

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF LAWRENCE M. SULLIVAN, SR. PUBLIC DEFENDER OF THE STATE OF DELAWARE

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to celebrate and pay tribute to the almost 40 year career of Lawrence M. Sullivan, Sr., as the premier Public Defender of the State of Delaware. Larry's vision and immense belief in providing superb legal services to defendants who could otherwise not afford representation helped develop a Public Defenders Office that is the envy of states throughout our country.

Over the past 45 years, Larry has probably served in more capacities and for more Governors than any other Delawarean in the history of our state. While serving predominately on Gubernatorial commissions focused on issues dealing with corrections, courts, drugs, and other issues related to the legal profession, Larry also served as the Register of Wills for New Castle County, as a Mortgage Commissioner for New Castle County, a college professor of business and real estate law, and as a member of the Delaware Trial Lawyers Association, Delaware Bar Association and the American Bar Association.

Larry has been recognized over the years for many achievements, including: Delaware's Outstanding Young Republican of the Year, Wilmington's Young Man of the Year, National Vice-Chairman of the Young Republican National Federation, President of the Active Young Republicans of Wilmington, recipient of the 2003 James P. Ford Award from the Criminal Justice Council of Delaware, 2005 Vision Award from the International Association of Forensic Nurses, 2006 Dorsey Award from the American Bar Association's Government and Public Sector Lawyers' Division, and the 2006 Reginald Heber Smith Award from the National Legal Aid & Defender Association. The awards Larry has received over the years are incapable of recognizing the extraordinary vision and leadership he provided to our state for his entire career.

While Larry may be stepping down as Delaware's Public Defender, we will all remember the indelible print he left on the judicial system and those individuals unable to afford private counsel. I express my heartfelt thanks to Larry for his many years of service, and most of all I thank him for being the individual who actually introduced me to the Republican Party and got me involved in public service. He is a very special friend of mine whose foresight helped many Delawareans.

A TRIBUTE TO RUTH SILBER

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ruth Silber, a dedicated public servant for 26 years.

Ruth Silber is a volunteer at Public School 273 in New York City. She was born in Brooklyn, New York and has lived in Brooklyn for eighty-three years.

Mrs. Silber has worked diligently for the Teamster's Union for the 26 years prior to her retirement, and death of her husband, Mr. Silber. Following her retirement, Mrs. Silber volunteered with P.S. 273 to assist in the library.

Mrs. Silber considers volunteering in school the "love of her life", along with her children and grand-children, and brings a constant youthful insightfulness to her volunteer work.

Madam Speaker, Please join me in recognizing Ruth Silber for her time and dedication to public service.

MORTGAGE REFORM AND ANTI-PREDATORY LENDING ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

The House in committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1728) to amend the Truth in Lending Act to reform consumer mortgage practices and provide accountability for such practices, to provide certain minimum standards for consumer mortgage loans, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act, H.R. 1728, and to commend my colleagues BRAD MILLER, MEL WATT and Chairman FRANK for their leadership and hard work on this measure. I note that Rep. MILLER has worked on this matter for years, long before it became such a consuming issue. I urge my colleagues to support it.

A host of factors contributed to the economic crisis we have been suffering from over the past year, and it is fitting that the term "perfect storm" has so often been used to describe it. But the abusive and predatory practices of certain mortgage lenders certainly are among the factors that top the list. Somewhere along the way, prudent business judgment and careful long-term risk assessment were muscled out of the way by short-term profit seeking, with no thought of the impact that would have on the broader economy in the long run. The end result: the highest rate of home foreclosures in a quarter of a century.

Today, we take another important step in guiding our economy back towards its once stable footing, by prohibiting predatory lending and abusive lending practices, holding banks responsible for the home mortgages they issue, and protecting tenants whose residences go into foreclosure despite their own timely payment of rent.

One of the most prevalent abuses by subprime loan originators has been the practice in which they steer prospective borrowers towards loans that will provide originators with the highest near-term payoff, sometimes through fees the broker or loan officer collects by directing borrowers towards those loans. The Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act would prohibit mortgage brokers and bank officers from directing borrowers towards loans that will ultimately become more expensive than they can afford, and would mandate that lenders only issue loans that the borrowers can repay. In addition, it will require loan originators to disclose to borrowers any compensation they receive in connection with the mortgage transaction.

One of the reasons loan originators have been unconcerned about issuing loans that they know borrowers might not be able to pay off is because loan originators in recent years have tended immediately to resell, or securitize, the mortgage loans they originate. Therefore, they only retained the risk associated with issuing an unstable loan for a brief period, and then the risk was transferred elsewhere. The Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act calls for new regulations to require loan originators to retain at least a five percent interest in every loan they issue. Once they are required to retain some of the long-term risk of a borrower defaulting on the loan, the issuers should be expected to reinstate more prudent loan origination practices. In addition, the bill would hold the secondary mortgage market—the institutions that have been purchasing and securitizing mortgages—responsible for complying with the same standard when they purchase and package mortgages for resale.

And the Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act also includes important protections for some of the most innocent and vulnerable victims of the foreclosure crisis—namely, tenants who reliably pay their rent on time, but wind up homeless when their landlords fail to do the same with their mortgage payments, and their properties go into foreclosure. The bill would require that tenants in such circumstances receive adequate advance notice and are provided with an opportunity to relocate before the foreclosure is completed.

The Mortgage Reform and Anti-Predatory Lending Act includes many important reforms and protections. I am pleased to support it and I urge my colleagues to do the same.

• 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.

MOREEN BLUM

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to my good friend, Moreen Blum, who was recently honored by the Sherman Oaks Democratic Club for her outstanding contributions to democratic politics in the San Fernando Valley. I have known Moreen for over two decades and have had the pleasure of working with her on many important issues in our community.

A long time volunteer in local politics, Moreen was born in Cleveland, Ohio. She joined the Navy when she was twenty years old and was a member of the Waves until 1952. Shortly after moving to Los Angeles in 1959, she formed the West Hollywood Democratic Club and was a Golden Girl at the John F. Kennedy nominating convention. Currently, she is President Emeritus of the Sherman Oaks Democratic Club, and is very active as the president and founder of the Summerville Democratic Club. Her noteworthy achievements were recognized by the Democratic Party of the San Fernando Valley, as she was presented with the Dorothy Mayer Award. She serves as a worthy example to all political activists.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in saluting Moreen Blum for her impressive career and dedication to the people of the San Fernando Valley.

**HONORING THE HEROISM OF
CHRIS LEVI**
HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, poet and Capitol Tour Guide Albert C. Caswell has penned a poem in honor of Sp. E4 Chris Levi of The North Brigade 410/230 10th Mountain, from Holbrook Long Island. On March 17th 2008, in Sadr City Iraq, Chris lost both of his legs when an EFP struck him. Miraculously, he somehow cheated death. And now like all of our magnificent heroes of the military, who have given their most precious limbs, Chris begins his new fight. A fight that he is winning, winning with his great heart of faith and courage. As like Bob Dole, he too will be an inspiration to us all, for the rest of his life, as we witness the true meaning of the word Hero, all in our time.

10TH MOUNTAIN MEN

10th Mountain Men . . .
Are but those my friends, who will this our
nation so defend . . .
Who but in times of war, all for country bore
. . . the greatest of all burdens, until
the bitter end.
Brilliant Men, who run and fight . . .
Who climb mountains, knock down doors
. . . and go through walls to win that
night . . .
Who with but their brave hearts so ignite,
the fight for freedom to so bring the
light!
For well over the many years . . .
There have been so many magnificent heroes,
so dear!

Men like Chris Levi, and Bob Dole . . . who
are but our Lord's greatest of all men
endeared . . .

Are such Men to behold, who with but their
fine hearts of gold . . .

With such great inspiration inspire us all so
. . . to so warm one's soul . . .

To carry with us as we grow old, in heart's
of love so . . . such honor, for them we
now so hold!

A New York Man . . . who so boldly in Long
Island ran . . .

Who from Suffolk, without fear . . . with
such great courage would so stand . . .

So stand, therein face of death . . . and then
to return back home with almost nothing
left . . .

Who gave up but his two fine strong legs . . .
As he won't moan, and he won't beg . . . As
he starts his brilliant life all over
again . . .

With but his fine heart and soul, showing us
all in life . . . But where lies man-
kind's true gold.

As step by step . . .
The new pain and heartache, somehow he so
accepts . . . as this hero is not done
yet!

For He Will Reach Us, as He Will So Teach
Us . . . as oh yes, as each of us . . . he
Will So Bless . . .

But, with his fine heart of honor so . . .
He now so stands, with all of his band of
brothers . . . such great respect he now
so commands!

All of our hearts and souls, as he battles
through those winds so cold . . . mak-
ing us all so understand.

That in the end, it's but only with our heart
we win!

Arms and legs surely we all need, but with-
out a great heart . . . one cannot so
breath . . . to succeed!

To start all over again . . . Chris, you are
America's fine son of faith and glory,
bless you . . . Godspeed . . .

In life, there are so many Mountains we
must climb!

But, only with such unshaken faith and cour-
age, will one so find . . .

All of those fine things, that which so bring
such tears to even the Angels' eyes . . .
In Chris Levi . . .

We so surely see, what the word hero so im-
plies!

And if I ever have a son, I but hope and pray.
. . . That he will be like you this fine
one . . . Chris Levi . . .

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nology, educational exchange, military sales
and Taiwan's participation in international
agencies.

It is heartening to learn that Taiwan has
been invited to attend this year's World Health
Assembly (WHA) in Geneva, Switzerland from
May 19 to May 27 as an observer. This is a
breakthrough for the Taiwanese government; it
is Taiwan's first participation in a formal U.N
activity since 1971, when the world body
switched its recognition to mainland China.

In celebrating President Ma's first anniver-
sary in office, I join my Congressional col-
leagues in hoping that Taiwan's participation
in the WHA this May will lead to Taiwan's fu-
ture successes in returning to other inter-
national organizations.

**INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS
GROUP LIFE INSURANCE IM-
PROVEMENT ACT OF 2009**
HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, today I am
introducing the Veterans' Group Life Insurance
Improvement Act of 2009 which increases the
amount of life insurance available to veterans.
Veterans Group Life Insurance (VGLI) is ad-
ministered by the Department of Veterans Af-
fairs. The purpose of this program is to give
veterans the option to convert their
Servicemembers Group Life Insurance (SGLI)
coverage that they carry when they are in
service to a competitive life insurance product
for them and their family in post-military life.

Under current law, veterans have up to one
year to convert the amount of SGLI coverage
they carry to VGLI. Many separating
servicemembers are young and don't see the
need to carry a large amount of life insurance
coverage. However, as they get older and
have a family, many of these servicemembers
have expressed a desire to purchase addi-
tional coverage but are barred from doing so
under current law.

The Veterans' Group Life Insurance Im-
provement Act of 2009 allows veterans to pur-
chase up to \$400,000 of VGLI coverage in
\$50,000 increments, every five years, until the
age of 60. The costs of such increases in cov-
erage will be offset by premiums veterans pay,
so there is no direct cost to the government.
This bill gives our veterans greater flexibility in
their life insurance choices and I urge all
members to co-sponsor and support this legis-
lation.

**A TRIBUTE TO CONSTANCE V HAY-
ALLEYNE**
HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today
in recognition of Constance V. Hay-Alleyne.

Constance has lived life as a goal oriented
and knowledgeable Registered Nurse with am-
bitious and humanitarian social motivations.
Constance is well known in the Panamanian
and Caribbean communities. Her delightful in-
tellectual curiosity has served her professional

growth well. She holds a BSN and MSN degrees from Medgar Evers College in Brooklyn, New York and Georgetown University, in Washington D.C., respectively. She has distinguished herself as a competent Nurse Manager and Administrator for over three decades, in the Brooklyn, Manhattan, and Washington D.C. areas. In 1981, she joined the United States Army Nurses Corps, served as a Captain, active duty and in reserve.

At home, Constance has raised her four children to love and respect everyone especially their elders. She encouraged them to have positive outlooks in life and motivation to do "as much as they can" with care and dignity. It could not be otherwise since this has been an inheritance from her parents: John who died at the age of 114 and Imogene, at age 82. Faithful to that motto, she has been involved in many other activities such as a mediator at the Safe Horizon Brooklyn Mediation Center, as a Board Member of the Community Board 5 and as the Chair for Education and Training for Tashia's Life, a lupus foundation.

She was miraculously rescued from the September 11, 2001 disaster at World Trade Center. This encounter made her redefine her mission on earth, realizing that God had saved her life for some special purpose. She serves the Lord at St. Alban's Episcopal Church in Canarsie, Brooklyn, where she functions as a Lay Ecumenical Minister, as well as a Vestry.

Throughout her career, Mrs. Hay-Alleyne has received numerous awards and recognitions including: being featured in "Who's Who?" in Nursing in Cambridge.

SPEECH OF

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL FOSTER CARE MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 6, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, on any given day there are nearly a half million children in our nation's foster care system. These children have endured more pain and suffering in their short lives than many of us could ever imagine. Not only do they experience the physical and emotional trauma that is connected to their mistreatment, but they also face the grief of being separated from their siblings, extended family, friends, and their community. The foster care system serves as a safe sanctuary for these young people and provides services and support to help ease their suffering. It is in the foster care system that children find the help they need to address their pain, and where families can receive the services they need to safely restore their bond with their children. And when it is not possible to safely reunify a child with their parents, it is through the foster care system that a child finds a permanent home with a relative caregiver or an adoptive family.

The month of May is National Foster Care Month. It provides the nation with an opportunity to acknowledge the wonderful contributions of the countless men and women who dedicate their lives to assisting children and families, such as case workers and administrators, child and family advocates, research-

ers, volunteers, and community organizations such as the Child Welfare Organizing Project, which is doing fantastic work in my district. National Foster Care Month provides us with an opportunity to commend those individuals and families who open up their homes and lives to our most vulnerable children by becoming a foster parent. Foster parents step in to serve as a surrogate mom and dad to children when their parents are not there to comfort and care for them. Their services are invaluable in helping these children overcome their grief and move forward in their lives.

National Foster Care Month also provides us with an opportunity to evaluate our foster care system. Congress made great strides last fall in passing comprehensive, bipartisan legislation that strengthened the child welfare system. The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act provided new resources to the system and included policy changes aimed at improving the outcomes of children in care. The legislation has significantly improved the lives of foster children by facilitating their connection to extended family, supporting grandparents and other relative caregivers who care for these children, providing support to older youth in their transition to adulthood, ensuring the health care and educational needs of every child are met, ending the discriminatory practices against Native American children who are under the supervision of tribal governments, enhancing federal training assistance for child welfare workers and court personnel, and strengthening the federal adoption assistance program. The Fostering Connections to Success and Increasing Adoptions Act represented the most significant reform in the child welfare system in over a decade. I am proud of the bipartisan work that the Committee on Ways and Means did in developing the underlying legislation that led to the comprehensive bill. Nevertheless, there is still a great deal of work that needs to be done.

Despite the success of last fall's legislation, Congress needs to remain committed to further strengthening the foster care system and addressing some of the problems that have plagued it for years. Children of color are disproportionately over-represented in foster care. African American and Native American children are removed from their homes and placed in foster care at much higher rates than their white peers. Tragically, once they are removed from their homes, they are more likely to remain in the system for longer periods of time. This problem transcends urban areas and occurs across our nation, affecting not only New York, Michigan and Illinois, but States such as Iowa, Washington State and Minnesota. Many of the provisions included in the Fostering Connections the Success and Increasing Adoptions Act will help to begin to address this problem, yet more reform is still needed.

I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating National Foster Care Month by saluting the people who come to the aid of our most vulnerable children and families, as well as the men and women who are, or were formerly in, the foster care system. These individuals represent some of our bravest men and women who have overcome a level of grief and suffering that some will never experience in their lifetime. Yet, these remarkable people go on to lead successful lives, often exceeding their wildest expectations. Many of them now volun-

teer their time and expertise to efforts to improve the lives of those children who are currently in the system, championing their cause in State legislatures and throughout the halls of Congress. I salute these fine men and women for the example that they set for all Americans.

RECOGNIZING ZUNI ELEMENTARY'S 20TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 20th anniversary of Zuni Elementary School in Scottsdale, Arizona. Zuni, first opened its doors to students in the fall of 1989. This fall, Zuni will merge with another nearby school to become Redbird Elementary.

In its two decade existence, Zuni earned many awards of distinction, most notably the Honor Council Excellence Award from the American Student Council Association and the National Association of Elementary School Principals. Zuni earned this award every year since 1993, a remarkable accomplishment. Since 2005, Zuni has received the Arizona Department of Education's highest ranking of "Excelling School."

In addition to its educational successes, Zuni's philanthropic efforts have been an inspiration to our community. Over the past 12 years, Zuni Elementary raised over \$106,000 as part of the Jump Rope for Heart campaign that supports heart disease and stroke research by the American Heart Association.

As a former teacher, I personally understand the importance of building a strong educational foundation during elementary school. I would like to congratulate the Zuni Coyotes—teachers, students, and parents—on this exceptional milestone.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing Zuni Elementary on its 20 outstanding years of educational excellence and dedication to scholastic achievement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately last night, May 12, 2009, I was unable to cast my votes on the Motion to Table the Flake Question of Privilege, H. Res. 413 and H. Res. 378 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for rollcall No. 243, on the Motion to Table Representative FLAKE's Question of Privilege, I would have voted "nay."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 244, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 413, Supporting the goals and ideals of "IEEE Engineering the Future" Day on May 13, 2009, I would have voted "yea."

Had I been present for rollcall No. 245, on suspending the Rules and passing H. Res. 378, Recognizing the 30th anniversary of the

election of Margaret Thatcher as the first female Prime Minister of Great Britain, I would have voted "yea."

TRIBUTE TO ANDREA F. BROOKS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Andrea E. Brooks of Indianapolis, Indiana. She passed away on April 25, 2009 at the age of 65. Andrea was a great leader and an inspiration to us all.

As a government servant, Andrea dedicated her career to working with the Department of Veterans Affairs and as a labor activist to the American Federation of Government Employees (AFGE). Her perseverance stemmed from the belief that unions play a necessary role in the fight for fairness and equal justice in the workplace.

Over the course of 30 years, Andrea had led a brilliant career. She served as the National Vice President of Women's and Fair Practices Department at the AFGE. Before that Andrea was Chief Steward, then Vice President, Secretary-Treasurer, Executive Vice President and then President for ten years of the AFGE Local 490 at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Los Angeles, California.

Andrea left behind a legacy of being a visionary activist. Her hope for the union was for it to be a leader for civil rights activism, protecting the rights and freedom of women, minorities and the disabled. Andrea's many accomplishments will continue to motivate everyone who was touched by her work. I extend my deepest condolences to her friends and family as they mourn her passing. My thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

Madam Speaker and esteemed colleagues, I urge you to join me in paying tribute to Andrea E. Brooks for her distinguished service to our Nation's workforce.

HONORING MARK HAWKINS

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Hawkins as he retires from the General Motors Truck Assembly plant after 37 years of service. Mark was the Shop Chairman of UAW Local 598 for the past 20 years and a member of the UAW Local 598 bargaining committee for the past 31 years. A celebration will be held on May 15 to recognize his achievements and life.

A graduate of Beecher High School, Mark has worked tirelessly to advocate on behalf of the employees of General Motors. His skill as a negotiator has earned him the respect of GM Management, UAW Local 598 membership and the UAW international leadership. The National Bargaining Committee elected him to chair the National Negotiations in 1993, 1996 and 2003. Mark negotiated a Living Agreement between UAW Local 598 and GM

Flint Assembly in 1997. This unprecedented agreement secured new work for the plant and a \$500 million investment from the company. He was elected without opposition in his 7th bid for Local 598 chairman. Earlier this year he negotiated a new Local Living Agreement that is serving as the role model for other plants in the United States.

Over the years, Mark has gained a reputation for helping those less fortunate. Starting in 1994, UAW Local 598 membership has donated over \$1 million to feed and clothe needy children. Mark has organized the building of 8 playgrounds at local elementary schools and parks. Responding to the tragedy of September 11, he spearheaded the drive to build two trucks with donated labor and GM components for the New York Fire Department. Across the Nation the UAW and General Motors followed his example and a total of 60 trucks were given to the Fire Department.

The community has recognized his contributions and Mark has received the following awards: 2000 Walter Reuther Award, 2000 Liberty Bell Award, 2001 American Red Cross Hero Award, 2002 Martin Luther King Award, and in 2003 he received the Michigan Parks and Recreation Committee Award.

Mark and his wife, Shelley, have been married for 19 years and have 3 children Joseph, Brandi, and Richard and four grandchildren Brooklyn, Olivia, Chace, and Emma.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to rise with me and applaud the life of Mark Hawkins. He has been diligent in fighting for the rights of the UAW membership. Gifted with vision, tenacity, and mediation he has brought a deep comprehension of both sides of a problem to the negotiating table. Deeply engaged in the struggle to bring dignity to the workplace, Mark Hawkins has been a true friend to workers everywhere. I consider him a friend and have valued his insight and wisdom over the future of the U.S. auto industry. I am a better Congressman for having known Mark and I wish him the best as he starts this new phase of his life.

REVEREND CHARLES E. SMITH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I have the honor of welcoming and recognizing Reverend Charles E. Smith, who just gave the opening prayer before Congress this 13th day of May, 2009. Reverend Smith is the Pastor at Berea Baptist Church in Forest Hill, Texas. He is joined today by his wife Gloria, his children, and several members of his family and church congregation.

Reverend Smith is a native of Texas and a longtime resident of Fort Worth, where he and his wife live with their six children. A graduate of the Southern Bible Institute and of the University of Texas at Arlington, Reverend Smith has served as a spiritual foundation in his community for over 25 years.

Madam Speaker, I commend Reverend Smith for his long-standing service to Fort Worth and to the members of his congregation whom he has so capably served. It is my pleasure to have Reverend Smith here today, and an honor to represent him in the 26th Congressional District of Texas.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALBIO SIRES

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. SIRES. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the RECORD my position on the following votes I missed on May 12, 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 243 to table the motion, "yes" on rollcall 244 on H. Res. 413; and "yes" on rollcall 245 on H. Res. 378.

A TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE OF
STEVEN L. ZELKOWITZ

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Steven L. Zelkowitz, a visionary leader in our community and an inspiration to all of New York.

Steven L. Zelkowitz, an independent energy consultant and attorney, is a senior veteran in New York's energy industry. He began as an attorney in private practice, representing utilities and energy companies for twenty years. He then joined Keyspan Corporation, serving as its General Counsel, Chief Administrative Officer, Executive Vice President, and eventually President of the Energy Assets & Supply Group. At every point in his career, Mr. Zelkowitz distinguished himself by his keen understanding of New York's energy needs, his tireless work ethic, and his loyalty.

Steven L. Zelkowitz has also earned an excellent reputation for supporting local organizations and institutions of higher learning. Mr. Zelkowitz serves on the Board of Trustees of Brooklyn Law School and is chair of its Finance Committee. He is also a member of the Board of Trustees of the Volunteer Lawyers Project of the Brooklyn Bar Association, a member of National Board of Governors of the American Jewish Committee, a member of the American Bar Association and the New York State Bar Association, and a past chair of its Public Utility Law Committee.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Steven L. Zelkowitz, a well-respected leader in Brooklyn's business and educational communities.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Steven L. Zelkowitz.

REMEMBERING THE QUARTERBACK FOR FREEDOM, JACK KEMP

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in somber remembrance of Jack Kemp, who on and off the field, played his position with sure hands and a compassionate heart. That position—as I called it—was Quarterback for Freedom, a role he assumed effortlessly and

selflessly throughout the span of his career. He was a conservative through and through, of that there was no question, but he possessed a great sense of empathy and community, of respect and a fondness for diversity that uniquely set him apart. The story goes that his time on the football field enamored him of his Black colleagues and etched into his mind how repugnant inequality and discrimination could be.

That experience undoubtedly moved him. But it is my belief that such reverence for the dignity of man—regardless of skin color, race, or ethnicity—came innately and naturally to him. For Jack, “compassionate” was not a buzz word placed in front of “conservative” without thought or care. He lived, embodied, and applied compassionate activism to his impressive life’s work, a work outmatched only by his intensity of spirit and undeniable warmth.

“Civility cannot return to our country unless every person feels that they have an equal shot at the American dream,” he once said. “How in the name of American democracy can we say to eastern Europe that democratic capitalism will work there, if we can’t make it work in East L.A., or East Harlem, or East Palo Alto, California? How can we tell South Africa and the new Mandela government that democracy and private property and limited government and the rule of law and civility will work there, if it’s not working in our own backyard here at home or the South Bronx? How can America go into the next century and leave so many people behind?”

Jack was not an ideologue or political lecturer. He emerged as a statesman instead, far more committed to improving the lot of the American people than scoring cheap points in some political game. While we disagreed on some of the issues, most notably his enthusiasm for the Reagan tax cuts, we were in absolute lockstep in our commitment to rebuilding our cities, particularly in terms of housing and economic development. As Housing and Urban Development secretary, Jack met with minority groups, championed public housing, and worked with members like myself, who sat across the aisle, on issues such as revitalizing inner-city neighborhoods through empowerment zones. He served on the Howard University Board of Directors for 14 years, lending his support to President Swygert and the school, including significant personal financial contributions.

When he ran for vice president, Jack campaigned in Harlem, a visit billed as the first from a Republican candidate for president in at least half a century. Many expected raucous demonstrations from the residents in my community—more because of the “R” before his name than because they knew much about Jack Kemp to begin with. No such exchange occurred. I warmly greeted Jack at the local restaurant named Sylvia’s and we traded good-natured barbs: He told me that in a Bob Dole Administration, I would be drug czar; I responded that in a Bill Clinton Administration, I would be Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee.

Jack was a veritable hero and inspiration. It is in that light that we remember him today; in awe of his dedication to accomplishment, in reverence of his conviction.

TRIBUTE TO RICHARD SCOTT
ALDEN, JR.

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, Riverside has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. I rise today to recognize and honor one of those individuals: Richard Scott Alden, Jr. On Friday, May 1, 2009, Scott passed away peacefully at his home after a battle with cancer. He will be deeply missed.

Scott was born April 16, 1953 in Pasadena, California. He graduated from Riverside Poly High School in 1971 and received a football scholarship to Arizona State University. While Scott was a Sun Devil, his team won 51 games, four Western Athletic Conference Championships and four Fiesta Bowls.

Scott was a devoted Christian and was “born again” through Christ September, 1975. He graduated from ASU with a degree in Business Administration in June, 1976 and married Ann Stiles later that year. After graduation, Scott began work with his father, Dick Alden, founder of Empire Oil Company, now Western Refining-Wholesale, as General Manager, and in 1990 was advanced to President.

Scott was active in Harvest Men’s Bible Fellowship, Alliance Petroleum Corporation and served as Chairman of the Advisory Board for The Salvation Army.

Scott was predeceased by his daughter, Jennifer. Survived by his wife, Ann Alden; daughter, Elizabeth Alden of Newport Beach; son, David Alden of Long Beach; parents, Richard Alden of Riverside, and David and Nina Mitchell of Riverside; sister, Michelle Fisher of Aliso Viejo; and brother, Eric Alden of Huntington Beach.

On May 8, 2009, a memorial service celebrating Scott’s life will be held at Harvest Christian Fellowship. Scott will always be remembered for his incredible faith, giving spirit, and sense of humor. His dedication to his family, church and community are a testament to a life lived well and a legacy that will continue. I extend my condolences to Scott’s family and friends; although Scott may be gone, the light and goodness he brought to the world remain and will never be forgotten.

HONORING WILLOW ROAD
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students, faculty and staff of the Willow Road Elementary School and congratulate them upon being honored with the Exemplary Reading Program Award from the International Reading Association.

Every year, the International Reading Association recognizes outstanding reading and language arts programs at all grade levels. One school from each State is given the Ex-

emplary Reading Program Award based on the priority of literacy in the curriculum.

Willow Road Elementary School promotes literacy and focuses on improving the students reading, writing, listening and speaking, devoting a large chunk of the school day towards reading. As a result, the school has been a finalist for the State award for the last two years before finally winning the honor this year.

As a member of the House Committee on Education and Labor, I understand the importance of literacy and recognize the benefits of encouraging our students to start reading at an early age. The future of this country is its children; however, their success would not be possible without the work of the teachers and administrators who dedicate their lives to their students. The teachers and staff of the Willow Road Elementary School are the back-bone of the reading program and I thank them for all that they do on a daily basis.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my congratulations and best wishes to the Willow Road Elementary School.

COMMENDING THE EFFORTS OF
ADAM LAMBERT

HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. BILBRAY. Madam Speaker, today I rise to commend my constituent Adam Lambert for his amazing journey on Season 8 of Fox’s American Idol. Every week Adam has entertained the American public with his artistic renditions of American classics, from Johnny Cash’s “Ring of Fire” to Led Zepplin’s “Whole Lotta Love.” His performances are inspiring young people everywhere to work hard, aim high and follow their dreams.

With still two more weeks of the competition to go, I join with the people of San Diego, California to wish Adam the best of luck. As one of Adam’s favorite artists, Lenny Kravitz once said: “I just need to know that I did the very best I could and that I was true to myself.” Adam, we will be rooting for you and looking forward to your next unique and creative performance.

DELIBERATIVE—ATTORNEY
CLIENT PRIVILEGE

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I would like to submit the following memorandum:

DISCUSSION OF SCIENTIFIC SUPPORT AND
ANALYSIS

The NPRM fails to articulate the process by which the Administrator came to the conclusion on p. 30, line 41–46: “The Administrator believes that the scientific findings in totality point to compelling evidence of human-induced climate change, and that serious risks and potential impacts to public health and welfare have been clearly identified, even if they cannot always be quantified with confidence. The Administrator’s

proposed endangerment finding is based on weighing the scientific evidence, considering the uncertainties, and balancing any benefits to human health, society, or the environment that may also occur.”

The finding document remains very separate from the TSD, with only occasional references to the IPCC or particular CCSP report findings, and it is up to the reader's interpretation of the TSD to determine how the evidence has been weighed to arrive at the conclusions above. The finding rests heavily on the precautionary principle, but the amount of acknowledged lack of understanding about basic facts surrounding GHGs seem to stretch the precautionary principle to providing for regulation in the face of unprecedented uncertainty. (The TSD notes several areas where essential behaviors of GHGs are “not well determined” and “not well understood” (e.g., why have U.S. methane levels decreased recently?).) This could be remedied by expanding the discussion on pp. 25-31 to articulate more clearly how the Administrator weighed the scientific evidence related to each impact or how/whether she gave more or less weight to particular impacts for either the public health or the welfare finding and how she weighed uncertainty in her deliberations.

For example, the NPRM and TSD outline the following 5 human health effects from climate change: temperature effects, air quality changes, extreme events, climate sensitive diseases and aeroallergens. It is unclear whether temperature effects will result in net mortality increases or decreases and the scientific literature does not provide definitive data or conclusions about aeroallergen impacts. Further, the impact of climate sensitive diseases may be minimal in a rich country like the US. Hence, it seems that the Administrator's public health endangerment conclusion is based on the other two impacts, with the most significant health risks being posed by air quality changes. If so, the discussion here should state this explicitly. Further, the argument for why the increases in ozone from climate change pose a health impact could be fleshed out more thoroughly (p. 27, line 34-39). Since tropospheric ozone is already regulated under the Clean Air Act, EPA should explain why those regulations are inadequate to protect public health from the ozone impacts of climate change.

In addition, the finding could be strengthened by including additional information on benefits, costs, and risks (where this information exists); meeting appropriate standards for peer review; and accepted research protocols. Some issues to cover that would address costs, benefits, and risks include the following:

Methodology or methodologies used for weighing risks and various outcomes and the risks associated with each;

Confidence intervals related to model results at the regional and local scales;

Underlying assumptions of findings, publications on which the findings are based, and “business-as-usual” scenarios;

Quality and homogeneity of temperature data from surface networks that may affect estimates of past temperature trends, and calibration and verification of models;

Impacts of climate change on the value of net economic benefits.

The Finding should also acknowledge that EPA has not undertaken a systematic risk analysis or cost-benefit analysis. In the absence of a strong statement of the standards being applied in this decision, there is a concern that EPA is making a finding based on (1) “harm” from substances that have no demonstrated direct health effects, such as respiratory or toxic effects, (2) available scientific data that purports to conclusively es-

tablish the nature and extent of the adverse public health and welfare impacts are almost exclusively from non-EPA sources, and (3) applying a dramatically expanded precautionary principle. If EPA goes forward with a finding of endangerment for all 6 GHGs, it could be establishing a relaxed and expansive new standard for endangerment. Subsequently, EPA would be petitioned to find endangerment and regulate many other “pollutants” for the sake of the precautionary principle (e.g., electromagnetic fields, perchlorates, endocrine disruptors, and noise).

ENDANGERMENT WITHOUT CONSIDERATION OF REGULATORY CONSEQUENCES

EPA should explain whether it considered a finding that methane and the other four non-CO₂ GHGs do in fact contribute to climate change, based on their higher warming potential, but that overriding policy concerns make such a finding infeasible concerning CO₂. Because methane and the other four non-CO₂ GHGs are either already regulated under the CAA or are functionally equivalent to pollutants typically regulated under the CAA, an endangerment finding for these GHGs would be relatively routine. Because GHGs are understood to be long-lived, well-mixed in the atmosphere, and generated by many nations around the globe, the most analogous regulatory approach for controlling GHGs would seem to be Title VI of the CAA. EPA's relevant experience with controlling ozone-depleting substances should inform its decisions on an approach to regulating GHGs.

In contrast, an endangerment finding under section 202 may not be the most appropriate approach for regulating GHGs. Making the decision to regulate CO₂ under the CAA for the first time is likely to have serious economic consequences for regulated entities throughout the U.S. economy, including small businesses and small communities. Should EPA later extend this finding to stationary sources, small businesses and institutions would be subject to costly regulatory programs such as New Source Review.

THE ROLE OF MITIGATION, ADAPTATION, AND/OR BENEFITS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

To the extent that climate change alters our environment, it will create incentives for innovation and adaptation that mitigate the damages from climate change. The document should note this possibility and how it affects the likely impacts of climate change. For example, climate change is likely to unfold slowly and people may migrate from hot regions (e.g., Arizona) to more temperate regions (e.g., Minnesota) and this would mitigate the adverse impacts on health (although people would incur migration costs). Further, climate change is likely to lead to innovation that mitigates the ozone related health impacts; it seems reasonable to assume that in the absence of regulation of GHS, new medicines that lessen the health impacts of ozone will be developed. Moreover, advances in technology and the development of public health programs (e.g., cooling centers) are likely to lessen the negative welfare impacts of heat waves.

Similarly, the document would appear more balanced if it also highlighted whether particular regions of the US would benefit, and to what extent these positive impacts would mitigate negative impacts elsewhere in the United States. For example, it might be reasonable to conclude that Alaska will benefit from warmer winters for both health and economic reasons. Deschenes and Moretti (2007 Review of Economics and Statistics) demonstrate that extremely cold days are more dangerous to human health than extremely hot days. Please add this paper to the literature review in Section 7(a)

of the TSD. Further, there should be a consideration of the fertilizing effect of CO₂, which may overwhelm the negative impact of additional hot days on agricultural yields in some regions of the US. In other regions, the net effect is likely to be negative.

AGENCY COMPLIANCE WITH OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL MANDATES

There is some concern that an endangerment finding, and some of the language used to support the finding, will make it more difficult to comply with NEPA and other environmental planning statutes.

This finding and the associated emission standards for these six greenhouse gases may make it much more expensive and difficult to develop other air quality standards (NAAQS in particular). For example, EPA has recently asked BLM to use models that sometimes exceed current budgets in developing resource management plans and environmental impact statements. Also, there are currently no models available that forecast the potential impacts of greenhouse gases on climate change at the regional or local level, which are the levels at which our decisions are made. This rule also could make findings that would leave agencies vulnerable to litigation alleging “inadequate NEPA” due to new information (i.e., the endangerment finding) that was not considered when the EIS was developed. Without a model available, an agency would be left with little ability to respond because (i) there are no standards to serve as thresholds, (ii) there are no tools to analyze impacts, and (iii) the cost of analyzing impacts could be exorbitant.

Unnecessarily broad or expansive language with respect to the effects of GHGs or the certainty with which effects will occur could create a basis for finding all GHG emissions significant for purposes of NEPA analysis, thus requiring an EIS for all direct and indirect effects that change GHG emissions in any amount. Similarly, EPA should be very careful to state which effects are significant and their scale to avoid unintentionally triggering NEPA for Federal actions not otherwise considered to have environmental impacts.

FOUR CHEMICALS V. SIX CHEMICALS

EPA proposes to make an endangerment finding on six directly emitted and long-lived GHGs—carbon dioxide, methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons and sulfur hexafluoride, treated as a group as an air pollutant. The proposal, however, defines the terms “air pollution” and “air pollutant” for purposes of section 202(a) as the six GHGs, two of which are not addressed in the underlying petition and which EPA recognizes are not emitted by new motor vehicles or motor vehicle engines, and on page two, this action is characterized as a “response” to the Supreme Court's decision in *Massachusetts v. EPA*, 549 U.S. 497 (2007), which arose from a petition with respect to the four GHGs. Although the latter two GHGs have similar characteristics and are addressed in UN documents, it is not clear why they are included in the endangerment and “cause or contribute” findings. While it appears that section 202(a) provides sufficiently broad authority for EPA to do so and the draft explains this decision as based on the uniform, global nature of GHG ambient concentrations, a seemingly simpler regulatory action might be to base the definition of “air pollution” or “air pollutant” on the four GHGs emitted by new motor vehicles or motor vehicle engines.

This raises the question of the extent to which EPA intends or does not intend this finding to extend beyond section 202 to the same terms used in other key parts of the CAA, e.g., section 101(a) (general findings

and purpose), section 108 (National Ambient Air Quality Standards), and section 111(b) (New Source Performance Standards). EPA would benefit from making its position explicit in this proposal. Commenters are sure to take this important issue on in some fashion so EPA may as well do what it can to shape the debate and the comments being invited. For example, it could note that the same terms are important parts of other key CAA provisions, but then state that EPA at this time is only addressing and seeking comment on issues directly associated with section 202. Alternatively, it could state that it views these findings as to GHGs to be broadly applicable to the Act as a whole, but nonetheless make clear that EPA is not in this rulemaking attempting to consider or address any of the other regulatory findings that would be necessary to trigger GHG regulation under other CAA programs. A third option would be to invite comment on whether interested parties believed there was any basis for distinguishing the understanding of the terms in the section 202 context from the understanding of the terms in other parts of the Act.

EPA fails to make a case of why the six GHGs should be treated as a single pollutant and why all six should be treated as a group. Treating the gases as a group yields the indefensible result that emissions of PFCs, SF₆ and HFCs other than HFC-134a from motor vehicles are asserted to “cause or contribute: to air pollution, when there are no such emissions from motor vehicles. Further, EPA states that: “Depending on the circumstances . . . it may be appropriate to set standards for individual gases [of the 6], or some combination of group and individual standards.” EPA asserts that these regulatory flexibilities would exist whether or not greenhouse gases are treated as multiple pollutants or as individual pollutants. [See discussion on page 32–33.]

These greenhouse gases differ significantly in terms of physical properties, formation mechanisms, and possible mitigation techniques.

Mobile source CO₂ is formed by burning fossil fuels. Virtually all of the carbon in the fuel is converted to CO₂. The more efficient the combustion process, the more complete the conversion to CO₂. Unlike for traditional criteria pollutants (e.g., NMHC, CO, NO_x), which can be converted to other substances through emissions aftertreatment (i.e., catalytic converters), no mobile aftertreatment device can convert CO₂ to something that does not contribute to global warming. Therefore, mobile source CO₂ emissions can only be reduced by burning less fossil fuel, either by improving fuel economy or converting to less carbon-intensive fuels.

Mobile source CH₄ and N₂O emissions are by-products of fossil fuel combustion. However, burning less fossil fuel does not necessarily mean reducing CH₄ and N₂O emissions. For example, using methane (CH₄) rather than petroleum could increase CH₄ emissions.

Mobile source HFC emissions arise from releases of HFC refrigerants from mobile air conditioners. Therefore, mobile source HFC emissions can only be reduced by using different refrigerants and/or “hardening” mobile air conditioners to reduce the potential for refrigerant leaks.

Mobile source CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, and HFC emissions not only have different global warming potentials, they remain in the atmosphere for different amounts of time and are removed from the atmosphere by different mechanisms.

In contrast to EPA’s citation of Class I and Class II substances under Title VI, under Title II, EPA treats mobile source NHMC and NO_x as separate pollutants, even though

both are precursors to the formation of tropospheric ozone (i.e., urban smog), and both are mitigated through a combination of fuel improvements. In fact, current catalytic converters operate by converting HC, CO, and NO_x into CH₄, N₂O, and CO₂ (and water)—combustion process changes, and emissions aftertreatment. Considering that mobile source CO₂, CH₄, N₂O, and HFC emissions are even more distinct from one another than are mobile source NHMC and NO_x emissions, and that EPA classifies NMHC and NO_x as separate pollutants, EPA should classify these as separate pollutants or, alternatively, classify CO₂ as one pollutant, classify CH₄ and N₂O as another pollutant (class), and classify HFCs as a third pollutant (class).

ACCOUNTING FOR THE GLOBAL NATURE OF GREENHOUSE GAS POLLUTION IN THE FINDINGS

In this draft proposal, EPA finds under Clean Air Act (CAA) section 202(a) that (1) “air pollution” in the form of the global mix of six greenhouse gases (or the GHGs) may be reasonably anticipated to endanger public health and welfare (the endangerment finding); and (2) emissions of an “air pollutant” in the form of the global mix of the GHGs from new motor vehicles or motor vehicle engines cause or contribute to that air pollution (the contribution finding). The agency characterizes the “global” nature of the GHG emissions and concentrations (page 16), notes the effects of GHG emissions globally in making the endangerment finding (page 29), and assesses the contribution of the GHGs emitted by section 202(a) sources as a percentage of global emissions (page 36).

The proposal appears to assume, but does not explicitly discuss why (or solicit comment on whether) these are relevant legal inquiries under section 202(a) the Clean Air Act. This is virtually certain to be a subject of public comment; and we recommend that EPA directly address this matter in the proposal. EPA also factors international considerations into the endangerment and contribution findings differently. On page 29, the agency states: “The Administrator judges that impacts to public health and welfare occurring within the U.S. alone warrant her proposed endangerment finding.” On page 36, however, EPA bases its finding on the “significance” of the GHG emissions from section 202(a) sources for purposes of the contribution finding in part on their global contribution: It is the Administrator’s judgment that the collective GHG emissions from section 202(a) source categories are significant, whether the comparison is global (over 4 percent of total GHG emissions) or domestic (24 percent of total GHG emissions). The Administrator believes that consideration of the global context is important for the cause or contribute test but that the analysis should not solely consider the global context.

It is unclear from the proposal why a difference in treatment of the two findings is necessary or appropriate. Because the Administrator regards the domestic contribution comparison in itself to be significant, it may be simpler (and less open to challenge) to base the contribution finding solely on domestic considerations. (This would not foreclose a discussion of global contribution, provided, as requested above, it is made clear how relevant this is under section 202(a)).

GROUP VERSUS INDIVIDUAL APPROACH TO “AIR POLLUTANT”

On page 32, EPA proposes to designate the six GHGs, collectively, as the “air pollutant” for which the endangerment finding is being made. The proposal, however, then goes on at pages 33–40 to analyze the contribution issue both as to the six GHGs collectively, and as to each individually. Although EPA hints that it believes either a

collective or individual approach could be valid and would reach similar results, see page 34, the agency never really says expressly whether or not it is soliciting comment on these issues and whether it would be open to considering a pollutant-by-pollutant-based approach for the final rule. We recommend that this be made explicit.

COMMENT SOLICITATION

EPA limits solicitation of comment on the proposal to the simple statements on page six to the effect that it seeks comment on all aspects of this action (data, methodology, and major legal and policy considerations). While this is efficient and legally sufficient, the agency may want to highlight a few key areas in which comment would be most useful. The first two issues that we’ve identified above might be worthy of an express request for comment. EPA may also need to clarify the relationship between comment on this proposal and the July 30, 2008 Advance Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Greenhouse Gas Emissions (ANPR). In footnote 11, EPA indicates that it is responding to a few key comments from the ANPRM in this proposal related to the endangerment and contribution findings and asks commenters to “submit to the docket for today’s action any comments they want EPA to consider as it makes a decision on this proposed determination.” We recommend that EPA move the footnote 11 discussion up to the main body of the proposal at page 6 and explicitly state that commenters may not rely on prior submission of comments to the ANPR and that if parties wish EPA to consider comments made in response to the ANPR or other rulemakings, they should re-submit those comments here with an appropriate explanation as to how the commenter believes those comments relate to issues raised in this proposal. We can imagine a party trying to make out a challenge to this endangerment finding based on arguments that were raised entirely or primarily in comments submitted in response to the ANPR, not this proposal (a prospect that is somewhat more likely due to the fact that EPA in various places discusses comments made in response to the ANPR).

AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION

The proposed Finding erroneously suggests that Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) predicts an increase in both crop and forest production in the U.S. (e.g., pg. 28 lines 21 and 34 of the Proposed Finding, pg. 80 line 26, page 87 line 9). The IPCC findings refer to North America, not the U.S. The Synthesis and Assessment Product 4.3 (SAP 4.3) “The Effects of Climate Change on Agriculture, Land Resources, Water Resources, and Biodiversity in the United States” (U.S. Climate Change Science Program/Backlund et al. 2008), which includes more recent and more geographically-specific publications, tempered IPCC’s findings substantially, citing water limitations, northward progression of production zones, diminished grain set period, pest infestations, nutrient limitations, air pollution, and wildfire, among other dampening factors to production in agriculture and forestry in the U.S. Significant increases in production may be possible within North America as a whole, but are unlikely within the U.S. itself.

The Findings document should be corrected to reflect that IPCC is referring to North America rather than the U.S. More importantly, the Findings document should be revised to accurately reflect the discussion in the Technical Support Document (TSD). In addition, the placement of the IPCC prediction near the beginning of each section in the absence of any summarization gives the impression that large production

increases are conclusive. This overrides the very salient and far more equivocal discussion which follows, leaving readers with the mistaken impression that climate change is a boon to U.S. agriculture and forestry. A summary statement which more accurately reflects the content of the technical discussions should be composed to lead each section.

EMISSIONS FROM THE COMBUSTION OF DIFFERENT FUELS VS. EMISSIONS FROM DIFFERENT MOBILE SOURCE CATEGORIES

Mobile source CO₂ is formed by burning fossil fuels. Virtually all of the carbon in the fuel is converted to CO₂. Therefore, and considering that CO₂ remains in the atmosphere for a long time, national aggregate consumption of different types of fuels provides the most accurate basis for estimating CO₂ emissions. IPCC guidelines for national reporting of GHG emissions account for this fact, and EIA and EPA both use fuel consumption—not vehicle sales and fuel economy—as a basis for estimating and reporting CO₂ emissions. According to the IPCC (emphasis added), “Emissions of CO₂ are best calculated on the basis of the amount and type of fuel combusted (*taken to be equal to the fuel sold*, see section 3.2.1.3) and its carbon content.”²

Such reporting addresses petroleum consumption in the aggregate and for different petroleum-based fuels, such as shown below from EIA (<http://www.eia.doe.gov/oi/af/1605/ggrpt/carbon.html>): 2 http://www.ipcc-ggip.iges.or.jp/public/2006gl/pdf/2_Volume2/V2_3_Ch3_Mobile_Combustion.pdf, p. 3-10.

GENERAL EDITORIAL ISSUES

“New Motor Vehicle or Motor Engine” Reference. The draft sometimes simply refers to emissions from “motor vehicles” rather than emissions from “new motor vehicles or motor vehicle engines.” (The draft could indicate initially that the term “motor vehicle” is intended to refer to both of these.) Statements regarding consideration of current and near-term emissions [page 35], and cumulative emissions [page 17] appear to be inconsistent, and should be clarified. EPA clearly intends that the definition of the “air pollutant” emitted by new motor vehicle or motor engine sources to be the six GHGs. In several places, however, the proposal appears to describe the four GHGs emitted by new motor vehicles or motor vehicle engines as the “air pollutant.” See, e.g., pages 1 (lines 36-37), 2 (lines 24-27), and 36 (lines 34-37).

THE WRONG KIND OF
PARTISANSHIP

HON. BARNEY FRANK

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I have long believed that people who denounce partisanship in general fail to understand the role that responsible political parties can and must play in a functioning democracy. But there are cases when partisanship gets a bad name because of the kind of advocacy it receives, and those of us who believe that partisanship can be a constructive force have an obligation to dissociate ourselves from this. The most recent example of this I have seen was reported in CQ Today on Thursday, May 7, in the article on the front page headlined “Luntz Shapes GOP Messages on Health Care.”

In the article, which summarizes Mr. Luntz’s message and in some cases quotes him di-

rectly, the writer summarizes part of his message as follows: “While Republicans might not be able to get their own ideas enacted, he went on, they could at least stop Democrats from achieving the political victory created by a successful revision of the healthcare system.”

Note, Madam Speaker, that these words are not directly attributed to Mr. Luntz, but I have no reason to think that Mr. Armstrong in any way distorted the essence of Mr. Luntz’s message in his summary. And later in the article, in a direct quote, describing the words that Republicans should use in carrying on their effort to stop the Democrats from a successful health care policy, Mr. Luntz is directly quoted as saying “I could care less about matching the words to the policies . . .”

Madam Speaker, obviously Republican Members of the Congress are free to accept or reject Mr. Luntz’s partisanship of the wrong sort, but it does seem to be relevant that he was invited to address a Republican gathering and was, according to the article, warmly received by many. For example, the gentleman from California, Mr. ISSA, is quoted as saying “We look to him for how do we express the things that we believe in ways that are effective.”

Madam Speaker, the notion that a significant number of Republicans would have as their central purpose in the healthcare debate not adopting a policy or even modifying one, but rather simply preventing the Democrats from being successful in meeting the nation’s healthcare needs, is sufficiently disturbing that I believe this article should be reprinted here so that people can fully understand the dimensions of the debate in which we now find ourselves.

[From CQ Today, May 6, 2009]

LUNTZ SHAPES GOP MESSAGES ON HEALTH CARE

(By Drew Armstrong)

Republican message guru Frank Luntz is back—this time to help Republicans try to win the war of words as they battle Democrats on overhauling health care.

Speaking at a closed-door session with House Republicans on Wednesday, Luntz said the GOP needs to get away from “markets” and focus on “patients.” And while Republicans might not be able to get their own ideas enacted, he went on, they could at least stop Democrats from achieving the political victory created by a successful revision of the health care system.

For example, he said, the GOP should throw private health insurance companies under the bus.

“For 10 years we were carrying the water of the insurance companies because they were backing us on health care,” he said. “Well, they’re not anymore. They’ve sold out, so now you can go right back at them, because the American people blame the insurance companies more than almost anybody else for why health care is such a mess in this country right now. So you don’t have to be nice to them at all.”

A detailed account of the presentation was given to Congressional Quarterly by multiple people who attended the session.

Luntz, the author of the book “Words That Work,” about the political effect of specific phrases and words, offered Republicans a detailed presentation on what language to use when talking about health care and how to attack Democratic proposals, along with a long list of “don’ts.”

Republicans will get little chance to present their own vision, Luntz warned, but

they will have plenty of opportunities to stand in opposition to Democrats.

“You’re not going to get what you want, but you can kill what they’re trying to do,” he said.

Republicans need to start defining specific words on favorable terms in order to win, he said, specifically pointing out President Obama’s promises of a high-quality health care system. And they need to make sure that voters think “quality” means getting the health care they want whenever they want it.

“Don’t let them define it. If you define it this way, they can’t do well,” he said of Democrats. “They can’t provide that treatment. They can’t provide that health care.”

FROM “PRIVATE” TO “PATIENTS”

Much of Luntz’s presentation was an attempt to correct the way Republicans talk with voters about health care. He urged them to stop using economic terminology like “free market” and “private” and to talk instead about “doctors,” “nurses” and “patients.”

“If you use the phrase ‘private health insurance market competition,’ you deserve to be down to 160 seats in the House, because nobody understands that language,” Luntz said.

He also had advice for choosing the photos in mailers sent to constituents: “Get pictures of seniors that look like they make apple pie every day forever, and the children who look so angelic that it just makes you feel compassionate, which I know is sometimes tough for people in this room,” he said.

And he called on Republicans, when describing the consequences of the Democratic proposals, to use language that would scare voters.

“What’s the word that people are afraid of?” Luntz said. “Deny.”

“The idea that a doctor or a hospital would deny care that they need is what frightens them the most about a Washington takeover,” he said.

Luntz came to the presentation with polling data, all done in the last few months, to back him up.

“Each of these words has been carefully chosen. This is not random, this is not gut. I could care less about matching the words to the policies, I have no investment in the words—except that these are the words that the American people want,” he said.

Luntz, who helped craft Republican messages through the 1990s, was a fixture in Washington GOP circles until 2005, when he left for Hollywood after an alleged falling-out with House Republican leader John A. Boehner of Ohio.

He returned to Capitol Hill Wednesday, at the invitation of the House Republican Conference, to try to focus the message on health care.

Gathered in a meeting room of the Cannon House Office Building, lawmakers and aides applauded as Luntz was introduced. “Welcome home!” shouted one attendee.

“We’ve reached out to Frank,” said House Republican Conference Chairman Mike Pence, R-Ind. “I would say, enthusiastically, Frank is back.”

Republicans who attended the meeting said they were glad to have him back. “We look to him for how do we express the things that we believe in ways that are effective,” said Darrell Issa, R-Calif.

“He told us to stop talking like a bunch of wonks and politicians and start talking like people,” said Michael C. Burgess, R-Texas, who has become a prominent voice on health care issues.

RECOMMENDING A CHANGE IN "TONE"

At times, Luntz badgered the members, castigating them for their failures of political acumen—and for the ringtones on their cell phones.

At one point, he was clearly angry over leaks to the media earlier in the day that described parts of his presentation. When an audience member asked if Luntz would e-mail the slides he was using, he fired back, "I will forward you the PowerPoint so that way I can then read it in some newspaper two days from now. What the hell?"

And as Luntz urged members to focus on healthy lifestyles and wellness, Louie Gohmert, R-Texas, piped up: "I don't want to live that kind of life."

"You don't want to live that kind of life?" Luntz asked.

"Yeah, you're eating your BBQ. Clearly you don't want to live that kind of life," he went on, to some laughter.

"Hey, ribs are a food group," an unidentified member called out, to which Luntz responded: "His ribs could actually get up and walk out of the office."

When a cell phone belonging to F. James Sensenbrenner Jr., R-Wis., started ringing, Luntz told a young aide that Sensenbrenner needed to change the ringtone. "That's gonna be your job, when Sensenbrenner comes back in here," Luntz said to the aide, though Sensenbrenner had not actually left the room—and let Luntz know it.

"You need to get him a telephone ring for the 21st century," Luntz continued, "Like 'Play that funky music, white boy.' Something much more interesting."

 RECOGNIZING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK AND THE CHARLOTTE MECKLENBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, in 1962, Congress passed a resolution recognizing the week of May 15 as National Police Week. Today, I want to thank and honor those brave men and women who daily protect and serve our neighborhoods, and those who have given the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty.

I also want to extend a special thanks to the Charlotte Mecklenburg Police Department. This week, 20 officers from the CMPD and the Mecklenburg County Sheriff's Office embarked on a 410-mile bike ride to Washington, DC, to honor the memory of all officers killed in the line of duty. These dedicated servants started the annual ride in 2007 after CMPD Officers Jeff Shelton and Sean Clark were killed. Not only do these officers ride to remember their fallen brothers and sisters, but they also raise money for the National Law Enforcement Memorial Fund, which commemorates the service and sacrifice of law enforcement officers.

We must never forget that we are kept safe because of those who take up the charge as law enforcement officers. This week, I join with the 9th District of North Carolina and my colleagues in honoring and remembering these brave men and women who are the truest example of American heroes.

IN HONOR OF GEORGE AND ROSEMARY ESSEFF

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor George and Rosemary Esseff: entrepreneurs, philanthropists, American patriots and world citizens.

George and Rosemary are being honored this week by Many Mansions, a nonprofit organization in my district that has been providing hope, homes, and life-enriching services to homeless and low-income citizens for 30 years. George and Rosemary are among those who have had a strong and generous hand in Many Mansions' success.

I have the privilege of calling George and Rosemary my friends.

George and Rosemary are the epitome of the American success story. George began his career in 1951 as a chemist/metallurgist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers before striking out on his own and going on to become one of the world's most successful titanium entrepreneurs.

Along the way, George and Rosemary have used their wealth to help those in need also have the opportunity to become successful. One example is \$1 million they donated to Many Mansions for a housing project several years ago—only part of their legacy with Many Mansions.

George and Rosemary are devout Catholics and George's brother, John, is a Monsignor. The family traces their roots to Lebanon. Three years ago, George, Rosemary, John and their grandson, Andrew, traveled to Lebanon to further their humanitarian work, including donating equipment to a hospital. Monsignor Esseff planned to lead a retreat for nuns belonging to the Missionaries of Charity, the order founded by Mother Teresa,

Then war broke out. It was not the first time the Esseffs found themselves in wartime Lebanon and it only cemented their belief that their help is needed and beneficial.

One avenue for their philanthropy is The Esseff Foundation, which they founded in 1979 in memory of his grandfather, George Abdanour Esseff. The Esseff Foundation is a non-political, non-profit organization dedicated to relieving the sufferings of the poor both in America and around the world.

In pursuit of that goal, the foundation funnels its resources to those organizations whose track records demonstrate their abilities to assist and house the homeless, feed and clothe the poor and provide medical care to those in need.

George takes his politics as seriously as he takes business and philanthropy. He spelled out his beliefs and what it means to be a Republican and a patriotic American in an ad titled, "What I Am," that ran in the Washington Post on October 20, 2004.

Mr. Speaker, George and Rosemary Esseff mirror the American Dream and have been instrumental in helping others pull themselves up and realize the Dream for themselves. I know my colleagues will join me in thanking them for being role models for Americans—striving for success honorably and morally and bringing others along with you with generosity and compassion—and in congratulating them for their well deserved honors.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. B.S. TURNER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House today to pay recognition to an important day in the life of a constituent of mine, Mr. B.S. Turner.

In June of 1969, Mr. Turner started a small car dealership based on years of experience in the auto industry. Today, after 40 years of business, Pee Wee Turner Motors remains an example of the entrepreneurial spirit that fulfills the American dream.

I would like to congratulate Mr. Turner for reaching this important professional milestone and recognize him for this important entrepreneurial and professional achievement.

 WOMEN'S HEALTH INSURANCE FAIRNESS ACT OF 2009
HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation that will end practices that obstruct women from attaining affordable insurance policies on the individual market. The Women's Health Insurance Act of 2009 would end discrimination against those women looking for health coverage who either do not have access to an employee-sponsored plan or those who earn too much money to qualify for Medicaid. Recent findings from the Kaiser Family Foundation have shown that 5.7 million American women in 2007 received health insurance on the individual market. During this difficult economic climate and with unemployment rising, it is becoming much more likely that more women will be looking for health coverage through individual insurance markets.

Unfortunately it is common practice in the individual market today to charge women higher premiums than men for the identical coverage. Individual market insurers also can limit coverage due to pregnancy or delivery methods. This is because individual market insurers have the ability to deny coverage based on a "pre-existing condition." For instance, a woman who has had a Cesarean section in the past can currently be charged a higher premium, imposed a waiting period, or denied coverage until she has been sterilized or can no longer bear children. The vast majority of these policies also do not provide coverage for maternity care. These conditions exist today because there is no federal protection to stop these practices on policies sold in the individual market.

Due to the aforementioned problems, the Women's Health Insurance Fairness Act of 2009 is that much more important. This legislation will prevent insurers in the individual market from charging women higher premiums than men. The current practice is gender discrimination and should not be accepted in today's system. This gender rating harms women by not only inflating premiums, but by

blocking women financially from obtaining proper health care coverage. Furthermore, this act will prevent insurers in the individual market from either denying or limiting coverage based on a current or past pregnancy as well as method of delivery. This bill will eliminate the insurers from punishing women who are either pregnant or have been in the past. The bill will also require individual market insurers to provide comprehensive maternity coverage. This legislation will not only save the insurer money, but I believe it will improve the health outcomes of both the mother and the child.

To ensure that individual market insurers enforce these regulations, this bill will provide the Secretary of Health and Human Services with the authority to monitor compliance with this act. The Secretary will be able to assess fines of at least \$10,000 against any health insurance company that fails to submit the required data. The act will also require the Government Accountability Office to issue a report by December 31, 2010. This report will address any remaining problems for women on the individual insurance market throughout the entire country.

This bill will grant more women access to affordable health insurance that will meet their health needs. No longer will women be punished for their gender. I urge my colleagues to support my legislation to prevent this type of gender discrimination in the health insurance market.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF DAVID JENNINGS BROWN, SR.

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of David Jennings Brown, Sr., whose business acumen, community service and family dedication are inspirational.

Acclaimed as a pioneer developer of Silicon Valley and San Francisco Bay Area business parks, David J. Brown is a man of vision, compassion and energy. David began his business career developing and managing commercial and industrial income properties for Newhall Land & Farming Company and Holvick deRegt & Koering. He then became the Regional Vice President of Boise Cascade Building, where he completed the acquisition and commenced the development and management of four major Bay Area Business Parks.

With a vision to create a commercial and industrial real estate development and management company offering the utmost level of integrity and service, David founded Orchard Properties in San Jose, California in 1973. During its 32 years of operations, Orchard Properties developed over 1,400 acres and 7 million square feet of commercial/industrial property in Santa Clara, San Mateo, Alameda, and Sacramento Counties. Through the teamwork of over 200 individuals, Orchard Properties earned numerous awards and special recognitions over the years, including being named Developer of the Year four times. And, as a result, David is being inducted into the "Developer Hall of Fame" by the National Association of Industrial and Office Properties (NAIOP) in May 2009.

Beginning in 2007 NAIOP Silicon Valley felt that it was important to take a moment to reflect upon the significant role that very few individuals have had in shaping the look and feel of Silicon Valley and the role Silicon Valley's Commercial Real Estate community has played in the international business community. Silicon Valley, as we know it today, is the result of the efforts of a few developers who did big things in the 60's and 70's, including building speculative, flexible buildings that allowed high tech companies to expand, contract and change creatively, a visionary concept from the 1960's. It was considered to be very, very risky and was not often attempted. Yet, the NAIOP Developer Hall of Fame honorees were pioneers who took risks, had vision and worked tirelessly building an industry providing a foundation of the entrepreneurial economy that today is replicated around the world.

In 1995, David acquired a ranch located in Wolf Creek Valley outside of Pagosa Springs, Colorado where his family built BootJack Ranch, which has become one of David's true passions. BootJack Ranch is a one-of-a-kind world-class family compound and retreat. The ranch is considered to be one of the finest and most beautiful recreational and fly fishing ranches in the country. The Brown Family enjoys using BootJack Ranch as a tranquil retreat to provide rest, renewal and introspection for their family, Christian ministry leaders, executives and others in need of a place of silence and solitude.

BootJack Ranch is also the backdrop numerous philanthropic events including the annual Music in the Mountains Festival. The Browns also founded the Pagosa Springs affiliate of the Durango festival of the same name in 2001. Music in the Mountains, Pagosa is a world class music festival featuring a wonderful variety of composers, artists and styles from classical to country and Celtic showcased in the beautiful mountain scenery.

David has 3 daughters, 2 sons and 11 grandchildren. He and his wife recently relocated to Paradise Valley, Arizona where David is currently the Vice Chairman of the Mayo Clinic Arizona Leadership Advisory Council.

I would like to thank David for his contributions to the community and commend him on his meaningful and productive career.

TRIBUTE TO RICK MUTH

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Orange County, California are exceptional. Orange County has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Rick Muth is one of these individuals and he is also one of my closest friends. On April 17, 2009, Rick celebrated his 60th birthday with friends and family.

Rick's success in life began with the positive influence from a special teacher at Mater Dei High School. Henry Enriquez encouraged Rick

to join the track team where Rick discovered a talent that he never knew he possessed. Track built Rick's confidence and steered him in the right direction: towards college. Rick attended Santa Ana College where he became the Freshman Vice President and won national honors on the track team. He transferred to the University of Southern California, USC, earned his Bachelor's of Science in Marketing and still holds a spot on the track team's all-time three-mile list. Upon graduation from USC, Rick went to work for a labor relations firm, then spent two years as an administrative trainee in plant construction at Northrop Aircraft. Rick continued his education at Chapman University, where he earned a Master's Degree in Business Administration.

In 1975, Rick joined the ORCO Block Company, Inc. a family-owned business, as assistant office manager. In many ways, Rick had always been a part of the family business. Rick picked up broken pieces of block as a kid, and he repaired wooden pallets, in the summer after the fifth grade, to earn the new bike that he wanted. In his high school and college years, Rick spent his summers making deliveries, taking orders and working with customers. Rick learned the business from the bottom up, and held almost every position in the company. In 1994, Rick ascended to the position of President and currently oversees the day-to-day operations of the multi-million-dollar company. He has continued the development of its extensive product line, directed the company's aggressive expansion and helped maintain ORCO's high industry profile and leadership role.

Throughout his career at ORCO Block Company, Inc. Rick also has continued the legacy that his father established: service, leadership and community. Rick started this legacy in his own community—at ORCO's headquarters in Stanton, California. Rick's father, Pete Muth, established the Stanton Boys and Girls Club, and Rick continued to support the Club by serving as President, assisting with fundraising and guiding the increase in children from 100 to 650. Rick also serves as a Board Member of the Orange County Performing Arts Center and has helped raise approximately \$1.8 million in donations and matching funds. Rick has also contributed to his own industry by serving as former Chairman of the Board for the National Concrete Masonry Association, NCMA, and establishing the NCMA Foundation, which has raised \$6 million to support research and development. Rick and his father Pete were the first father-and-son team to both serve as NCMA Chairman.

Rick has also not forgotten to give back to the schools that gave so much to him. He was a Capital Campaign Committee Member for Mater Dei High School. Additionally, for the past 28 years, as an alumnus for Santa Ana College's Track Team, Rick has raised money, assisted with coaching and provided jobs for members of the track team. At USC, Rick has been a member of the Orange County Planning and Development Council, partial annual scholarship provider to architecture students and former co-chair for the first USC Symphony Orchestra performance in Orange County. Rick also sits on the Business School Advisory Council at Chapman University, and he and his family have donated funds to support the construction of a new library named in honor of the Muth Family and ORCO Block Company, Inc.

Rick has never expected anything in return for his community service, but his contributions have been recognized. Rick was inducted into the Santa Ana College Hall of Fame, honored as "Man of the Year" by Cypress College and awarded the Ethics in Business award by the Freedom Foundation. Rick received the California SBA Business Person of the Year in 2003. In 2001, the Orange County Business Journal and California State University Fullerton presented Rick with the prestigious Family Owned Business Award. In the spirit of the "America Way," Rick started a group called USA Owned/USA Made, to support companies whose products are made in the United States. Rick worked with Congress to pass a proclamation called "Try American Day," celebrated in conjunction with Labor Day. Many states and cities ratified this proclamation and recognized Rick's valuable contribution. However, to Rick, what is even more prestigious than awards or recognition is that in his personal life Rick is a husband of over 30 years to his wife Nancy and father to his two daughters, Veronica, 26, and Stephanie, 25. Rick also enjoys hobbies like wake boarding, snow boarding, being a private pilot and running as a master's track competitor.

Rick's tireless passion for American business and community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Orange County, California. I am proud to call Rick a fellow community member, American and close friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his work and salute him on his 60th birthday.

HONORING OUR MEDICAL HEROES AND HEROINES ON NATIONAL NURSES' RECOGNITION WEEK

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in awe of all the amazing work our nation's nurses accomplish—from the battlefield in Iraq and Afghanistan, to the late-hours in the local hospitals of our communities. These men and women on the frontlines of our health care system deserve our utmost praise, and in this week, we salute their herculean efforts. But in the coming months, as we ambitiously attempt to bolster and reform America's health care, let's keep their concerns and their voices at the forefront. Let's do right by them, as we should by the 45 million uninsured Americans who need our help.

The elimination of health disparities is a central goal of health reform. Minorities are more likely to be uninsured and often experience worse health outcomes. This is unacceptable and has been the case for far too long. If we do health reform right, we have a great opportunity to address the fundamentally inequitable health disparities that plague our nation. The first major step is to get everyone insured, but that is not enough. We must ensure that we have enough primary care, specialty doctors, and registered nurses to serve everyone. We must take steps to improve the health workforce and infrastructure so that insurance veritably translates into access to high-quality care. In addition, we must ensure that the millions of people who are Limited

English Proficient have access to culturally and linguistically appropriate providers and care.

The nearly 2.9 million registered nurses in the United States comprise our nation's largest health care profession. They are an indispensable component in the safety and quality of care for hospitalized patients, and are prepared to meet the different and emerging health care needs of our community. As a founding member of the Congressional Nursing Caucus, with a mandate to educate Congress on all aspects of the nursing profession and how nursing issues impact the delivery of safe, quality care, I will continue to advocate on behalf of these notable professionals.

I honor registered nurse's accomplishments and efforts to improve our health care system, and we should all show our appreciation for the nation's registered nurses—not just this week but at every opportunity throughout the year.

CONGRATULATING THE INDIANA SCHOOL FOR THE DEAF BASEBALL TEAM, 2009 HOY CLASSIC CHAMPIONS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to the Indiana School for the Deaf Baseball Team. Last month, they were crowned the national champions at the Hoy Classic in Fremont, California.

Since the inception of this program four years ago, this was the first time that the Indiana School for the Deaf captured the championship title. I applaud the team for its exceptional performance. This was also the first time that they played on a Varsity Schedule. The team exemplified themselves at the tournament by finishing with a record of 4–1, defeating the host California School for the Deaf by 5–3.

This year's team was led by an impressive roster of talented athletes who were recognized for their outstanding sportsmanship. Pitcher Tyler Crace was named the Most Valuable Player at the event, with 16 strikeouts in nine innings. Tony Dall and Jose Mast were selected for the all-tournament team. I would also like to recognize Will Fetzer, Dylan Osbourne and Trevor Rouse as some of the top players throughout the competition.

It is important to mention that this exceptional achievement would not have been possible without the dedication of first-year Head Coach, Rusty Crace and Assistant Coach, Steve Sorse. With their unwavering support, these coaches pushed the team to reach their full potential. Additionally, the dynamic faculty, staff and student body should be recognized for their enthusiasm and pride in their team.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating this outstanding baseball team, the coaching staff and the school for their marvelous achievement in winning the Hoy Classic championship title and distinguishing themselves as one of the best baseball teams in the nation.

MARISSA BAUM

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

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

The dedication demonstrated by Marissa Baum 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 Marissa Baum 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.

BELATED THANK YOU TO THE MERCHANT MARINERS OF WORLD WAR II ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 12, 2009

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Merchant Mariners who served during World War II. Tasked with delivering troops, tanks, food, airplanes, fuel and other supplies to war theaters, Merchant Mariners suffered the highest casualty rate of any of the branch of the service. Their bravery for our country deserves recognition.

I am a proud cosponsor of H.R. 23, the "Belated Thank You to the Merchant Mariners of World War II Act of 2009." This legislation will provide certain honorably discharged U.S. Merchant Marine veterans with a monthly \$1,000 benefit.

With each passing year, there are fewer surviving Merchant Marine veterans. I urge my colleagues in the House and the Senate to join me in supporting H.R. 23 to give these veterans their recognition.

JOHN BADGETT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud John Badgett who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. John Badgett is a 7th 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 John Badgett 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 John Badgett 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the House floor during Tuesday's three rollcall votes.

Had I been present, I would have voted against tabling the Flake Privileged Resolution, in favor of H. Res. 413, and in favor of H. Res. 378, amended.

DANIEL BENAVIDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

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

The dedication demonstrated by Daniel Benavidez 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 Daniel Benavidez 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 RECOGNITION OF MS. IDA MAE
DUKE RICE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to a special day in the life of a constituent of mine, Ms. Ida Mae Duke Rice.

On May 25, Ms. Rice will celebrate her 100th birthday. To help commemorate this special occasion, her friends and family are holding a celebration on June 20 at Barfield Baptist Church.

Ida Mae Duke Rice was born in Clay County, AL to Steve Morris and Zeda Eudora Duke.

She married Charlie Henry Rice on February 26, 1930 and has five children, 10 grandchildren, 16 great-grandchildren and 1 great-great-grandchild.

Ms. Rice served as an LPN at Lineville Nursing Home and retired after 30 years of service. She is a member of New Fellowship Baptist Church.

I would like to congratulate Ms. Rice on reaching this important milestone in her life, and wish her the happiest of birthdays at this special occasion.

MEGAN BOWEN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Megan Bowen who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Megan Bowen 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 Megan Bowen 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 Megan Bowen 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.

REGARDING INTRODUCTION OF
THE STRATEGIES TO ADDRESS
ANTIMICROBIAL RESISTANCE
(STAAR) ACT

HON. JIM MATHESON

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. MATHESON. Madam Speaker, I rise to re-introduce the "Strategies to Address Antimicrobial Resistance (STAAR) Act," which I believe has the potential to save many thousands of lives by strengthening the United States' response to infectious pathogens, including H1N1 influenza, that are becoming increasingly resistant to existing antimicrobial drugs (antibacterials, antivirals, antifungals, etc.).

I have been working on the issue of antimicrobial resistance for several years and it is alarming how often reports of resistant infections now appear. I do not believe the public health community simply is crying "wolf." We no longer can be complacent.

When I first introduced this bill two years ago, we were facing reports of extensively-drug resistant tuberculosis (XDR-TB) and fears of an Avian flu pandemic. Over the last few weeks, we all have followed the H1N1 influenza outbreak as we ramped up our awareness of influenza mitigation strategies and the impact of infectious pathogens. What received

less attention is the fact that H1N1 is resistant to some of the drugs in our arsenal. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) will continue to watch the spread and evolution of this pathogen as flu season hits the southern hemisphere. Hopefully, we again will buy some time before we truly face a pandemic. But, now the possibility of a pandemic has become real to many of us. We have been forced to think about how quickly an infection can spread, especially in the age of international air travel, and the disastrous result if it were a strain of bacteria that failed to respond to our current antiviral drugs.

Another resistant infection that caught our attention over the past year is community-acquired methicillin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (CA-MRSA). Historically, this infection was acquired during a hospital stay, but now is impacting young, healthy people and spreading in our communities. We've heard stories of high school, college and professional athletes losing their lives or careers as a result of these infections. Many of our constituents are facing serious illness and death due to MRSA infections. Sadly, this infection has become far too common, difficult to treat and has few options to fight it. It can leave individuals disfigured, if they survive. In my own state of Utah, the number of children with MRSA infections at the Primary Children's Medical Center in Salt Lake City has increased by almost 20 fold over the past two decades.

There are still more infections to worry about. We have numerous reports of our soldiers coming home from Iraq and Afghanistan with *Acinetobacter*—a resistant bacterial infection that is especially difficult to treat and the only option is a very toxic antibiotic.

Other examples of concern include vancomycin-resistant *Staphylococcus aureus* (VRSA), an alarming development because vancomycin is the drug of last resort for treating several serious infections, and *Escherichia coli* (E.coli), which has caused outbreaks due to contamination of spinach, peanut butter, and other foods we regularly consume.

Madam Speaker, I believe strongly that this year we must take this issue seriously and ensure we have the public health infrastructure in place to both monitor and respond to these emerging drug resistant infections. The STAAR Act is the most comprehensive legislation introduced to date to address this serious and life-threatening patient safety and public health problem. We must act now to begin to reverse the alarming trend, and infectious disease experts tell me that the multi-pronged approaches contained in the STAAR Act provides our best chance to address the multiple problems that face us.

We have taken antimicrobial drug development for granted. Few of us remember medicine before the discovery of antibacterial and antiviral drugs. Antibacterial drugs in particular have allowed many medical advances, including routine invasive surgeries, organ transplants, and other procedures that otherwise would be impossible due to resulting infections. But we are falling behind in our ability to protect ourselves against infections, and we have a lot of catching up to do. Fifteen years ago, the Congressional Office of Technology Assessment (OTA) examined the problem of antimicrobial resistance and reported to Congress that "The impacts of antibiotic-resistant

bacteria can be reduced by preserving the effectiveness of current antibiotics through infection control, vaccination and prudent use of antibiotics, and by developing new antibiotics specifically to treat infections caused by antibiotic-resistant bacteria."

In addition, there are problems of significant and inappropriate use of antimicrobials; a lack of adequate research to address the many facets of resistance, including basic, clinical, interventional, and epidemiologic research as well as research to support the development of new diagnostics, biologics, devices and, of course, drugs; a fractured and under-funded resistance surveillance system; and insufficient coordination of the federal response, which is critically needed as the solutions to addressing antimicrobial resistance involve multiple agencies and departments.

To begin to respond to the drug resistance problem, eight years ago Congress passed legislation that became Section 319E, "Combating Antimicrobial Resistance" of the Public Health Service Act. This law directed the Secretary to establish an Antimicrobial Resistance Task Force to coordinate Federal programs relating to antimicrobial resistance; required research and development of new antimicrobial drugs and diagnostics; established educational programs for medical and health personnel in the use of these drugs; and established demonstration grants for programs promoting the judicious use of antimicrobial drugs and the detection and control of the spread of antimicrobial-resistant pathogens. Authorization for these programs expired September 30, 2006. The STAAR Act reauthorizes these programs and builds on the Federal efforts that have been highlighted in the Public Health Service Action Plan to Combat Antimicrobial Resistance, published in 2001 by the Task Force.

The Action Plan identified thirteen key elements (out of 84 elements) as top priority action items that are critically necessary to address the growing resistance crisis. Regrettably, the Action Plan has never been funded.

In spite of these past efforts to address the problem, antimicrobial resistance continues to grow. In 2004, the Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA) published, "Bad Bugs, No Drugs: As Antibiotic Discovery Stagnates a Public Health Crisis Brews" to highlight the lack of research and development for new antibiotics. Updates to this report continue to make the case that we need to do more. Antibacterial drugs are not profitable compared to those that treat chronic (long-term) conditions and lifestyle issues. In addition, when a new antibiotic comes on the market, it is discouraged from use to avoid the development of resistance. Also, antibiotics are taken for short periods of time—unlike those for chronic disease which may be taken daily. As a result, big pharmaceutical companies have pretty much turned their back on antibiotic development. IDSA has published several other reports that support many of the provisions found in the STAAR Act.

The "Strategies to Address Antimicrobial Resistance (STAAR) Act" is comprehensive legislation that advances the thirteen key elements identified in the federal Action Plan and authorizes adequate funding for these strategies.

My bill strengthens existing efforts by establishing an Antimicrobial Resistance office (ARO) within the Office of the Secretary of

Health and Human Services. The Director of the ARO would serve as the director of the existing interagency task force and work in conjunction with the many Federal agencies which share responsibility to address antimicrobial resistance to ensure accountability and progress on the Action Plan. Also, to encourage input from experts outside the federal government, and to ensure accountability, my bill would establish a Public Health Antimicrobial Advisory Board (PHAAB) to provide much needed advice about antimicrobial resistance and strategies to address it. The STAAR Act will strengthen existing surveillance, data collection, and research activities as a means to reduce the inappropriate use of antimicrobials, develop and test new interventions to limit the spread of resistant organisms, and foster the development of new tools to detect, prevent and treat these "bad bugs." Infectious diseases experts have said they strongly support this multi-faceted, strategic approach.

The STAAR Act has been endorsed by a number of organizations, including: Infectious Diseases Society of America (IDSA), American Academy of Family Physicians (AAFP), Alliance for the Prudent Use of Antibiotics (APUA); American Association of Critical-Care Nurses (AACN); National Parent-Teacher Association (PTA); American Public Health Association (APHA); National Foundation for Infectious Diseases (NFID); Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE); and Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction Coalition (MARA); American Society of Health-System Pharmacists (ASHP); Association for Professionals in Infection Control and Epidemiology (APIC); International Society of Microbial Resistance (ISMR); Michigan Antibiotic Resistance Reduction Coalition (MARA); National Athletic Trainers Association (NATA); Society of Infectious Diseases Pharmacists (SIDP); and Trust for America's Health (TFAH).

This legislation has been a long time coming. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation and to work with me to give our federal agencies the tools they need to ensure that combating antimicrobial resistance becomes a priority.

NATHAN BOECK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nathan Boeck who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nathan Boeck is an 8th 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 Nathan Boeck 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 Nathan Boeck 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was unable to get to the House floor in time on Wednesday, May 6, 2009, and therefore unable to cast a vote on the House floor that afternoon.

However, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 348, congratulating the University of North Carolina men's basketball team for winning the 2009 NCAA Division I Men's Basketball National Championship.

SHELBY BEAN

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

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

The dedication demonstrated by Shelby Bean 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 Shelby Bean 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.

TEN HONORED AT ANNUAL SENIOR HALL OF FAME BREAKFAST

HON. ROBERT WEXLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. WEXLER. Madam Speaker, today in Tamarac, Florida, ten outstanding Broward elders will be honored at the Annual Senior Hall of Fame Breakfast. These ten seniors being honored have volunteered in their communities and have spent countless hours helping others. Their outstanding character and compassion have truly set them apart and make them worthy of this prestigious honor.

Dorothy Arbogast of Pembroke Pines, who has been battling Lupus for many decades, has been volunteering with the Senior Companion Program since 2004, serving over 3,300 hours with people with tremendous physical, developmental, and emotional needs; as well as frail elders in their homes; adult day care centers; and providing relief to caregivers

caring for loved ones with Alzheimer's. Dorothy also volunteers with the Lupus Foundation, the Street People of Oakland Park, Cancer Foundation and Leeza's Place, and serves with great compassion, dedication, and humility.

Mayor Samuel S. Brown of Lauderdale Lakes was elected mayor in 1998, and under his leadership, the City made numerous positive strides in redevelopment and capital improvement, while continuing to provide quality services to its residents. A unifying force in the community, Mayor Brown is involved in many charitable and philanthropic efforts and has been responsible for overseeing several community service projects. He also organizes an annual Thanksgiving Food Drive for seniors and has made it possible for hundreds of needy children to receive gifts during the holidays through the Angel Tree Gift Giving Program.

Joan Fink of Hillsboro Beach has devoted time to the Northeast Focal Point Senior Center for over 12 years and is currently Treasurer of the Children's, Alzheimer's, Seniors and Adult Services (CASA) Board of Directors, Auxiliary, and Child Development Center. She is active in many fundraising events, including the annual Auxiliary Fashion Show and the "Cuisine of the Region." Joan has also volunteered at the North Broward Medical Center and has been a member and recording secretary of the American Association of University Women—Pompano Beach Chapter for the past 13 years, where she has helped raise funds to promote educational scholarships for women.

Hazel Haas of Margate has used her formal theater education and vast experience with the performing arts to improve the lives of Broward County residents since 1989, adding humor to her volunteering efforts with several organizations, including the Northwest Medical Center and the Margate Chapter of the Parkinson's Support Group, and she shares her warmth, humor and knowledge of the community by presenting sessions for Continuing Education Credit at the Aging & Disability Resource Center's Annual Broward Aging Network Conference. Hazel's mother, Nettie Gross, was honored as a member of the Senior Hall of Fame in 1993, and for the past five years, Hazel has facilitated the link between generations by funding the Nettie Baron Gross Memorial Scholarship for Broward College students studying issues impacting seniors' lives.

Judy Henry of Tamarac has been volunteering for many years for a number of organizations, serving as President of American Woman's ORT, President of the Coral Springs Soccer Association, and as a Board Member as one of the Founding Families of Temple Beth Orr of Coral Springs. Judy has dedicated her time to the Jewish Federation of Greater Fort Lauderdale and the United Way of Broward County, and through her role as a Board Member of Cooperative Feeding, she has assisted in providing food, counseling and other basic needs for the homeless. She has also initiated mail boxes for the homeless, and as President of Volunteer Broward, has been working on an agricultural project, teaching neighborhoods how to garden and grow food for themselves.

Mayor Judy Paul of Davie has worked tirelessly for Broward County, as she is active on the boards of the 4-H Foundation, Broward County Farm Bureau, Junior Achievement,

Davie Area Land Trust, Broward Extension Foundation, Davie Boys and Girls Club, and South Florida Trail Riders. Mayor Paul served on the Davie Town Council from 1998 to 2007, as well as the Davie Charter Review Board from 1996 to 2007, and is President of the Friends of Davie Farm Park, Inc., and an honorary member of the Board of Directors for Old Davie School. A retired teacher, Mayor Paul is outspoken about caring for the environment, promoting enhancing green space and working on projects to provide the general public opportunities to learn more about agriculture.

Mayor Sylvia Poitier is a lifelong resident of Deerfield Beach and served on the City Commission from 1973 to 1985 and from 2005 until today, serving as Mayor in 1976 to 77 and acting Mayor since December 2008, as well as the County Commission from 1986 to 1998, and has committed herself to providing affordable housing to residents and senior program funding during her time in office. Mayor Poitier has also volunteered for many social service boards and committees, has served as an advocate for senior, Alzheimer's, and children services, as well as intergenerational programs. She is currently Chair for the Community Action Agency, a Member of the Salvation Army Board, and was the First African American President of the Broward County Council of Parent-Teacher associations.

Marcia Slow Sandler of Pembroke Pines has been working tirelessly for over 15 years in many capacities, including President and Member of the Children's Cancer Caring Broward Chapter and Founder of the Angels in the Outfield Chapter of Joe DiMaggio Children's Hospital. She has also been a contributor to social service fundraising activities and served four years on the Aging & Disability Resource Center's Advisory Council, where she secured Fair Share Appropriations from local municipalities.

Senator Nan H. Rich is a lifelong resident of Weston and serves District 34 in the Florida Senate. Prior to entering politics, Nan devoted many years to volunteering with children and the handicapped, and in Tallahassee, her commitment to elders has been evidenced repeatedly through her voice and her actions, continuing to seek and secure critical funding for necessary services. Senator Rich is active on various boards in the religious sector and is highly respected as the true voice of reason in an atmosphere that too often disregards the oppressed and the victimized.

Greta Silver of Coconut Creek has an enthusiasm and energy that make her an invaluable volunteer at the Alzheimer's Family Center, where she helps clients to cope with their fears and frustrations. As a talented journalist, Greta also writes a quarterly newsletter called "The Volunteer Vine," and in December 2008 she coordinated a Holiday Volunteer Day for the Center, planning lunch, entertainment, favors, centerpieces, and guest speakers. Greta is also a trained volunteer for the Project Lifesaver Safety Program and is extremely active within her homeowner's association.

Madam Speaker, I would like to again congratulate these ten outstanding Broward County citizens who are being honored at the Annual Senior Hall of Fame, and thank them for their years of service to their fellow Floridians.

GABRIEL BARRIOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Gabriel Barrios who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Gabriel Barrios 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 Gabriel Barrios 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 Gabriel Barrios 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.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGHWAY TRUST FUND FAIRNESS ACT

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Highway Trust Fund Fairness Act of 2009. I urge all of my colleagues to support this common-sense legislation.

This year, Congress is tasked with the much larger mission of reauthorizing the country's surface transportation programs to meet the needs of a constantly-evolving highway and transit system. Later this year, we will have to really look at ways to make the Highway Trust Fund more solvent, but in the meantime, we can make smaller changes that would help ease the burden.

The Highway Trust Fund Fairness Act does just that. It allows the Highway Trust Fund to be treated like other federal trust funds by allowing refunds and credits through the General Fund. The bill will also allow the Highway Trust Fund to accrue interest on its balance. These are very basic, common-sense changes that will save money in the long-run.

In 1962, President John F. Kennedy created National Transportation Week. He recognized that transportation was fast becoming one of the most sensitive and important issues facing our nation. It affects every person, every day. How do you get to and from school and work safely and efficiently every day? How do you visit family, friends, and loved ones?

When I was first elected to Congress, I served on what was then the Public Works and Transportation Committee. It is now the Transportation and Infrastructure Committee chaired by my good friend and colleague Mr. OBERSTAR. I went on to eventually serve on the Ways and Means Committee where I chair the Oversight Subcommittee. Although we

don't work directly on transportation issues in this Committee, we do have the opportunity to deal with how our nation's infrastructure is funded.

The Highway Trust Fund was established in 1956 to provide a dedicated source of federal support for highways and transit programs across the country. Unfortunately, the Highway Trust Fund's balance continues to diminish every year. First and foremost, the Highway Trust Fund is financed primarily through fuel taxes. Combined with high gas prices last year and greener living, people are driving less. This means there is less money going into the Trust Fund. Second, the projects funded out of the Trust Fund are more costly. Consequently fewer initiatives can be funded from the Trust Fund.

As you can see, Madam Speaker, since National Transportation Week was first created, our Nation's transportation and infrastructure has become much more complex—as has our economy. Jobs are created where there is good connectivity—roads, trains, bridges, public transit, walkable, bikable streets and communities. Before we tackle these larger issues, we can start with the basics. I urge all of my colleagues to support this very simple legislation.

NATE BURIANAK

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Nate Burianak who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Nate Burianak is an 8th 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 Nate Burianak 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 Nate Burianak 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.

CONGRATULATING CATERPILLAR,
INC.

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. FOSTER. Madam Speaker, I am submitting this statement to express congratulations to Caterpillar, Inc. for their receiving EPA's Clean Air Excellence Award.

Caterpillar was honored for developing its D7E, a revolutionary new bulldozer that consumes up to 30 percent less fuel and performs necessary construction operations 25 percent more efficiently. These impressive increases in

efficiency will allow construction workers, miners and other earthmoving workers to do their jobs while emitting significantly fewer carbon dioxide emissions.

After more than two years of research, the D7E represents exactly the kinds of new technology we need to move our country and our economy into the 21st Century. Its electric drive is a platform from which Caterpillar can begin exploring the possible use of alternative fuels to power American construction.

Production of these innovative tractors is set to begin later this year in my home state of Illinois. As a former small businessman myself, and one who worked to keep manufacturing jobs in the Midwest, I would like to further congratulate Caterpillar for its commitment to reinvest in the communities that have supported them for nearly 100 years.

It is my honor to represent the employees of Caterpillar's Aurora, Montgomery and Dixon manufacturing facilities, and I thank them for all their hard work.

ROSALINDA BUSTILLOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rosalinda Bustillos who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Rosalinda Bustillos 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 Rosalinda Bustillos 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 Rosalinda Bustillos 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.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. CHRISTA
ALTMAN

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Christa Altman for her service to the students at St. Aloysius Gonzaga Academy in Shepherdsville, Kentucky. She was recognized with the Catholic Education Foundation's Teacher Award.

Ms. Altman is devoted to making sure the students that pass through her classroom receive the best education possible. Her first-grade class consistently performs near the top on the school's annual test that measures student achievement.

Ms. Altman's positive influence on her students is also evident outside of the classroom.

She regularly volunteers for school activities and important causes, such as raising funds for St. Jude Children's Research Hospital. By showing this spirit of volunteerism, Ms. Altman is inspiring future generations to make a difference in their communities.

Ms. Altman's passion for making a difference in the lives of her students is an example for all Kentuckians to follow. I thank Ms. Altman for her commitment to the students in Shepherdsville.

IN HONOR OF THE RETIREMENT
OF COLONEL JAMES GEURTS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of Colonel James Geurts, United States Air Force, on the occasion of his retirement after twenty-two years of dedicated service to this Nation.

A distinguished graduate of the Lehigh University and the Air Force's Institute of Technology, Colonel Geurts was commissioned as an officer in the Air Force in 1987. He has served as a career acquisition program manager with engineering and program management experience in numerous weapon systems including Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles, surveillance platforms, tactical fighter aircraft, stealth cruise missiles, and special operations manned and unmanned aircraft.

As the Program Executive Officer for Fixed Wing at United States Special Operations Command, Colonel Geurts spearheaded the largest recapitalization and growth of Special Operations Forces Air Component fleet in its 22 year history. More than anyone else, Colonel Geurts helped shape the future of Special Operations aviation.

Colonel Geurts was instrumental in planning and executing numerous urgent deployment acquisition programs in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi freedom. He fielded multiple aircraft, which led the Secretary of Defense to proclaim his efforts as "the single greatest expansion of Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance capability flowing to the United States troops."

Colonel Geurts' distinguished career is marked by numerous awards and decorations that include the 2008 Packard Award, the Global War on Terrorism Advanced Concept Technology Demonstration Transition Team of the Year, and the William Perry Award. In addition, he has been awarded the Legion of Merit, Defense Meritorious Service Medal (1 oak leaf cluster), Meritorious Service Medal, Air Force Commendation Medal, Joint Service Achievement Medal (1 oak leaf cluster), and the Air Force Achievement Medal (1 oak leaf cluster).

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I express our appreciation of Colonel Geurts for his tireless service and support of the warfighter. His professionalism, expertise, and efforts showcase his patriotism, and his dedication to the Special Operators in the field: Colonel James Geurts is truly a great American.

I congratulate Colonel Geurts on completing an exceptional military career and am humbled by his dedicated service to our Nation. I

wish Colonel Geurts, his wife Kelly, and their sons Jimmy and Brandon many blessings and much success as he begins his future endeavors and embarks on new adventures.

Cindy's passion for teaching is evident inside and outside the classroom, and I am proud to congratulate her today for this important recognition.

A TRIBUTE TO MS. PATTY NEVITT

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. GUTHRIE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Patty Nevitt for her service to the students at Bethlehem High School in Bardstown, Kentucky. She was recognized with the Catholic Education Foundation's Teacher Award.

Ms. Nevitt primarily works with special needs students in the Marlona Ice Learning Center. She pushes her students to reach their maximum academic potential while providing the assistance the students need to be successful in the classroom.

In addition to her full case load of students, Ms. Nevitt also works with teachers to develop instructional practices to ensure the success of all students. Her leadership and willingness to serve in whatever capacity she is most needed to make her a valuable asset to Bethlehem High School.

Ms. Nevitt's passion for making a difference in the lives of her students and teachers is an example for all Kentuckians to follow. I thank Ms. Nevitt for her commitment to the students and teachers in Bardstown.

IN RECOGNITION OF CYNTHIA C. SNIDER

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to a constituent of mine, Mrs. Cynthia C. Snider.

Cindy has been named Teacher of the Year at Ohatchee High School in Ohatchee, Alabama for the 2008–09 school year.

Cindy was born in Mississippi to Eugene and Bobbie Champion and was the oldest of five children. Her paternal grandmother, Carol Champion, was a teacher in Highland Home, Alabama and always encouraged Cindy to love learning. Cindy grew up in Montgomery, Alabama and graduated from Auburn University with a degree in Accounting.

After spending her career working as an English as a Second Language Instructor for Anniston City Schools, she went back to school at Jacksonville State University and earned her teaching certificate.

She has been the Spanish Teacher at Ohatchee High School since 2005.

VERONICA BELL

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

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

The dedication demonstrated by Veronica Bell 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 Veronica Bell 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, May 14, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MAY 15

9:30 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Robert M. Groves, of Michigan, to be Director of the Census, Department of Commerce. SD-342

MAY 19

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and the Future Years Defense Program. SH-216

10 a.m.
Finance
Energy, Natural Resources, and Infrastructure Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine oil and gas tax provisions, focusing on the President's Fiscal Year 2010 budget proposal. SD-215

Environment and Public Works
To hold hearings to examine business opportunities and climate policy. SD-406

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 982, to protect the public health by providing the Food and Drug Administration with certain authority to regulate tobacco products, and any pending nominations. SD-430

Judiciary
Administrative Oversight and the Courts Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine protecting Americans, focusing on holding foreign manufacturers accountable. SD-226

10:15 a.m.
Appropriations
Energy and Water Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine funding and oversight of the Department of Energy. SD-138

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine challenges and opportunities for U.S.-China cooperation on climate change. SD-419

11 a.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of J. Randolph Babbitt, of Virginia, to be Administrator of the Federal Aviation Administration, and John D. Porcari, of Maryland, to be Deputy Secretary, both of the Department of Transportation, Rebecca M. Blank, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Economic Affairs, and Lawrence E. Strickling, of Illinois, to be Assistant Secretary for Communications and Information, both of the Department of Commerce, and Aneesh Chopra, to be Chief Technology Officer, Office of Science and Technology Policy at the Executive Office of the President. SR-253

2:15 p.m.
Foreign Relations
Business meeting to consider pending calendar business. S-116, Capitol

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine pathways to a green global economic recovery. SD-419

2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Discount Pricing Consumer Protection Act, focusing on a ban on vertical price fixing. SD-226

Appropriations
Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Defense and the Department of the Navy military construction programs. SD-138

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine public health challenges in our nation's capital. SD-342

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. S-407, Capitol

MAY 20

9:30 a.m.
Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Troubled Asset Relief Program (TARP). SD-538

Appropriations
State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of State. SD-192

10 a.m.
Judiciary
Immigration, Refugees and Border Security Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine securing the border and America's points of entry. SD-226

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine oil and the economy, focusing on the impact of rising global demand on the United States recovery. 210, Cannon Building

2 p.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine foreign policy priorities in the President's fiscal year 2010 international affairs budget. SH-216

Armed Services
Strategic Forces Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for military space programs; to be possibly followed by a closed session in SVC-217. SR-232A

Aging
To hold hearings to examine pension plans. SR-432

2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
Crime and Drugs Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine criminal prosecution as a deterrent to health care fraud. SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
Business meeting to consider S. 717, to modernize cancer research, increase access to preventative cancer services, provide cancer treatment and survivorship initiatives, and any pending nominations. SD-430

Armed Services
Personnel Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2010 and Future Years Defense Program for active component, reserve component, and civilian personnel programs. SR-222

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2:30 a.m.
Intelligence
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Stephen Woolman Preston, of the District of Columbia, to be General Counsel of the Central Intelligence Agency, and Robert S. Litt, of Maryland, to be General Counsel of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence. SH-216

9:30 a.m.
Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine a new strategy for Afghanistan and Pakistan. SD-419

Veterans' Affairs
Business meeting to markup pending legislation. SR-418

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Science and Space Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for NASA. SR-253