

world. Our nation is fortunate to have his service.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, I missed the following votes on June 8, 2009. I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall vote 311—H.R. 1736—International Science and Technology Cooperation Act of 2009 (Representative BAIRD—Science and Technology)—“yea”

(2) Rollcall vote 312—H.R. 1709—STEM Education Coordination Act of 2009 (Representative GORDON—Science and Technology)—“yea.”

(3) Rollcall vote 313—H. Res. 420—Celebrating the symbol of the United States flag and supporting the goals and ideals of Flag Day (Representative LATT—Oversight and Government Reform)—“aye.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HENRY C. “HANK” JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably detained and was unable to vote on Thursday, the 4th of June. Had I been present, I would have voted: “No” on rollcall vote No. 309, On Motion to Recommit with Instructions to H.R. 626.

“Yea” on Final Passage of H.R. 626, Federal Employees Paid Parental Leave Act of 2009.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Monday, June 8, 2009, I was not present for 3 recorded votes. Please let the record show that had I been present, I would have voted the following way:

Roll No. 311—“yea,” Roll No. 312—“yea,” Roll No. 313—“yea.”

IN HONOR OF JAMES E. LEIGHTY,
LIEUTENANT COLONEL, USMC

HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lieutenant Colonel James E. Leighty, USMC, upon his retirement after twenty years of service to the Marine Corps and to the Nation. My initial experience with Lt. Col. Leighty was when he was selected to serve as a Congressional Fellow in my office

in 2004. During this period, he displayed a dedication to duty and a maturity that represent the finest attributes of the men and women wearing our Nation’s uniform. After completing his fellowship, Lt. Col. Leighty was assigned to the Pentagon, assuming the vitally important position as the principal Marine Corps Appropriations Liaison Officer. In that capacity, he was the primary source of information and education regarding Marine Corps programs for the Members and staff of the Congress’ Appropriations Committees. Lt. Col. Leighty was instrumental in articulating Marine Corps requirements on a wide range of issues, from the needs of our Wounded Warriors and their families to the requirements of Marines on the front lines in Iraq.

In addition, Lt. Col. Leighty often accompanied Members of Congress and their staff on official travel to various locations around the world. During these trips, he was always focused, enthusiastic and totally knowledgeable on the Marine Corps. He provided valuable insights to all those he accompanied.

Lt. Col. Leighty was born in Roseburg, OR and graduated from the University of Rochester in 1989 with a degree in Economics and Political Science, and received his commission through the NROTC program. His various assignments included a tour as a Budget Officer with the Marine Corps Systems Command in Quantico, VA, Deputy Comptroller for the 3d Marine Division in Okinawa, Comptroller for the 12th Marine Corps District aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego, and analyst within Programs & Resources, Headquarters Marine Corps. He has attended the Amphibious Warfare School at Quantico, and the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California.

Lt. Col. Leighty’s personal awards include the Meritorious Service Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I wish to express my sincere thanks for his hard work, selfless service, and dedication to the Marine Corps. I want to personally wish him and Jayne continued success in all their future endeavors.

A TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE OF
RONALD LAW

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ronald Law, a dedicated public servant of New York.

Ronald Law has spent his career in both public and private sectors as an advocate for education, health care, community development, business management and human rights. Mr. Law has held key positions in city, state and federal government. He has served two governors, a United States Senator and New York City Mayor. He has an undergraduate degree from the State University of New York at New Paltz and is a graduate of Harvard University’s Kennedy School of Government.

Mr. Law began his career in 1976 as a member of the advance and scheduling team for the mayoral candidacy of then Manhattan Borough President Percy Sutton. In 1978 he

joined the staff of Governor Hugh L. Carey, as a confidential assistant. In July of 1985 Mr. Law was appointed Executive Director of the Paul Robeson Health Organization in Central Harlem, a fee-for-service health care facility offering 32 medical services. Upon leaving the Paul Robeson Health Organization, he became the Executive Director of the Center for the City, an organization sponsored by the New York City Council of Churches. Mr. Law directed IDS education, drug prevention, emergency shelter and community outreach for this organization.

In 1990, Governor Mario M. Cuomo appointed Mr. Law Director of the New York State Crisis Prevention Unit within the New York State Division of Human Rights. In 1993, Mr. Law joined the staff of the U.S. Senator Daniel Patrick Moynihan as the New York Regional Director. In 1996, he joined Mayor Rudolph W. Giuliani’s administration as the chief of staff for Deputy Mayor Rudy Washington. Today he is the Director of Intergovernmental Relations for Metro Plus Health Plan, a subsidiary of the New York City Health & Hospitals Corporation.

Mr. Law is a member of the New Paltz Foundation which raises funds for scholarships, campus programs and student/faculty mentoring experiences. Mr. Law has published an article on health care in *The Review of Black Political Economy*.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ronald Law and his many contributions to New York.

KAITLYN MAZZONE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kaitlyn Mazzone who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kaitlyn Mazzone is a senior 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 Kaitlyn Mazzone 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 Kaitlyn Mazzone 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.

HONORING SCOTT ROWE FOR HIS
APPOINTMENT TO THE UNITED
STATES NAVAL ACADEMY

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a young man from

Georgia's 11th Congressional District who has distinguished himself as an excellent student and leader and has committed to serving his country. I am proud to announce that Scott Rowe from Kennesaw, Georgia has received an appointment to the United States Naval Academy. Scott attends Harrison High School, where he has a 3.75 Grade Point Average and has earned the College Board AP Scholar Award. Scott is also a member of Mensa. In addition to Scott's focus on academics, he has remained very active in extracurricular activities. He is on Harrison's wrestling and swim teams and is President of the school's Integrity Team.

Scott is also very involved in community service activities, such as Habitat for Humanity. Scott Rowe is an incredibly well-rounded young man, and I am honored to have the privilege to nominate him for an appointment to the U.S. Naval Academy. I ask that my colleagues take this time to congratulate Scott as well as his parents, Larry and Barbara Rowe, for his accomplishments. It is because of dedicated young people like Scott that America has the finest military in the world. Our nation is fortunate to have his service.

TRIBUTE TO JOHNSON COUNTY ASSISTANT ELECTION COMMISSIONER KAREN BROWNING

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to have this opportunity to pay Karen Browning, who recently stepped down after 41 years of service with the Johnson County, Kansas, Election Office, including 27 years as Assistant Election Commissioner.

Dedicated, experienced public servants like Karen Browning are the glue that holds government together at all levels, but they often do not receive the respect and consideration that they deserve. Karen Browning's retirement took from her office 41 years of deep devotion to her community and an intricate knowledge of the rules and history of Johnson County elections—a background that the citizens of Johnson County will find to be irreplaceable. I am pleased to have this opportunity to share with the other members of the House of Representatives a brief profile of Karen Browning which recently was published in the Johnson County Sun. I know that all Johnson Countians join with me in wishing Karen Browning all the best as she embarks upon her much deserved retirement, and we also thank her for her years of dedicated service and work to ensure that Johnson County elections have been conducted in a manner above reproach.

ELECTION OFFICIAL RETIRES AFTER SERVING 40 YEARS

(By Chuck Kurtz)

It was a one-issue, one-candidate "election" and assistant election commissioner Karen Browning cast the only vote: "Yes to Proposition Retirement."

After nearly 41 years with the Johnson County Election Office in Olathe, Browning officially retired May 22; a reception in her honor is planned for 3 to 6 p.m. June 17 at the Election Office, 2101 E. Kansas City Road, Southeast of Bass Pro, where Kansas

Secretary of State Ron Thornburgh will pay tribute to her service.

Also speaking will be County Chairwoman Annabeth Surbaugh and Johnson County Election Commissioner Brian Newby.

Browning said she always will look back on her career with great fondness.

"My time at the Election Office was an incredible experience, full of hard work, passion for elections and democracy," she said. "It has been a great career that I have always enjoyed, but it's time for a new chapter in my life and to take it easy." In the past 40 years Browning has: Worked in more than 200 Johnson County elections, including 11 presidential elections; Served under six of Johnson County's eight election commissioners and 32 county commissioners; and, Watched the county's voter registration increase almost fourfold.

She said she welcomed the end to hand-counting thousands of paper ballots when the county switched to touch-screen voting machines. Counting paper ballots is time consuming, she said, and computers bring quicker results and less stress.

Browning's passion for the importance of voting was instilled in her as a child.

"My folks always talked about voting and how important it was," she said. "I started when I was young. Voting was already an important part of my life."

That led to her passion for doing her best as an employee at the election office. Newby said Browning was a walking encyclopedia and office historian. She has complete records on every election since she has been with the county.

"If anyone has a question about a past election, Karen is the person to ask," he said.

"She has given so much to our county and to our voters; she provided the best return on tax dollars that could ever be imagined," Newby said. "She leaves with the distinction of being the most effective election office employee ever in Johnson County."

In Browning's first presidential election Nov. 5, 1968, a total of 88,314 of Johnson County's 100,610 registered voters cast their ballots. In her last presidential election, Nov. 5, 2008, a total of 285,001 of the 364,441 registered voters cast ballots.

Her first job at the election office was as a key punch operator since all voter registration cards and reports were typed by hand.

"When we processed registrations, we typed them into the books that went to the polling places," she said. "We typed men on one page and women on another, which I found very interesting."

Newby said Browning has been instrumental in the evolution of the voter registration process, which she has overseen for many years.

In 1978, Browning was named election clerk supervisor followed by election manager in 1979 with primary responsibilities for voter registration and list maintenance.

She has served as assistant election commissioner the past 27 years.

Browning also has overseen Census and mapping operations, and knows Johnson County geography like the back of her hand, since any "visible ground feature" might someday be needed as a precinct boundary.

Although the election process has experienced significant changes over the years, Browning said one thing has not changed. The integrity of the ballot, even from a touch-screen voting machine, is still held sacred, and that requires rigorous adherence to the office's confirmation procedures, she said.

Browning has mixed feelings about leaving Johnson County public service, but admits she will miss the people.

"Elections begin and end with people," she said.

In retirement, Browning plans to spend more time with her family, and continue to volunteer in her many civic and church activities.

Her family includes three sons, three grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren.

"We will miss her and wish her well," Newby said, "but we are gratified to know that she will always be a phone call away to advise us if we have a thorny issue. We even offered—threatened, I guess—to continue equipping her with a Blackberry so she could still be in the e-mail loop and give us guidance."

So far, no response from Browning.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information in regards to the Fiscal Year 2010 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill and the Fiscal Year 2010 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill.

Requesting Member: Representative JO ANN EMERSON

Bill: Fiscal Year 2010 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill

Account: OJP-Byrne

Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri Network Against Sexual Violence

Address of Requesting Entity: 1106 Missouri Avenue, West Plains, Missouri 65775

Description of Request: To provide an earmark of \$200,000 to the Southeast Missouri Network Against Sexual Violence (SEMO NASV) to equip and staff an office in the Bootheel of Missouri to assist victims of domestic and sexual violence, as well as support local law enforcement investigations. SEMO NASV provides services to over 700 adult and child victims of sexual and physical abuse. The organization serves a 10 county region in Southeastern Missouri. It plays a vital role in the process of convicting sex offenders, provides counseling and other services to victims. The funds will be spent as follows: \$126,000 for personnel, \$59,000 for equipment, \$12,000 for office space, and \$3,000 for training and travel.

Requesting Member: Representative JO ANN EMERSON

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2010 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill.

Account: COPS-Meth

Requesting Entity: Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force

Address of Requesting Entity: P.O. Box 1763, Sikeston, Missouri 63801

Description of Request: Provide an earmark of \$200,000 to supplement and support operations of the Southeast Missouri Drug Task Force (SEMO DTF). SEMO DTF is a multi-jurisdictional drug task force unit that serves a 10-county area of Southeast Missouri. The unit conducts both covert and overt investigations into the possession, manufacture, and distribution of controlled substances. The funds will be spent as follows: \$32,000 for personnel, \$89,000 for overtime compensation, \$66,000 for equipment, \$4,500 for telecommunication services, \$6,000 for supplies, and \$2,500 for personnel expenses.