLNG on the air during even the most severe hurricanes and blizzards, earning him the nickname "the master of disaster." With his commitment to keeping the community informed in trying times, Paul was part entertainer and part public servant.

Between shifts on-air, Paul would hold court from his favorite bench between the Sag Harbor Pharmacy and the Variety Store on Main Street, dispensing wisdom, talking baseball and maybe collecting a few anecdotes for a later broadcast. A lifelong bachelor, his listeners were both his friends and his family.

Madam Speaker, if being successful in life is loving your work, Paul Sidney was one of the most successful people I have ever known. That irrepressible voice has fallen silent, but Paul and his achievements over the years at WLNG will always be remembered.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JESSE SLONE FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Jesse Slone showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and Whereas, Jesse Slone was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jesse Slone always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jesse Slone on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

ON THE PASSING OF ERNIE BARNES

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, today we mourn the loss of Ernie Barnes, an athlete, artist and North Carolina native.

As a child, Mr. Barnes would accompany his mother to work, where she oversaw a prominent attorney's household staff in a home where he was captivated by the extensive collection of art books available to him. It was the start of a lifelong love of art.

As a junior high school student, Mr. Barnes was overweight and introverted. He spent his time drawing and hiding from the taunting bullies. A sympathetic teacher helped steer him into a weightlifting program, which enabled him to excel in both football and track and field once he got to high school.

Because of segregation, he was unable to consider nearby University of North Carolina or Duke University, and instead attended my alma mater, North Carolina Central University—then known as North Carolina College—on a football scholarship and majored in art.

Mr. Barnes was drafted in by the Washington Redskins, who, upon discovering he was Black, traded him to the then-world champion Baltimore Colts. He later played offensive lineman for the San Diego Chargers and Denver Broncos.

While on the playing field, Mr. Barnes said he was studying the human form and developing an eye for capturing the drama of sports. Each week he would sketch the defensive lineman who would be across from him in that Sunday's game.

"The drawings would help me understand the man I would be facing," he said in an interview.

Mr. Barnes' work relied on elongation and distortion to create a sense of energy, power, grace, intensity, and fluidity. His art also features people with their closed eyes, reflecting his sense, as he once expressed it, "we are blind to one another's humanity."

He was commissioned by the Los Angeles Olympic Committee to provide paintings for the Games and by the National Basketball Association to commemorate its 50th anniversary. He was also commissioned to provide paintings by the owners of the Los Angeles Lakers, New Orleans Saints, Oakland Raiders, and the Boston Patriots. Carolina Panthers owner Jerry Richardson, a teammate with the Baltimore Colts, commissioned Mr. Barnes to create the painting, "Victory in Overtime," that permanently hangs at the Charlotte football stadium.

Mr. Barnes' ability to capture the powerful energy and movement of sports earned him "America's Best Painter of Sports" by the American Sports Art Museum in 2004.

In 2007, in a New York tribute exhibition sponsored by the National Football League and Time Warner, Time Warner Chairman and CEO Richard D. Parsons said, "Imagine the courage and determination it took for a working class child from the segregated south in the 1940s to ignore all the naysayers and dare dream of becoming a successful artist."

Mr. Barnes's work embodied his strong personal beliefs and spirit, crossing political, racial, and geographic boundaries.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in observing the passing of a great American and one of the Nation's foremost African American artists. We are blessed that Mr. Barnes helped raise our collective consciousness and encouraged everyone to see the gifts and strengths in one another. We mourn his loss, celebrate his achievements, and send our deepest condolences to his family.

RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF  
DEPUTY BURTON LOPEZ,  
OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Deputy Burton Lopez, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department, who gave his life in the line of duty on April 25, 2009. Deputy Lopez served the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department with honor and distinction, and I am humbled to recognize this American hero.

Deputy Burton "Burt" Lopez began his career in the United States Air Force, proudly serving for over twenty years before retiring as a sergeant. His career took him across the world, including Northwest Florida's own Eglin Air Force base. He joined the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department shortly after his retirement, fulfilling a lifelong dream of becoming a police officer. His fellow officers knew him as a dedicated public servant and a true family man who loved serving his community.

Deputy Lopez was killed when he and another patrol deputy went to apprehend a suspect during a domestic violence dispute. The gunman fired at the officers, fatally wounding Deputy Lopez and a fellow officer. These two deaths mark only the second and third Okaloosa Sheriff's deputies to ever be killed in the line of duty, a truly sad, but powerful testament to the quality of the entire Sheriff's Department.

The people of Okaloosa County have many reasons to be proud of Deputy Lopez, and I am honored to be able to represent those people, as well as the memory of this brave police officer. Vicki and I will keep his entire family, especially his wife, Michelle, and children, Jesse, Erik, Madilyn, Jami, and Jake, and grandson, Caleb, in our prayers. May God Bless Deputy Lopez and all of the officers across this great country who courageously protect their citizens and their communities.

FAST STARTS ACT OF 2009

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I began work on the Portland Streetcar as a Commissioner of the City of Portland. Our first line opened on July 20, 2001, becoming the first modern streetcar system in North America. It represents a remarkable local partnership. I'm proud of its success.

As a Member of Congress, I have championed streetcars at the federal level, introducing the Community Streetcar Development and Revitalization Act in 2003, which became part of the Small Starts program and was included in SAFETEA-LU.

Unfortunately, the implementation of the Small Starts program failed to deliver any form of federal partnership to our communities. Communities across the country have struggled to utilize the Small Starts program as the Federal Transit Administration delayed these projects. These delays have caused steep cost increases and stalled worthy projects that otherwise would generate investment and development in these communities.

The Fast Starts Act responds to the vast pent-up demand in communities around the country caused by the prior administration's obstruction and delay with regard to streetcar projects. It authorizes the Secretary of Transportation to make grants to streetcar projects provided that they are supported by an acceptable degree of local financial commitment, have met all necessary environmental requirements, and can be under construction not later than March 1, 2012.

These bills will revitalize America's neighborhoods and urban spaces, while providing transit options, reducing sprawl, and curtailing greenhouse gas emissions. I am looking forward to seeing a resurgence of streetcars around the country and nowhere more so than in Portland, Oregon.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JORDAN STRICKLAND FOR WINNING THE BOYS' DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Jordan Strickland showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Jordan Strickland was a supportive team player; and

Whereas, Jordan Strickland always displayed sportsmanship on and off of the court; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Jordan Strickland on winning the Boys' Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2008–2009 basketball season.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. HENRY E. BROWN, JR.**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BROWN of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I submit the following:

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education—National Projects, Innovation and Improvement

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Reading is Fundamental

Address of Requesting Entity: 1825 Connecticut Ave. NW, Washington, DC 20009

Description of Request: Funding will be used for purposes authorized in Section 5451 of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act. Reading Is Fundamental enhances child literacy by providing millions of underserved children with free books for personal ownership and reading encouragement from the more than 18,000 locations throughout all fifty states, Washington, D.C., Guam, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Requesting Member: HENRY E. BROWN, Jr.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105

Account: Department of Education—National Projects, Innovation and Improvement

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Reach Out and Read National Center

Address of Requesting Entity: 56 Roland Street, Boston, MA 02129

Description of Request: Reach Out and Read is a national program that promotes literacy and language development in infants and young children, targeting disadvantage and poor children and families. ROR has proven to among the most effective strategies to promote early language and literacy development and school readiness: pediatricians and other healthcare providers guide and encourage parents to read aloud to their children from their earliest years of their life, and send them home from each doctor visit with books and a prescription to read together. Currently, nearly 50,000 doctors and nurses have been trained in ROR's proven strategies, and more than 3,500 clinics and hospitals nationwide are implementing the program, reaching more than 25% of America's at-risk-children. Funding provided by Congress through the U.S. Department of Education has been matched by tens of millions of dollars from the private sector and state governments. Program has benefited over 18,000 children in the First District.

HONORING BOY SCOUT TROOP 72

**HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Boy Scout Troop 72 on achieving an important milestone, its 75th anniversary. Originally chartered on April 16, 1934, Troop 72 has turned hundreds of young men into community leaders, fulfilling the Boy Scouts of America mission to build character in young men and train them to become responsible citizens engaged in physical fitness and community development activities.

Troop 72 is in the Washington District of the Cradle of Liberty Council of the Boy Scouts of America. The chartering organization, the Roychester Community House in the Overlook Hills neighborhood of Abington Township, has provided a home for the young men of Troop 72 for many years.

Since its inception, 175 boys from the Troop have attained the coveted Eagle Scout designation, Scouting's highest award. Each project that has propelled these young men toward the achievement of the rank of Eagle Scout has had an incredible impact on the betterment of the community. While successfully fulfilling the mission of the Boy Scouts of America to train young men to become responsible, engaged citizens, Troop 72 has also successfully established strong ties to its town. Troop 72's annual food drive collects thousands of canned goods each year.

The Troop's active and committed adult leadership implement outreach, advocacy and fundraising activities to strengthen the Troop's enduring presence and serve as positive role models for these young men. Over the past 75 years, Troop 72 has served as a powerful catalyst, encouraging young men to make ethical and moral decisions and shaping them into productive, engaged citizens. I am honored to represent this organization's leadership and members in Congress.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 75th anniversary milestone of Boy Scout Troop 72 and wishing the Troop and its members many more years of community enrichment and service.

CONGRATULATING MR. ADAM MILLIKIN, JR. ON THE OCCASION OF HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Adam Millikin, Jr. on the occasion of his 100th birthday.

Mr. Millikin was born on May, 12, 1909 in East Carroll Parish, and is currently a proud resident of Lake Providence, La. In addition, Mr. Millikin and his late beloved wife were the proud parents of 10 children.

Truly an integral part of Louisiana history, Mr. Millikin's fascination with politics has deep roots. He was just one of four males who first obtained the right to vote in East Carroll Parish.

A retired farmer, Mr. Millikin serves today as a deacon of the Rose Hill Baptist Church. He has served in this capacity for 58 years.

In addition, his hobbies include watching his favorite baseball team, Los Angeles Dodgers, and following the news.

Mr. Millikin is a friend to many, and is deemed a gracious and hardworking person to all who have had the privilege of making his acquaintance.

Friends and family of Mr. Millikin will gather on May 24, 2009 to celebrate this momentous birthday.

I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Adam Millikin, Jr. a very happy 100th birthday.

IN HONOR OF ROBLEY REX

**HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH**

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robley Rex, an American Hero from my home town of Louisville, KY, who peacefully passed away just days away from his 108th birthday. Mr. Rex always disputed the fact that he was a hero. He said he was only doing his duty, but to the people of Kentucky, we simply can't see it any other way.

The area's last surviving World War I era veteran served with the Army in Europe at the end of the Great War. He remained with the Army for four years, but he retained a commitment to serve for the rest of his life. He served as chaplain of the Okolona VFW until his death and logged more than 13 thousand volunteer hours at the Louisville VA hospital—since his 85th birthday.

Still, what made Mr. Rex special to us isn't the quantity of hours or years—though there were many of both—but the quality of his time. The veterans who had the good fortune to spend some time with him, during his many visits to the VA Hospital, spoke with a man who not only shared their experience but also helped blaze the trail for their service. For those brave men and women who served their country and received treatment for illness or injury, the ubiquitous smile of Robley Rex made a world of difference when working toward recovery. He tried to cheer them up, he'd say. And if you ask anyone he encountered, you'll hear that he succeeded.

Today, it's difficult to imagine a time when America was not yet the most powerful nation in the world, when the military might of United States was in question. Robley Rex served at a time when our states had been reunited for little over five decades and the road ahead lay in question. It was on the will, courage, and determination of soldiers like Robley Rex that the future of the United States was secured. Whether he admitted it or not, Madam Speaker, he was a treasure to our community, a true American Hero, and he will not be forgotten.

I am humbled by his life's service, thankful for all he did, and I know my colleagues will join me in honoring the life and legacy of Robley Rex.

TRIBUTE TO MR. D. M. (DENNY) SAMUEL

**HON. JIM COSTA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, today I would like to pay tribute to Mr. D. M. Samuel on his retirement with 42 years of service with Chevron Corporation of California.

Denny joined Chevron in 1967 and moved extensively throughout North America in the marketing department. As sales manager in Puerto Rico, and marketing manager in Canada, he was successful in notable advancements in Chevron's return to stockholder investment. He has been Chevron's legislative advocate in Florida, Washington, Oregon, Idaho, and California.

Most recently, Denny has served as chief advocate for the company in Sacramento, serving as Chevron's lead with the California State Legislature and several governorships for more than 20 years. In this capacity, he has been a true leader within the business lobbying community. He has served on the Government Affairs Committee of the California Manufacturers and Technology Association, and is the outgoing chairman of the Western States Petroleum Association's California Petroleum Resource Group. Denny has been honored by both parties recently, as the top business lobbyist in the State; by the Latino Caucus with a Lifetime Achievement Award; and by many peers and leaders in Sacramento and an honest and hard working advocate on behalf of California's largest company, Chevron.

Denny is a solid citizen. He has served on the boards of many community and industry organizations including the Sacramento Child Abuse Prevention Council and served as chairman of the River Oaks Center for Children. He is known for his compassion and willingness to help others.

Samuel graduated from the University of Washington, did post graduate studies at Golden Gate University, and received his master's in business administration (MBA) from Pepperdine University.

Samuel enjoys golf and fishing and resides with his wife and mother of four, Fran, in Loomis, CA.

I congratulate Denny on his retirement and thank him for his diligent service to the energy industry, particularly in the great State of California.

CONGRATULATING EVERETTE BROWN ON BEING DRAFTED BY THE CAROLINA PANTHERS

**HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to congratulate and recognize a young man from my hometown who was selected in last weekend's National Football League draft. The Carolina Panthers selected Everette Brown, a graduate of Wilson, North Carolina's Beddingfield High School and Florida State University.

Mr. Brown was the Seminoles starter at the right defensive end position in each of the 13 games during the 2008 regular season, and he was a finalist for the Ted Hendricks Award as the Nation's top defensive end. And, after leading the Nation in tackles for a loss, Mr. Brown was named to the All-Atlantic Coast Conference football first-team and runner-up as the ACC Player of the Year.

In addition to his tremendous play on the field, Mr. Brown has been a leader when it comes to community service. He has donated his time freely, volunteering at schools, The Able Trust, MDA Summer Camp, Tallahassee Seminole Club, Dick Howser Center for Childhood Services, Life Skills Center and Read Across America, among many others.

Madam Speaker, my community is extremely proud of this young man and I ask you to join me in congratulating him on his accomplishments. We must also recognize Mr. Brown's parents, Odell and Jenai, on raising this fine young man. I know they must be so proud and pleased that he will be playing his games so close to home.

CONGRATULATING MARTHA  
BUFFINGTON, TEACHER SE-  
LECTED TO ATTEND 2009  
MICKELSON EXXONMOBIL  
TEACHERS ACADEMY

### HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to commend Martha Buffington, a teacher at A.L. Smith Elementary for being selected to attend the 2009 National Mickelson ExxonMobil Teachers Academy.

Martha is one of 200 highly-qualified third-through fifth-grade teachers from around the country selected to attend the intensive professional development program this summer.

She was chosen from more than 1,600 teachers nationwide by a panel of educators from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics (NCTM) and the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA). Their selection criteria was based on Martha's remarkable qualifications, unyielding dedication to inspiring students at an early age, as well as her overall commitment to enhancing the teaching profession.

The ExxonMobil Teachers Academy is designed to further help each selected participant to engage students in math and science, and to help retain their interest in these subjects through college and into their careers.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Martha Buffington for being accepted into the ExxonMobil Teachers Academy. Martha is an excellent teacher who is truly deserving of this recognition.

LEVI LOCKLING

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Levi Lockling

who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Levi Lockling is a 7th grader at Wheat Ridge Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Levi Lockling is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Levi Lockling for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

RECOGNITION OF THE PASSING OF  
DEPUTY WARREN YORK,  
OKALOOSA COUNTY SHERIFF'S  
DEPARTMENT

### HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Deputy Warren York, Okaloosa County Sheriff's Department, who gave his life in the line of duty on April 25, 2009. Deputy York served the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department with honor and distinction, and I am humbled to recognize this American hero.

Deputy Warren "Skip" York served his country for over 20 years in the U.S. Air Force. A highly decorated airman, Skip joined the Okaloosa Sheriff's Department upon his retirement from military service and has bravely protected his community as a patrol deputy ever since. He could often be seen riding around northwest Florida on his Harley-Davidson as part of the Blue Knights Motorcycle Club or attending church services at St. Michael's of Eglin Air Force Base. Skip will be remembered by all who knew him for his great attitude and caring personality.

Deputy York was killed when he and another patrol deputy went to apprehend a suspect during a domestic violence dispute. The gunman fired at the officers, fatally wounding Deputy York and a fellow officer. These two deaths mark only the second and third Okaloosa Sheriff's deputies to ever be killed in the line of duty, a truly sad, but powerful testament to the quality of the entire Sheriff's Department.

The people of Okaloosa County have many reasons to be proud of Deputy York, and I am honored to be able to represent those people, as well as the memory of this brave patrolman. Vicki and I will keep his entire family, especially his wife, Janel, and his son, Michael, in our prayers. May God bless Deputy York and all of the officers across this great country who courageously protect their citizens and their communities.

FEDERAL STREETCAR  
REVITALIZATION ACT

### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, the Federal Streetcar Revitalization Act creates a transportation investment program that, under a competitive program, offers grants to transit projects. These projects must be justified based on a review of their effects on local economic development, land use, travel patterns, and greenhouse gas reduction potential.

This program will unlock streetcar investments across the country and will fulfill the promise of the Community Streetcar Development and Revitalization Act that I introduced in 2003 and which later became part of the Small Starts program in SAFETEA-LU. Unfortunately, the implementation of the Small Starts program failed to deliver any form of federal partnership to our communities. Communities across the country have struggled to utilize the Small Starts program as the Federal Transit Administration delayed these projects. These delays caused steep cost increases and stalled worthy projects that otherwise would generate investment and development in these communities.

For an example of the benefits of streetcar systems, the Portland Streetcar opened on July 20, 2001, becoming the first modern streetcar system in North America. This system has created jobs and spurred development along the streetcar corridor. In fact, the Portland Streetcar has spurred \$3.5 billion in new development in downtown Portland. The streetcar system also provides tremendous environmental benefits. The Portland Streetcar is one reason that vehicle miles traveled per capita have declined by 6% since 1990 in Portland, Oregon. Providing sustainable transportation options to our communities can significantly reduce our carbon footprint.

These bills will revitalize America's neighborhoods and urban spaces, while providing transit options, reducing sprawl, and curtailing greenhouse gas emissions. I am looking forward to seeing a resurgence of streetcars around the country.

KATERINA KUBLITSKAYA

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Katerina Kublitskaya who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Katerina Kublitskaya is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Katerina Kublitskaya is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Katerina Kublitskaya for winning the

Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING MADDESON  
ELIZABETH BILLMEYER

**HON. BRUCE L. BRALEY**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. BRALEY of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the courage and resolve of Maddeson Elizabeth Billmeyer. Maddeson went to the hospital after falling on the ice this past winter. During her hospital visit, a tumor was detected and diagnosed. This fall was a blessing in disguise, as it allowed for her to be diagnosed sooner rather than later.

Maddeson was diagnosed with Ewing Sarcoma which has only about 150 cases reported each year. This rare cancer has spread to both lungs. The cancer will be treated with 6 sessions of chemotherapy, followed by surgery to remove the tumor and any remaining cancer. Maddeson will then continue with chemotherapy for a minimum of 42 weeks.

Maddeson is only 6 years old and is in the process of dealing with a terrible disease. Maddeson and her family have a difficult road ahead of them and they need community support. The Billmeyer family needs emotional, educational, and practical support from their family and friends.

I want to use this unfortunate circumstance as an opportunity to promote childhood cancer awareness, and the need for childhood cancer education. Ours thoughts and prayers are with Maddeson Billmeyer and her family.

JOSH LOBATO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Josh Lobato who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Josh Lobato is a 7th grader at Oberon Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Josh Lobato is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Josh Lobato for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING NICHOLAS EVERETTS, AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF ARIZONA ORATORACLE CONTEST 1ST RUNNER UP

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Nicholas Everetts of Fountain Hills, Arizona, who was chosen to represent his area in the recent Constitutional Speech Contest held by the American Legion Oratorical Scholarship Program. This competition is sponsored by the American Legion to promote a broader appreciation and understanding of the Constitution.

Nicholas won his local contest in the Phoenix area, and then moved on to compete in the state competition with students from all over Arizona. As a sophomore at Fountain Hills High School and the youngest participant in the state contest, Nicholas proved his ability and validated his hard work by placing second.

As a member of the Committee on Veterans' Affairs, I commend Nicholas for his participation in this competition, and his active role in the veterans' community. In his speech, Nicholas insightfully noted that "the treason that our forefathers committed when signing the Declaration of Independence has led us to live in such a great country." I am confident that we will see great things from Nicholas in the future, and I gratefully wish him well in his future endeavors.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Nicholas Everetts for his success in the Constitutional Speech Contest, and his dedication to America's veterans.

JENIFER LUNDE

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Jenifer Lunde who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Jenifer Lunde is a senior at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Jenifer Lunde is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Jenifer Lunde for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

IN HONOR OF MADISON DEVON DODGE

**HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE**

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Ms. Madison Devon Dodge for her efforts in the fight against diabetes and her profound impact on the lives of thousands of individuals who suffer from the disease.

From May 2 to 5, 2009, Madison Dodge will be honored here, in Washington, D.C., at the 14th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. I find Madison's accomplishments over the last eight years, although she is only thirteen years old, beyond extraordinary. She has raised in excess of \$40,000 for diabetes research and treatment since she began volunteering in 2001. I am confident that she will not only continue to raise money to fight diabetes, but more importantly, that she will continue to bring hope to those suffering from diabetes and impact their individual lives in meaningful ways.

To promote her fight against diabetes, Madison familiarized herself with Washington D.C. at an early age. She has met with numerous congressman and senators to keep them informed about the challenges associated with this debilitating disease. She also holds the distinct honor of being named a two-time Delaware delegate to the Call to Congress program. Additionally, Madison was invited to attend a recent House Education and Labor Committee hearing entitled Renewing America through National Service and Volunteerism to discuss and examine the importance of national service in meeting some of our country's critical economic needs, at which I had the opportunity to highlight her volunteer work. In Delaware, she takes part in several fundraisers every year such as her biannual Skate 4 A Cure, Dinners for Diabetes, and other events including raffles and craft sales. It is inspiring to see that such a young lady can be so passionate about this worthy cause and demonstrate her passion so vigorously on a daily basis. As the co-chair of the Congressional Diabetes Caucus, I personally understand how important her mission is to Members of Congress, as well the countless families impacted by diabetes.

I would like to thank Ms. Madison Dodge for her years of service to the men and women suffering from diabetes, as well as our greater community here in the State Delaware. I am confident that her Prudential Spirit of Community Award will only inspire her to help more people and strengthen her resolve in the fight against diabetes.

DENISE LOYA

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Denise Loya who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Denise Loya is a senior at Jefferson High School and

received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Denise Loya is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Denise Loya for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

#### TRIBUTE TO SID OMAN

### HON. J. RANDY FORBES

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. FORBES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Sid Oman, who was 81 when he passed away on Monday, April 27, 2009.

America lost a political icon with the death of Sid Oman. Sid will certainly be remembered for both his successful business and political careers. Nationally, he was recognized by President Reagan for his role in the War on Drugs, and he was widely known for being elected to serve as mayor of two cities in different states, Chesapeake, Virginia and Elizabeth City, North Carolina.

From the beginning, Sid Oman planned to be a funeral director. He founded his own business—Oman Funeral Homes—and he set the standard for the way in which he ran his business. He served as President of both the Virginia Funeral Directors Association and the Tidewater Funeral Directors Association. His business reputation led to his role as the director of General Douglas MacArthur's funeral in 1964.

Sid was so much more than a funeral director. He was a Marine, a Sunday school teacher, a marriage commissioner, and he played a leadership role in numerous civil groups committed to the communities in which he lived and worked every day, including business, health care, education, and service organizations.

Sid was deeply engaged in connecting with citizens and friends in the community through technology and media. He hosted weekly TV and radio shows, including "The Sounding Board," "The Vantage Point," "Call to City Hall," and "Mayor's Report."

In his later years, Sid's personal battle with cancer and his resilient commitment to ensuring access to cancer treatment for others resulted in Chesapeake General Hospital naming its Cancer Treatment Center in his honor.

At home, Sid was the proud husband of Lillian Callis Oman since 1947. He had two children—his daughter Susan, and his son, Robert, who followed his father's footsteps into the funeral business.

However, for Chesapeake residents he represents the personification of the office of Mayor, an office he officially held for six years, but for which he was known for the remainder of his life. Sid's love for people and his city will not soon be forgotten or easily replaced, and

his contributions to our lives in Chesapeake will live on for generations.

#### BRYCE LANGE

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Bryce Lange who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Bryce Lange is a senior at Faith Christian Academy and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Bryce Lange is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Bryce Lange for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

#### IN HONOR OF AMY LIU

### HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize Ms. Amy Liu for establishing the Sichuan Earthquake Relief Fund and raising over \$43,000 to aid victims of the earthquake that struck south-central China in May 2008.

From May 2 to 5, 2009, Amy Liu will be honored here, in Washington, D.C., at the 14th Annual Prudential Spirit of Community Awards. The efforts of Ms. Liu in her attempt to aid those devastated by the disaster in China are remarkable in and of themselves. Amy founded, organized, and led a month long fundraising effort that sent more than \$20,000 directly to the Chinese Red Cross, where it was redistributed for disaster relief and rebuilding. I find Amy's accomplishments in this situation to be absolutely extraordinary. Not only did she raise an incredible amount of money to help people in dire need, she served as an exemplary role model for her peers in the process.

Ms. Liu has also volunteered at the First State Chinese School, the A.I. DuPont Hospital, the Brandywine Hundred Library, and the Stand Up for What is Right and Just program. In addition, Amy was a guest of mine at a recent House Education and Labor Committee hearing entitled *Renewing America* through National Service and Volunteerism to discuss and examine the importance of national service in meeting some of our country's critical economic needs. At the hearing, I had the opportunity to highlight Amy's exemplary community service. I am confident that Amy will not only continue to volunteer and serve the Delaware community and people in need, but more

importantly, that she will continue to impact individual's lives in profound and meaningful ways.

I would like to thank Ms. Amy Liu for her service to the men and women who suffered in China after the May 2008 earthquake, as well as for her continual service within our greater community in the State of Delaware. I am confident that her Prudential Spirit of Community Award will only inspire her further to help more people and act as an even larger and more prominent role model for the young and old in our community.

#### ANNA LAZIO

### HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Anna Lazio who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Anna Lazio is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Anna Lazio is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Anna Lazio for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

#### CONGRESSWOMAN SPEIER ENCOURAGES ORGAN AND TISSUE DONATION REGISTRATION

### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, today, 17 Americans awaiting organ transplants will die because a suitable donor was not available. These will be our mothers, fathers, children, and friends—some of the 100,000 of our fellow Americans on the national organ transplant waiting list.

But unlike so many threats that are out of our control, this is something that each of us can change simply by signing up with your state program.

Volunteering to be an organ or tissue donor is a simple, painless, and selfless act of love and generosity, the impact of which cannot be understated. A single organ donation can save up to 8 lives and the donation of one person's tissue can save the lives of up to 50 others. Each year, 28,000 men, women and children are saved through organ donation. Despite the 80 million of us who are enrolled in state donor registries, there is still a need for more.

Sadly, one-third of those on the national transplant waiting list will likely run out of time before a donor is found.

Madam Speaker, in honor of National Donate Life Month, I urge my colleagues, my constituents and my fellow Americans to register as organ and tissue donors.

ALEXANDRA LOGAN

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alexandra Logan who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Alexandra Logan is a senior at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alexandra Logan is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Alexandra Logan for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

**LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE  
CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2009**

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1913, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. I would like to thank Chairman CONYERS of the House Judiciary Committee for his leadership in bringing this timely legislation to the floor. H.R. 1913 will provide assistance to state and local law enforcement and amend federal law to streamline the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes. The key element of the bill is its expansion of federal jurisdiction to cover crimes motivated by bias against a victim's perceived sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability. This legislation would make tremendous strides in garnering the civil and human rights of all Americans. Its passage would secure the equal protection of all Americans under the law. It is a landmark and long overdue piece of legislation.

This is an important bill and I have introduced similar legislation in this and prior Congresses. While I support this bill and urge my colleagues to support this bill I am disappointed that the bill did not include my amendment which I offered last Congress.

MY AMENDMENT LANGUAGE IN H.R. 1592

Last Congress, I offered an amendment to H.R. 1592, the legislation that was introduced last term. My amendment was accepted by unanimous consent by the members of the Judiciary Committee. Specifically, my amend-

ment required "the United States Sentencing Commission shall study the issue of adult recruitment of juveniles to commit hate crimes and shall report such findings back to the Congress within 180 days." If this language was included in the present bill, it would only serve to strengthen it and make it better. The amendment language was intended to gather information on adults that solicit and use youth in the commission of hate crimes. This issue arises with respect to hate groups such as the Skinheads, Neo-Nazis, KKK, and other similar type groups.

H.R. 1913 is legislation aimed at combating hate crimes. Because the bill addresses hate crimes, it is necessary to define the criminal actions that constitute a hate crime in the first instance. The definition is straightforward. Hate crimes involve the purposeful selection of victims for violence and intimidation based upon their perceived attributes. Such targeting for violence removes these actions from the protected area of free expression of belief and speech as enshrined in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The crimes are investigated and prosecuted at both the Federal and State and local level, depending upon the facts of the case and the needs of the investigation.

For those individuals that will ask why this law is necessary, let me remind of a few incidents that have occurred in recent memory that demonstrate that this bill is indeed necessary.

Texas' violent history dates to the late 19th century when it was among the South's most lynch-prone states. At least 355 people, most of them blacks, died in Texas mob violence between 1889 and 1918.

Laws outlawing mob and less lethal hate crimes have since been passed, but incidents with possible racial components have continued to occur—even in Jasper, a city with a black mayor and a population that is 45 percent African-American.

In Texas, Austin came in fourth among cities in the number of hate crimes reported in 2006, according to a FBI compilation that canvassed agencies representing 85 percent of the nation's population. Documented are 7,722 criminal incidents involving 9,080 offenses resulting from bias against race, religion, sexual orientation, ethnicity/national origin, or physical or mental disability. Of 5,449 "crimes against persons", intimidation accounted for 46 percent of hate crimes, simple assault 32 percent, and aggravated assault 21.6 percent. Three murders and six rapes were reported. The report lists offenders as 58.6 percent white, 20.6 percent black, 12.9 percent race unknown, and the rest as other races.

JAMES BYRD

Let me remind you of James Byrd. On June 7, 1998, Byrd, 49, accepted a ride from three men named Shawn Allen Berry, Lawrence Russell Brewer, and John William King. He had already known one of them. Instead of taking him home, the three men beat Byrd behind a convenience store, chained him by the ankles to their pickup truck, stripped the man naked, and dragged him for three miles. Although Lawrence Russell Brewer said that Byrd's throat had been slashed before he was dragged, forensic evidence suggests that Byrd had been attempting to keep his head up, and an autopsy suggested that Byrd was alive for much of the dragging and died after his right arm and head were severed when his body hit

a culvert. His body had caught a sewage drain on the side of the road resulting in Byrd's decapitation.

King, Berry, and Brewer dumped their victim's mutilated remains in the town's black cemetery, and then went to a barbecue. A wrench inscribed with "Berry" was found within the area along with a lighter that had "Possum" written on it, which was King's prison nickname.

The next morning, Byrd's limbs were scattered across a very little-used road. The police found 75 places littered with Byrd's remains. State law enforcement officials along with Jasper's District Attorney Guy James Gray and Assistant Pat Hardy determined that since King and Brewer were well-known white supremacists, the murder was a hate crime, and decided to bring in the FBI less than 24 hours after the discovery of Byrd's remains. One of Byrd's murderers, John King, had a tattoo depicting a black man hanging from a tree, and other tattoos such as Nazi symbols, the words "Aryan Pride," and the patch for the Confederate Knights of America, a gang of white supremacist inmates. In a jailhouse letter to Brewer which was intercepted by jail officials, King expressed pride in the crime and said he realized he might have to die for committing it. "Regardless of the outcome of this, we have made history. Death before dishonor. Sieg Heil!", King wrote.

An officer investigating the case also testified that witnesses said King referenced The Turner Diaries after beating Byrd.

Brewer and King were sentenced to death. Berry received life in prison.

THE PERPETRATORS

John King—accused of beating Byrd with a bat and then dragging him behind a truck until he died. King had previously claimed to have been gang-raped in prison by black prisoners and, although he had no previous record of racism, had joined a white-supremacist prison gang, allegedly for self-protection. The testimony phase of his trial started in Jasper, Texas on February 16, 1999. He was found guilty of kidnapping and murder on February 23 and was sentenced to death on February 25.

Lawrence Russell Brewer—another white supremacist convicted of murdering Byrd. Prior to the Byrd murder, Brewer had served a prison sentence for drug possession and burglary, and he was paroled in 1991. After violating the parole in 1994, he was sent back to prison. According to his court testimony, he joined a white supremacist gang with King in order to safeguard himself from other prisoners. A state psychiatrist testified that Brewer did not appear repentant for his crimes. In the end, Brewer was also sentenced to death.

Shawn Allen Berry—The driver of the truck, Berry was the most difficult to convict of the three defendants because there was a lack of evidence to suggest that he himself was a racist. He had also claimed that his two companions were entirely responsible for the crime. Brewer testified that it was Berry who cut Byrd's throat before he was tied to the truck, but the jury decided that there was little evidence to indicate this. As a result, Berry was spared the death penalty and given a life sentence in prison.

MATTHEW SHEPARD

Matthew Wayne Shepard was a student at the University of Wyoming who was tortured and subsequently murdered near Laramie,

Wyoming. He was attacked on the night of October 6–October 7, 1998 and died at Poudre Valley Hospital in Colorado, on October 12, from severe head injuries.

During the trial, witnesses stated that Shepard was targeted because he was gay. His murder brought national as well as international attention to the issue of hate crime legislation at the state and federal levels.

Russell Arthur Henderson pleaded guilty to felony murder and kidnapping, allowing him to avoid the death penalty. Aaron James McKinney was convicted of felony murder and kidnapping. Henderson is currently serving two consecutive life sentences and McKinney is serving the same but without the possibility of parole.

Matthew Shepard, oldest son of Dennis Shepard and Judy Shepard, was born in Casper, Wyoming, on December 1, 1976. Shortly after midnight on October 7, 1998, 21-year-old Shepard met McKinney and Henderson in a bar. McKinney and Henderson offered Shepard a ride in their car. Subsequently, Shepard was robbed, pistol whipped, tortured, tied to a fence in a remote, rural area, and left to die. McKinney and Henderson also found out his address and intended to rob his home. Still tied to the fence, Shepard was discovered eighteen hours later by Aaron Kreifels, who at first thought that Shepard was a scarecrow. At the time of discovery, Shepard was still alive, but in a coma.

Shepard suffered a fracture from the back of his head to the front of his right ear. He had severe brain stem damage, which affected his body's ability to regulate heart rate, body temperature and other vital signs. There were also about a dozen small lacerations around his head, face and neck. His injuries were deemed too severe for doctors to operate. Shepard never regained consciousness and remained on full life support. As he lay in intensive care, candlelight vigils were held by the people of Laramie.

He was pronounced dead at 12:53 A.M. on October 12, 1998 at Poudre Valley Hospital in Fort Collins. Police arrested McKinney and Henderson shortly thereafter, finding the bloody gun as well as the victim's shoes and wallet in their truck.

The two men had attempted to get their girlfriends to provide alibis. In court the defendants used varying rationales to defend their actions. They attempted to use the "gay panic defense", arguing that they were driven to temporary insanity by alleged sexual advances by Shepard. At another point they stated that they had only wanted to rob Shepard and never intended to kill him.

The prosecutor in the case charged that McKinney and Henderson pretended to be gay in order to gain Shepard's trust to rob him. During the trial, Chastity Pasley and Kristen Price (the pair's then-girlfriends) testified under oath that Henderson and McKinney both plotted beforehand to rob a gay man. McKinney and Henderson then went to the Fireside Lounge and selected Shepard as their target. McKinney alleged that Shepard asked them for a ride home. After befriending him, they took him to a remote area of Laramie where they robbed him, beat him severely (media reports often contained the graphic account of the pistol whipping and his smashed skull), and tied him to a fence with a rope from McKinney's truck. Shepard begged for his life. Both girlfriends also testified that neither

McKinney nor Henderson was under the influence of drugs at the time. The beating was so severe that the only areas on Shepard's face that were not covered in blood were those where his tears had washed the blood stains away.

Henderson pleaded guilty on April 5, 1999, and agreed to testify against McKinney to avoid the death penalty; he received two consecutive life sentences. The jury in McKinney's trial found him guilty of felony murder. As it began to deliberate on the death penalty, Shepard's parents brokered a deal, resulting in McKinney receiving two consecutive life terms without the possibility of parole.

Henderson and McKinney were incarcerated in the Wyoming State Penitentiary in Rawlins but were transferred to other prisons due to overcrowding.

Wyoming did not have State hate crimes legislation.

#### LOYAL GARNER

On Christmas Day 1987, Loyal Garner, a Florien, LA., father of six, was arrested for drunken driving. Garner protested that he was sober, and asked for field sobriety and breathalyzer tests, but police took him to the county jail in Hemphill.

Garner asked to be allowed to telephone his wife. Instead, he was taken to the jail detox room and bludgeoned.

In 1990, Hemphill Police Chief Thomas Ladner and two county deputies, Billy Ray Horton and James M. Hyden, were convicted on state murder charges and sentenced to prison. Horton's conviction was later overturned.

#### KENNETH SIMPSON

In spring 1988, Kenneth Simpson, a 30-year-old black man arrested for the theft of a fountain pen, died in his Cleveland jail cell after being beaten.

Half the city police force was suspended as a result, but later returned to their jobs after being acquitted. However, Police Chief Harley Lovings remained under public pressure and resigned the following year.

The pen later was found atop a soft drink machine in the police station lobby.

#### TROY LEE STARLING

In August 1987, Troy Lee Starling, 24, of Mount Enterprise was fatally shot in the neck by a state highway trooper after a highspeed chase in Rusk County.

Though the trooper was cleared by a grand jury, Starling's family filed a civil rights lawsuit against the officer.

Not all incidents involved bloodshed, but still revealed a sordid side of East Texas culture. Illustrative was the hostility faced by three black families who moved into an all-white public housing project in Vidor in 1994.

The families were part of the third effort to integrate the project. They moved in only after then-Housing and Urban Development Secretary Henry Cisneros allocated \$3 million to upgrade security.

But residents were soon frightened by death threats and the obvious patrols of Ku Klux Klan members through the projects displaying high-powered weapons.

The FBI later investigated alleged Klan death plots against William Hale, director of the Texas Commission on Human Rights, and Attorney General Dan Morales. Hale's group had sued the Klan, accusing it of making threats against those trying to integrate the housing project.

Still, Joe Roy, head of the intelligence project of the Southern Poverty Law Center in Montgomery, Ala., suggested such crimes, though stereotypical of the South, no longer are limited to one region.

"I think this is a stark reminder, this case in Texas, of what can happen in this country," he said. "Education is not the sole answer, but it's one of the cornerstones of correcting it."

The tension between the races is fueled by competition between economically marginal groups, Roy said.

"This episode is a horrendous example of the rage that is out there."

#### OTHER HIGH PROFILE TEXAS CASES

Vidor, 1994: Civil rights groups sue the Ku Klux Klan, accusing the group of making threats to stop the integration of an all-white housing project.

Cleveland, 1988: Kenneth Simpson, a black man arrested for stealing an ink pen, dies in his jail cell after struggling with white officers, who are eventually cleared in the death. The police chief resigns under pressure the next year.

Hemphill, 1987: Loyal Garner, a black Louisiana truck driver, is beaten to death in the Sabine County jail. Hemphill's police chief and two county deputies are eventually convicted of murder, although one deputy's conviction is overturned.

Mount Enterprise, 1987: Troy Lee Starling, a 24-year-old black man, is fatally shot in the neck by a state trooper after a high-speed chase in Rusk County. The trooper is cleared but Starling's family files a civil rights suit.

In December 2005, Chris McKee was beaten by two men. McKee, who is gay, said his assailants had followed him after seeing him kiss another man, and anti-gay slurs were audible on a 911 call he made. His assailants were prosecuted under the State hate crimes legislation but they were acquitted.

In May 2006, Joshua Aaron Abbot, now 23, was acquitted in the 2005 death of 40-year-old David Wayne Morrison, a gay Denton resident who was HIV-positive. Abbot stabbed Morrison more than 20 times in the face, neck and chest with a pocketknife.

Abbot, who is straight, had gone to Morrison's residence for unknown reasons, and the pair ended up alone in Morrison's bedroom. At trial, Abbot claimed Morrison tried to rape him, and the jury ruled the defendant acted in self-defense. The prosecutors failed to prosecute the case as a hate crime because it was not clear that Morrison's sexual orientation was the sole motivating factor. However, the prosecutor admitted that Morrison's sexual orientation and HIV-positive status was key.

Since Texas State hate crimes legislation was passed in 2001, there have been few convictions. In 2007, there were only eight convictions.

These cases provide stark evidence that this bill is needed to federalize hate crimes. These crimes are still perpetrated.

Opponents will argue that this bill abrogates constitutional rights of Freedom of Speech or other First Amendment guarantees under the Constitution. These arguments have no merit. First, all speech is not protected speech. For example, one does not have the right to scream "Fire!" in a crowded movie theatre.

Second, nothing in this bill prevents a person from exercising their fundamental rights or their First Amendment right to free speech. The actionable crime here is crimes that cause bodily injury.

Third, the bill clarifies that neither this Act, nor the amendments made by it may be construed to prohibit any expressive conduct protected from legal prohibition, or any activities protected by the free speech or free exercise clauses of, the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The legislation does not punish, nor prohibit in any way, name-calling, verbal abuse, or even expressions of hatred toward any group, even if such statements amount to hate speech. Because it covers only violent actions that result in death or bodily injury nothing in this legislation prohibits lawful expression of deeply held religious beliefs. Thus, clergy and other religious persons are not prohibited from decrying any acts, lifestyles, or characteristics that they deem repugnant or contrary to their beliefs. This speech is not actionable under this bill and is in no way proscribed.

The bill specifically provides at Section 8, in its Rule of Construction, that "Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to prohibit any expressive conduct protected from legal prohibition by, or any activities protected by the Constitution." Thus, the plain language of the bill makes clear that clergy or others exercising their First Amendment right to speech or expression will not be penalized by this law. Words or conduct that does not result in bodily injury is not actionable under this bill.

This legislation is needed because hate crimes have been seriously underreported. FBI statistics have only documented more than 118,000 hate crimes since 1991. In 2007, statistics demonstrated 7,624 bias-motivated criminal incidents, and police agencies identified 9,535 victims arising from 9,006 separate criminal offenses. Racially-motivated bias accounted for approximately half (50.8 percent) of all incidents; religious bias accounted for 1,400 incidents (18.4 percent); sexual orientation bias accounted for 1,265 incidents (16.6 percent); and ethnicity/national origin accounted for 1,007 incidents (13.2 percent).

H.R. 1913 will address two serious deficiencies in the Federal civil rights crimes, in which a limited set of hate crimes committed on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin are prohibited. The principal federal hate crimes statutes are 18 U.S.C. sec. 245 and 42 U.S.C. sec. 3631, this bill expands the application of hate crimes legislation.

In the last forty years, limitations in section 245 have become apparent and needed to be addressed. For example, the existing statute requires the government not only to prove that the defendant committed an offense because of the victim's race, color, religion, or national origin, but also because of the victim's participation in one of sex narrowly defined protected activities. These activities related to enrolling/attending schools, participating in or enjoying a service, program, facility, or activity administered or provided by a state or local government, applying for or enjoying employment, serving in a state court as a juror, travelling in or using a facility of interstate commerce, and enjoying the goods or services of certain places of public accommodation. This bill extends the application of hate crimes beyond these narrow and limited situations.

The present bill extends hate crimes in another important manner. The existing statute provides no coverage for violent hate crimes committed because of the victim's perceived sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability. H.R. 1913 covers these statuses.

When federal jurisdiction has existed in the limited hate crime contexts authorized under 18 U.S.C. sec. 245(b), the federal government's resources, forensic expertise, and experience in the identification and proof of hate-based motivations has provided an invaluable investigative complement to the familiarity of investigators with the local community, people and customs. The limitations of section 245 have limited the opportunity for such collaboration in many incidents of violence.

As I mentioned out the outset, I understand the urgency and importance of passing this bill. I would however like to bring up two issues that I would like considered, and that I would like to work with leadership to ensure is included, in conference.

First, the bill adds a certification requirement that is not currently found in section. Specifically, it requires a written certification from the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate Attorney General, or any Assistant Attorney General that the person has reason to believe that a hate crime has occurred and the person has consulted with local and state law enforcement.

This imposes yet another burden upon the Department of Justice and might infringe upon its right to bring and try hate crimes. I do not see any compelling reason for changing the existing law and adding this additional burden.

Similarly, with respect to the Rule of Evidence in section 7(d) of this legislation, it provides the following:

"In a prosecution for an offense under this section, evidence of expression or associations of the defendant may not be introduced as substantive evidence at trial, unless the evidence specifically relates to that offense. However, nothing in this section affects the rules of evidence governing impeachment of a witness."

Thus, this new rule of evidence alters the relevance standard that already exists under the Federal Rules of Evidence. It would seem appropriate to use evidence, albeit circumstantial insofar as it is relevant. For example, consider the following hypothetical that a hate crime is perpetrated but under the current construction of section 7(d), it would be inadmissible to proffer evidence that the defendant collected racist magazine or paraphernalia unless such paraphernalia was directly used in the crime or is entered for purposes of impeachment. It defies reason that the existence of such paraphernalia is relevant and should be admissible to prove that a crime was racially motivated. Therefore, I would excise the language in section 7(d). It adds restrictions to the rules of evidence that have no place in the inquiry.

Hate crimes are real. The bodily injury, loss of life, and havoc that their perpetration wreaks on an individual, a family, community, and the country is wholly unacceptable. I urge my colleagues to support an end to such hate crimes and support this bill. Its passage would make America a fuller, freer and more equal society that all accorded equal protection under the laws of the United States.

ALEX LESKO

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Alex Lesko who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Alex Lesko is an 8th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Alex Lesko is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Alex Lesko for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF H.R. 1913, LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT HATE CRIMES PREVENTION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 29, 2009*

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. \_\_\_\_\_ the Rule on H.R. 1913, the Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009. I urge my colleagues to support this rule.

The rule will provide assistance to state and local law enforcement and amend federal law to streamline the investigation and prosecution of hate crimes. The key element of the rule is its expansion of federal jurisdiction to cover crimes motivated by bias against a victim's perceived sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability. This legislation would make tremendous strides in garnering the civil and human rights of all Americans. Its passage would secure the equal protection of all Americans under the law. It is a landmark and long overdue piece of legislation.

This is an important legislation and I have introduced similar legislation in this and prior Congresses. While I support this legislation and urge my colleagues to support it, I am disappointed that the rule did not include my amendment which I offered last Congress.

MY AMENDMENT LANGUAGE IN H.R. 1592

Last Congress, I offered an amendment to H.R. 1592, the legislation that was introduced last term. My amendment was accepted by unanimous consent by the members of the Judiciary Committee. Specifically, my amendment required "the United States Sentencing Commission shall study the issue of adult recruitment of juveniles to commit hate crimes and shall report such findings back to the Congress within 180 days." If this language was included in the present bill, it would only

serve to strengthen it and make it better. The amendment language was intended to gather information on adults that solicit and use youth in the commission of hate crimes. This issue arises with respect to hate groups such as the Skinheads, Neo-Nazis, KKK, and other similar type groups.

The Rule is aimed at combating hate crimes. Because the rule addresses hate crimes, it is necessary to define the criminal actions that constitute a hate crime in the first instance. The definition is straightforward. Hate crimes involve the purposeful selection of victims for violence and intimidation based upon their perceived attributes. Such targeting for violence removes these actions from the protected area of free expression of belief and speech as enshrined in the First Amendment to the United States Constitution. The crimes are investigated and prosecuted at both the Federal and State and local level, depending upon the facts of the case and the needs of the investigation.

Opponents will argue that this bill abrogates constitutional rights of Freedom of Speech or other First Amendment guarantees under the Constitution. These arguments have no merit.

First, all speech is not protected speech. For example, one does not have the right to scream "Fire!" in a crowded movies theatre.

Second, nothing in this bill prevents a person from exercising their fundamental rights or their First Amendment right to free speech. The actionable crime here is crimes that cause bodily injury.

Third, the rule clarifies that neither this Act, nor the amendments made by it may be construed to prohibit any expressive conduct protected from legal prohibition, or any activities protected by the free speech or free exercise clauses of, the First Amendment of the United States Constitution. The legislation does not punish, nor prohibit in any way, name-calling, verbal abuse, or even expressions of hatred toward any group, even if such statements amount to hate speech. Because it covers only violent actions that result in death or bodily injury nothing in this legislation prohibits lawful expression of deeply held religious beliefs. Thus, clergy and other religious persons are not prohibited from decrying any acts, lifestyles, or characteristics that they deem repugnant or contrary to their beliefs. This speech is not actionable under this bill and is in no way proscribed.

The rule specifically provides at Section 8, in its Rule of Construction, that "Nothing in this Act, or the amendments made by this Act, shall be construed to prohibit any expressive conduct protected from legal prohibition by, or any activities protected by the Constitution." Thus, the plain language of the rule makes clear that clergy or others exercising their First Amendment right to speech or expression will not be penalized by this law. Words or conduct that does not result in bodily injury is not actionable under this bill.

The Rule will address two serious deficiencies in the Federal civil rights crimes, in which a limited set of hate crimes committed on the basis of race, color, religion, or national origin are prohibited. The principal federal hate crimes statutes are 18 U.S.C. sec. 245 and 42 U.S.C. sec. 3631, this bill expands the application of hate crimes legislation.

In the last forty years, limitations in section 245 have become apparent and needed to be addressed. For example, the existing statute requires the government not only to prove that the defendant committed an offense because of the victim's race, color, religion, or national origin, but also because of the victim's participation in one of sex narrowly defined protected activities. These activities related to enrolling/attending schools, participating in or enjoying a service, program, facility, or activity administered or provided by a state or local government, applying for or enjoying employment, serving in a state court as a juror, travelling in or using a facility of interstate commerce, and enjoying the goods or services of certain places of public accommodation. This bill extends the application of hate crimes beyond these narrow and limited situations.

The Rule extends hate crimes in another important manner. The existing statute provides no coverage for violent hate crimes committed because of the victim's perceived sexual orientation, gender, gender identity or disability. The Rule covers these statuses.

When federal jurisdiction has existed in the limited hate crime contexts authorized under 18 U.S.C. sec. 245(b), the federal government's resources, forensic expertise, and experience in the identification and proof of hate-based motivations has provided an invaluable investigative complement to the familiarity of investigators with the local community, people and customs. The limitations of section 245 have limited the opportunity for such collaboration in many incidents of violence.

As I mentioned out the outset, I understand the urgency and importance of passing this bill. I would however like to address two issues that I would like considered, and that I would like to work with leadership to ensure is included, in conference.

First, the rule adds a certification requirement that is not currently found in section. Specifically, it requires a written certification from the Attorney General, the Deputy Attorney General, the Associate Attorney General, or any Assistant Attorney General that the person has reason to believe that a hate crime has occurred and the person has consulted with local and state law enforcement.

This imposes yet another burden upon the Department of Justice and might infringe upon its right to bring and try hate crimes. I do not see any compelling reason for changing the existing law and adding this additional burden.

Similarly, with respect to the Rule of Evidence in section 7(d) of this legislation, it provides the following:

"In a prosecution for an offense under this section, evidence of expression or associa-

tions of the defendant may not be introduced as substantive evidence at trial, unless the evidence specifically relates to that offense. However, nothing in this section affects the rules of evidence governing impeachment of a witness."

Thus, this new rule of evidence alters the relevance standard that already exists under the Federal Rules of Evidence. It would seem appropriate to use evidence, albeit circumstantial insofar as it is relevant. For example, consider the following hypothetical that a hate crime is perpetrated but under the current construction of section 7(d), it would be inadmissible to proffer evidence that the defendant collected racist magazine or paraphernalia unless such paraphernalia was directly used in the crime or is entered for purposes of impeachment. It defies reason that the existence of such paraphernalia is relevant and should be admissible to prove that a crime was racially motivated. Therefore, I would excise the language in section 7(d).

Hate crimes are real. The bodily injury, loss of life, and havoc that their perpetration wreaks on an individual, a family, community, and the country is wholly unacceptable. I urge my colleagues to support an end to such hate crimes and support this rule. Its passage would make America a fuller, freer and more equal society that ensures that all accorded equal protection under the laws of the United States.

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ADRIANNE LOZANO

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Adrienne Lozano who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Adrienne Lozano is a senior at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Adrienne Lozano is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Adrienne Lozano for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her academic career to her future accomplishments.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, April 30, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 5

- 9:30 a.m.  
Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine ongoing efforts to combat piracy on the high seas.  
SR-325
- 9:45 a.m.  
Energy and Natural Resources  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Daniel B. Poneman, to be Deputy Secretary, David B. Sandalow, to be Assistant Secretary for International Affairs and Domestic Policy, both of the Department of Energy, and Rhea S. Suh, to be Assistant Secretary, and Michael L. Connor, to be Commissioner of Reclamation, both of the Department of the Interior.  
SD-366
- 10 a.m.  
Finance  
To hold hearings to examine expanding health care coverage.  
SD-106
- Joint Economic Committee  
To hold hearings to examine the economic outlook.  
SH-216
- 2:15 p.m.  
Foreign Relations  
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business.  
S-116, Capitol
- 2:30 p.m.  
Intelligence  
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.  
S-407, Capitol

- 3 p.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Surface Transportation and Merchant Marine Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine piracy on the high seas, focusing on protecting our ships, crews, and passengers.  
SR-253

MAY 6

- 9:30 a.m.  
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine regulating and resolving institutions considered to be too big to fail.  
SD-538
- Veterans' Affairs  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Roger W. Baker, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Information and Technology, William A. Gunn, of Virginia, to be General Counsel, Jose D. Riojas, of Texas, to be Assistant Secretary for Operations, Security, and Preparedness, and John U. Sepulveda, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary for Human Resources, all of the Department of Veterans Affairs.  
SR-418
- 10 a.m.  
Judiciary  
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Homeland Security.  
SD-106
- 2 p.m.  
Aging  
To hold hearings to examine solutions to stop Medicare and Medicaid fraud from hurting seniors and taxpayers.  
SH-216
- 2:15 p.m.  
Armed Services  
Strategic Forces Subcommittee  
To receive a closed briefing to examine space issues.  
SVC-217
- 2:30 p.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Communications and Technology Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the future of journalism.  
SR-253
- Judiciary  
Terrorism and Homeland Security Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the passport insurance process, focusing on ending fraud.  
SD-226

MAY 7

- 9:30 a.m.  
Armed Services  
To hold hearings to examine the report of the Congressional Commission on the Strategic Posture of the United States.  
SH-216

- 10 a.m.  
Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions  
To hold hearings to examine pending nominations.  
SD-430
- Judiciary  
Business meeting to consider S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 257, to amend title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 327, to amend the Violence Against Women Act of 1994 and the Omnibus Crime Control and Safe Streets Act of 1968 to improve assistance to domestic and sexual violence victims and provide for technical corrections.  
SD-226
- Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Science and Space Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine the consequences of a gap in human space flight.  
SR-253
- 10:30 a.m.  
Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry  
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Krysta Harden, of Virginia, to be Assistant Secretary, Rajiv J. Shah, of Washington, to be Under Secretary for Research, Education, and Economics, and Dallas P. Tonsager, of South Dakota, to be Under Secretary for Rural Development, all of the Department of Agriculture.  
SR-328A
- 2:30 p.m.  
Appropriations  
Legislative Branch Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Office of the Architect of the Capitol, and the Office of Compliance.  
SD-138

MAY 13

- 10 a.m.  
Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Competitiveness, Innovation, and Export Promotion Subcommittee  
To hold hearings to examine tourism in troubled times.  
SR-253

MAY 21

- 9:30 a.m.  
Veterans' Affairs  
Business meeting to markup pending legislation.  
SR-418