

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the Foreign Service, and for other purposes.

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2410, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, and commend Chairman BERMAN for his leadership on this bill. Diplomacy and international development are cornerstones of U.S. national security, and H.R. 2410 will ensure that these key strategic tools are maximized in our efforts to protect America and rebuild our standing in the world.

H.R. 2410 provides robust authorization for rebuilding civilian capacity by authorizing 1,500 new Foreign Service Officers for the State Department and promotes training to ensure our diplomats have the skills to confront twenty-first century challenges. Additionally, the bill authorizes 700 new Foreign Service Officers for USAID, an important step to rebuild the capacity of our development agency to provide appropriate, effective aid to countries and communities in need around the world.

Improving the livelihoods of vulnerable and oppressed women around the world should be a key component of U.S. foreign policy, and I applaud the inclusion of the authorization of the "Office of Women's Issues" in the base bill. Irrefutable research has shown that incorporating the unique needs of women into development policy is integral to ensure our aid initiatives' effectiveness; by coordinating and advising on gender integration and international women's empowerment, this office will help to increase the efficiency of our foreign assistance. As evidenced by its opposition to this office's authorization, the extreme anti-choice wing of the Republican party continues to put ideology over fact and science. Let me be clear: this bill in no way changes existing statutory prohibitions on abortion. A vote against this bill inhibits our government's ability to advance women's empowerment initiatives aimed at stability, security, and equality around the world.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CONDEMNING THE MURDER OF DR. GEORGE TILLER

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the resolution Condemning the Murder of Dr. George Tiller (H. Res. 505) and with deepest sympathy for the loved ones of Dr. Tiller.

On May 31, 2009, an assassination took place in Kansas. A physician was murdered in an act of terrorism in his church. This act of anti-abortion vigilantism inspires fear and terror. The murdered doctor had previously been shot and the clinic in which he worked had been previously bombed.

This resolution, of which I am an original co-sponsor, expresses our sympathy for the family and loved ones of Dr. George Tiller and declares that violence should never be recourse for a difference in beliefs. In honor of the memory of Dr. Tiller we must work harder than ever to promote tolerance and non-violence.

Abortion in this nation is a legal health care procedure. I support a woman's right to make her own health care decisions and the work of health care providers to meet women's health care needs. What America witnessed with Dr. Tiller's death was a Taliban-like tactic to prevent abortions by murdering a doctor. It is terrorism and I urge the administration to extend protection to women's clinics all across our country.

I support comprehensive sex education, evidence-based science, full access to family planning and reproductive health care for all women, and counseling to ensure women of all ages have the best information to make good choices about when they decide to have children. This is how we reduce abortions. This is how we empower individuals to prevent the need for abortions.

Safe, comprehensive reproductive and family planning services should be accessible to all Americans and providers, because it is essential for the health and well-being of women and families. I will continue to work with President Obama in the 111th Congress to keep women's health as a priority.

My condolences go out to Dr. Tiller's family and loved ones. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution and join me in condemning the murder of Dr. Tiller.

TO HONOR THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCORPORATION OF THE CITY OF NORWICH, CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 350th anniversary of

the incorporation of the city of Norwich, Connecticut. Founded in 1659 and known as the "Rose of Connecticut," Norwich will be celebrating its 350th birthday and rich history throughout the month of June.

During the American Revolution, Norwich supported the cause for independence by supplying soldiers, ships, and munitions. One of the most infamous figures of the Revolution, Benedict Arnold, was born in Norwich. Other well-known Colonial era individuals include Samuel Huntington, Christopher Leffingwell, and Daniel Lathrop. Today, Norwich is a thriving city and a center of commerce and manufacturing, with a wide range of municipal services, a modern industrial park, and a positive outlook for residential and business growth.

As part of the celebration, the city will be presenting several events with participants from across the globe. The city green will host various reenactments of history with period uniforms and equipment as they demonstrate lifestyles of days past. There will be historic talks, as well as tours of historical and present-day landmarks, historic homes, factories, gardens, places of worship, and other areas of preservation. Norwich will offer "museum days" with free access to all of the city museums, and will also sponsor a time capsule to be opened on the 400th anniversary of the city.

The 350th Commemorative Quilt, to be known as a historical work of art, will be on display. Additionally, city citizens will perform in "Rose on the River," a compilation of short plays written by local playwrights. Special musical performances will add to the festivities. The National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) will host a parade and festival to commemorate both Norwich's 350th and the NAACP's 100th anniversaries.

Madam Speaker, I am proud and pleased to honor the City of Norwich. Three hundred fifty years after incorporation, from its colonial origins through its modern evolution, Norwich represents the very best of Connecticut. I ask my colleagues to join with me and my constituents in honoring and celebrating Norwich's semiseptcentennial anniversary and welcome many more to come.

INTRODUCTORY REMARKS FOR THE AFRICAN AMERICAN BONE MARROW AWARENESS MONTH ACT

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Madam Speaker, as I rise today in support of the African American Bone Marrow Awareness Month Act, I am reminded of two things—the thousands of lives that bone marrow donations save each year, and the distance we have to travel to increase the participation of minorities, especially African Americans, in the National Marrow Donor Program. The African

• 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.

American Bone Marrow Awareness Month Act, by urging all Americans to initiate, organize and participate in programs to increase the collective consciousness of African Americans to become bone marrow donors.

Since the inception of the National Marrow Donor Program registry, over 24,000 people have received bone marrow transplants. African Americans make up only eight percent, or 450,000 of the more than six million people currently registered in the National Marrow Donor Program. Worse, African Americans have received a little more than four percent—one out of every 24—of these transplants. While it is possible for an African American patient to get a match for a bone marrow donor from any racial or ethnic group, the most likely match for a transplant is from another African American. All it takes is a single drop of blood to help determine a match.

Madam Speaker, this legislation will encourage all people, but particularly African Americans, to organize a bone marrow registration drive in their community. The collective work under this legislation will promote donor awareness and increase the number of African Americans registered with the National Marrow Donor Program throughout our nation. I urge all Members of Congress to begin the need for awareness, importance and value of bone marrow awareness, and urge its quick adoption by Congress.

MARKING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF
MR. RUDOLF SMITH JUNE 12, 2009

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on June 12, 2009 Nash County, North Carolina native and resident Mr. Rudolf Smith will be celebrating his 100th birthday. To mark this milestone, family and friends will be gathering for a party in his honor.

Mr. Smith was born on June 12, 1909, to sharecroppers, Mr. Willis Smith II and Mrs. Willie M. Smith on Joe Ellison's farm near Dortches in Nash County, North Carolina. He was kept home from school after the fourth grade because he was needed to work the crops.

Working six and a half days a week, Mr. Smith was barely tall enough to keep the plow in the field when he started farming.

Mr. Smith was married to Patty Alston in 1933. Together, they had six children.

Currently, he resides at Knight's Family Care Homes where he enjoys reminiscing about his past, walking, and eating anything he wants. He lives a healthy and fulfilled life.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in wishing Mr. Smith a very happy 100th birthday.

INTRODUCING LEGISLATION TO
SUPPORT SMALL BUSINESSES IN
SOUTHERN AND EASTERN KEN-
TUCKY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, today I rise with my colleague and fellow Kentuckian, Congressman ED WHITFIELD, to raise awareness about an important issue impacting a number of small businesses in our region of the country.

Scenic Lake Cumberland has been the hub of economic development in our area of southern Kentucky for years. Some 4 million visitors stop by every year to take advantage of the lake's many attractions—world class bass fishing, relaxing atop a custom built houseboat, or boating with family and friends. These visitors pump over \$70 million into our local economy, benefiting a wide array of businesses in the surrounding counties. However, with our nation's economy floundering and the Commonwealth's unemployment rate of nearly 10 percent hovering above the national average, the houseboat and marina industries surrounding Lake Cumberland are hemorrhaging—and so too are our people whose livelihoods rely on the lake as a lifeline.

While the overall economy is part of the problem, business conditions at Lake Cumberland have suffered an even greater share in large part due to a long delayed and deferred federal rehabilitation and construction project at Wolf Creek Dam. An unfortunate consequence of construction at the dam has been the necessity to temporarily lower the pool of the lake from the traditional level of 720 feet to 680 feet. This significant drawdown has had a substantial adverse impact on the ten local concessionaries leasing marina space from the Corps of Engineers. Many marinas have had to incur tremendous expenses to accommodate the lower pool, such as relocation and investments in additional infrastructure, and these unanticipated expenses have significantly disrupted their cash flow. The legislation we've introduced today ensures that the federal government fulfills its obligation to those concessionaries with which it has entered into leasing agreements and provides some relief for these unforeseeable expenses that have the potential to set back the economy of an entire region. These measures include suspending burdensome rental payments until it is safe to restore the lake level, as well as reimbursing marina operators for expenses directly tied to this continued drawdown. Finally, the bill makes whole the surrounding communities that rely heavily on these rental payments.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been tasked and is hard at work with correcting structural issues with the dam to shore up the dam for future generations to enjoy, and Congress has diligently provided vital funds for the continuation of this project. I have no argument with this work or the funding. However, no relief has been made available to those who have tied their livelihoods to this lake and who, through no fault of their own, are enduring a government-induced hardship. The bill introduced today will correct this and provide some measure of relief to the

hardworking small business owners scattered along beautiful Lake Cumberland.

TRIBUTE TO LT COL KENNETH
BOW, USAR RET

HON. DAVE CAMP

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. CAMP. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to LT COL Kenneth Bow, USAR RET, in recognition of his 70th birthday this Saturday, June 13, 2009.

Kenneth Bow retired from the U.S. Army Reserves in 1993 with the rank of LT COL. He joined the ROTC at Michigan State in 1958. After graduation as an Electrical Engineer, he began his active duty as a Second Lieutenant at Aberdeen Proving Ground. Later, from 1963 to 1965, he was stationed in Stuttgart, Germany. After being honorably discharged, he immediately joined the 578th Research and Development Unit in the USAR in Midland, Michigan.

On active-duty training assignments over his army career, he served in many Mobilization Designee positions, mainly in the Ft. Belvoir Research Development and Engineer Center. His training projects were highly technical and engineering-oriented, such as standardization of controls across an electrical generator family and related self diagnosis; and the impact of chlorofluorocarbon, CFC, regulations on users. In addition, LT COL Bow co-chaired management of selected engineering and financial teams assembled to conceptualize the design of a state-of-the-art, \$100 million automated logistical center/warehouse at Sharpe Army Depot in California.

In his more than twenty-eight years serving the USAR, LT COL Bow was highly decorated with the following awards: Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, USAR Achievement Medal with three Bronze Oak Leaves, National Defense Service Medal, and Armed Forces Reserve Medal with Hour-Glass Device.

In 1965, Kenneth Bow joined the Dow Chemical Company in Midland, Michigan, rising to the highest research professional rank of Research Scientist at the time of his retirement in 2007.

On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize LT COL Kenneth Bow in celebration of his 70th birthday. I hope the year to come will bring him health, happiness, and special times with family and friends. Birthdays are a time to reminisce over good memories and make new ones. I hope that his is special.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on June 10, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was not able to record my vote for rollcall No. 317.

Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 317—"yes"—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1886, the Pakistan Enduring

Assistance and Cooperation Enhancement (PEACE) Act; and providing for consideration of H.R. 2410, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, FYs 2010 and 2011.

INTRODUCTION OF THE
BREASTFEEDING PROMOTION ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am reintroducing an important piece of legislation, the Breastfeeding Promotion Act with my colleagues Mrs. CAPPs, Mr. OLVER, Mr. FRANK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. MEEKS, Ms. KAPTUR, Mr. SNYDER, Ms. SCHWARTZ, and Mr. MORAN.

Statistical surveys of families show that over 50 percent of mothers with children less than one year of age are in the labor force. Whereas women with infants and toddlers are a rapidly growing segment of the labor force today, arrangements must be made to allow a mother's expressing of milk if mother and child must separate.

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends that mothers breastfeed exclusively for six months but continuing for at least the first year of a child's life. Research studies show that children who are not breastfed have higher rates of mortality, meningitis, some types of cancers, asthma and other respiratory illnesses, bacterial and viral infections, diarrhoeal diseases, ear infections, allergies, and obesity. There have also been numerous benefits to mothers shown, including improved bone mineralization, an earlier return to pre-pregnancy weight, and decreased risk of certain cancers.

Our bill will encourage and promote breastfeeding by removing common obstacles to breastfeeding and expressing milk in the workplace that many women face by: (1) amending the Civil Rights Act of 1964 to protect breastfeeding in the workplace, (2) providing tax incentives for businesses that establish private lactation areas in the workplace, (3) providing for a performance standard for breast pumps, (4) allowing breastfeeding equipment to be tax deductible for families, and (5) protecting the privacy of breastfeeding mothers.

We urge all of our colleagues to support this important legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WATKINS BROTHERS MEMORIAL CHAPEL

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. CLEAVER. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today in recognition of the 100th anniversary of Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel, the oldest African-American owned business of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I am honored to represent. The Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel will celebrate its centennial milestone beginning this weekend on Saturday, June 13th, when they will have the first

series of events dedicated to the great service this business has bestowed upon Missouri's Fifth Congressional District. I am privileged to have been asked to partake in these celebrations.

The Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel has been an influential and unwavering force since founders John "J.T." and Theron "T.B." Watkins first opened the chapel's doors in spring of 1909. After John's premature death, Theron remained determined to carry on the business and the vision that he and his brother had worked so hard to make a reality. The Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel has now seen five generations of Watkins run the family business. The chapel is known throughout the greater Kansas City metropolitan area for its excellent service and the high level of care and concern it affords both the families and the individuals involved.

The Watkins family has been highly influential in the arena of Kansas City politics. Since the beginning, Theron was very involved in neighborhood development; so much so that there is now an important housing project in Kansas City named in his honor. From 1941 to 1948, Theron sat on the Housing Authority Board of Commissioners. The story of Theron filling up one of his funeral cars with coal and delivering the coal to families in desperate need during the peak of the Great Depression signifies his deep commitment to those around him. His heightened awareness of the needs of others led him to encourage his son, Bruce Watkins, Sr., to pursue a career in service and politics.

Bruce Watkins, Sr. spent most of his adult life relentlessly pursuing the greater good through political service. He was one of the co-founders of Freedom Incorporated, an African-American political organization that worked to increase their community's influence by generating votes for candidates they felt would best empower African-Americans. Bruce Watkins, Sr. was also one of the first two African-Americans elected in 1963 to serve on Kansas City's City Council. In 1979, he became the first African-American councilperson to run for mayor of Kansas City. Though he lost, his progressive views of African-American leadership and political influence endured. His legacy lives on in the form of Bruce Watkins Drive, a 10.2 mile long stretch of highway that connects the southern, suburban part of Kansas City to its northern, urban counterpart.

Throughout the years, the Watkins family has remained active in the Kansas City community. Working alongside the CODA Jazz Fund, the Watkins family provides financial assistance for dignified funeral services to jazz musicians who have passed. Individual members of the family are involved in organizations ranging from the Mutual Musicians Fund to the Boys and Girls Club.

The Watkins family has remained true to their philosophy and goal "to serve humanity, persons of all faiths, under all circumstances, with dignity, respect, and understanding, with attention to he needs and desires of each family."

Considering their tremendous contribution to Missouri's Fifth Congressional District and surrounding areas, it is an honor and a privilege to recognize the Watkins Brothers Memorial Chapel and the Watkins family for their one hundred years of excellent service to the Kansas City area. Madam Speaker, please join me in celebrating and expressing our gratitude

to this family and their incredible dedication to both their business and their community. The African-American community has long benefited from figures such as Theron Watkins, Bruce Watkins, Sr., and the many other members of the Watkins family. Due to their unyielding persistence, they helped change the reality of African-Americans' political power and influence. The Watkins family is one to revere and respect, and they truly are role models that the Missouri Fifth Congressional District is proud to call our own.

HONORING RICHARD E. MURRAY, FACHE, FOR HIS SERVICE AS THE PRESIDENT/CEO OF KENNEDY MEMORIAL HEALTH SYSTEM

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Richard E. Murray, FACHE. He has played an integral role in New Jersey's First District through his administration of multiple health care systems. Mr. Murray has demonstrated a history of compassion throughout the community and for this he deserves great praise.

Mr. Murray has served as the President/Chief Executive Officer of Kennedy Memorial Health System since 1980. Kennedy Memorial Health System consists of three acute-care hospitals, multiple outpatient clinics and various wellness programs.

Mr. Murray's leadership has led to many advances within the Kennedy Memorial Health System. Since 1998, Kennedy Memorial Hospital has opened a free-standing outpatient Dialysis Center, a Sleep Center, a 10-bed Ronald McDonald House Pediatric Unit, a Cancer Center and Outpatient Medical Imaging Center, an Emergency Department, a Center for Wound Healing, a Neonatal Intensive Care Unit, a 40-bed Progressive Care Unit, a 12-bed Innovative Hospice Care Center, a Stroke Program, a Maternity Center, a PET/CT Center, a Family Health Services Center, a Maternal-Fetal Medicine Unit, a Surgical Unit, and an Intensive Care Unit.

Aside from the structural upgrades, Mr. Murray has overseen multiple projects that have improved the quality of care within the Kennedy Memorial Health System. These projects include the creation of an "Invensivist Program" to ensure the oversight of health care providers and patient safety, the purchase of the high-tech DaVinci Robot for use in minimally invasive surgical procedures, and the creation of programs for diabetes control and a smoke free environment at all facilities. Without the hard work and exceptional guidance provided by Mr. Murray, none of these things would have been possible.

Mr. Murray has received multiple awards commemorating his service to the South Jersey community. In 2005, he received the New Jersey Hospital Association's Distinguished Service Award, presented annually to an individual with more than 15 years of service in health care who "consistently demonstrates strength, integrity, professionalism and a relentless commitment to a hospital or health care system." In 2006, he was honored by

March of Dimes for his positive influence and contribution to the community. In 2007, he was honored with the New Jersey Institute for Nursing EPIC Award, which honors exceptional individuals for their contributions to New Jersey communities and the advancement of health care for the profession of nursing.

Madam Speaker, Mr. Murray's service to New Jersey's First Congressional District should not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank Dick Murray for the exceptional guidance he has provided his staff, the community service he has provided to members of the community, and the lives that he has changed throughout New Jersey. I congratulate Mr. Murray and wish him the best of luck in the future.

TRIBUTE TO WINSTON SPENCER
WATERS II

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Winston Spencer Waters II, a senior at Elmont Memorial High School. Winston was named a semifinalist in the Intel Science Talent Search Competition, becoming the first Elmont student to be named a semifinalist in the competition.

The Intel Science Talent Search is America's most prestigious science research competition for high school seniors. Each year 300 students are selected as semifinalists nationwide. Winston's project, "Separating the Roles of HIF-1 α and HIF-2 α in Tumorigenesis through Downregulation of HIF-2 α by RNA Interference." This project studied Von Hippel Lindau, or VHL, disease which is a form of kidney cancer. Winston was selected as a semifinalist from over 1,000 students who entered projects into the competition.

This is a remarkable achievement for Winston, for the Elmont Memorial High School and for the entire Elmont Community. Winston has not only excelled in science, but has worked hard to remain a well balanced student. As President of the senior class, member of the Future Business Leaders of America and the Math, Science and National Honor Societies, he has certainly been able to accomplish that goal.

As a Member of the Committee for Education and Labor, I commend Winston and congratulate him for his dedication to his education. I would like to wish him the best of luck as he prepares to attend Harvard University in the fall, where he plans to study biomedical sciences and engineering as well as economics or finance.

Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration I offer my congratulations and best wishes to Winston Spencer Waters II and his entire family.

IN RECOGNITION OF REVEREND
DOUGLAS PAUL JONES OF WEL-
COME MISSIONARY BAPTIST
CHURCH

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Reverend Douglas Paul Jones, on the occasion of his twentieth anniversary as Senior Pastor of the Welcome Missionary Baptist Church in the City of Pontiac, Michigan. Since June 18, 1989, when Pastor Jones was first installed, he has been a tireless leader—both within the church, and in the greater Pontiac community.

Throughout Pastor Jones' tenure at Welcome Missionary Baptist Church, he has grown the membership of the church by more than three thousand members. As the Senior Pastor of the church, he has touched countless lives through developing well respected ministries and mentorship programs supporting men, women, and young adults, as well as those individuals struggling with drug addiction, domestic violence and HIV/AIDS.

Outside of the church, Pastor Jones is a member of various chambers of commerce, business associations and youth programs. Of note, he founded the Greater Pontiac Community Coalition with the mission to collectively exercise actions and advocacy to generate individual, social, and institutional change. His outreach sews the fabric of the religious, social, educational, business, and artistic communities together with the steadfastness of a person of faith and foresight of a true leader.

Pastor Jones, I congratulate you on this significant anniversary. I salute your untiring commitment to Welcome Missionary Baptist Church and the greater City of Pontiac community. I am proud to call you not only a partner in serving our community, but also a dear friend. I look forward to the next twenty years working with you and the congregation at Welcome Missionary Baptist Church.

IN HONOR OF J. NICHOLAS
COUNTER III UPON HIS RETIRE-
MENT AS PRESIDENT OF THE
ALLIANCE OF MOTION PICTURE
& TELEVISION PRODUCERS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to share some observations about the historic career of J. Nicholas ("Nick") Counter III upon his retirement from the Alliance of Motion Picture and Television Producers, "AMPTP". AMPTP is the multi-employer bargaining agent for more than 350 production companies in their collective bargaining negotiations with more than 20 labor organizations. The production companies include the major motion picture studios and independent production companies. The labor organizations with whom AMPTP engages in collective bargaining include the Directors Guild of America, the Screen Actors Guild, the American Federation of Radio and Television Artists, the Writers

Guild of America, East and West, the International Brotherhood of Teamsters, the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, the American Federation of Musicians, and the International Alliance of Theatrical Stage Employees, which is the umbrella union for all unions which represent those workers behind the camera—from costumers and make-up artists to art directors and animators. AMPTP negotiates 80 industry-wide collective bargaining agreements, covering some 250,000 industry workers in the United States and Canada.

Nick joined the AMPTP when it was established in 1982 as its first president and has served in that capacity for the past 27 years. During his tenure, he has successfully concluded 312 collective bargaining agreements with the major entertainment industry guilds and unions. Throughout the vast majority of Nick's tenure, the motion picture and television industry enjoyed unprecedented labor peace and stability. In addition, the industry has thrived with growth in employment and wages and consistently improved working conditions under Nick's leadership. He has presided over dramatic changes in the motion picture industry, from the growth of home entertainment to new media, and he has led producers at the bargaining table through these momentous transformations. Many in Hollywood say Nick has had the hardest job in Hollywood—to maintain unity among the producers and face off with some of the most professional and creative workers in any business.

He has been well-suited to the job. He learned about labor relations up close while working summers at a Colorado steel mill where his father spent his career. An amateur boxer and high school star football player, he graduated from the University of Colorado with a degree in electrical engineering and a record of accomplishment as half-back on the football team. Then he detoured to law school, graduating from Stanford University and made his home in Los Angeles.

Nick's accomplishments go beyond his role at the bargaining table. It is well known that motion picture industry jobs come with good benefits—health insurance and pensions. Nick has played a critical role in ensuring those benefits are secure. He serves as a trustee on fourteen guild and union health and pension funds. He is also a trustee on the Motion Picture and Television Fund, a past president and current member of the Board of Directors of the International Foundation of Employee Benefit Plans, and a past chair of the Entertainment Industry Foundation. And he has provided his experience and wisdom to many national groups examining health care issues that face our nation. He has also engaged on safety and environmental issues that affect the industry.

After such a distinguished career, Nick has earned his opportunity to live the next chapter. He will give up the all night bargaining sessions for more time with his family—his wife, Jackie; his son Nick IV; his daughter, Samantha, and her husband, Alex Kurtzman, and their son, Jack. As he embarks on this well-deserved retirement, I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our appreciation for the work he has done and wishing him and his family well.

RECOGNIZING MIMI GARDNER
GATES

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, today, I rise to offer special recognition of Mimi Gardner Gates on the occasion of her retirement as the Illsley Ball Nordstrom Director of the Seattle Art Museum. During her tenure, the Seattle Art Museum has become the premier art museum in the Pacific Northwest, distinguished by its splendid exhibitions and its commitment to the arts communities of our region. Under Mrs. Gates' leadership, the Seattle Art Museum has increased its endowment, its attendance, and its membership; it has diversified its board, staff, and audience; created a conservation department and studio; and added to its collections more than 6,500 works of art from a wide variety of cultures. And, thanks to Mimi Gates' vision and tireless effort, the Museum has created the Olympic Sculpture Park, a nationally and internationally acclaimed outdoor display that brings an exciting new dimension to Seattle's arts environment. Seattle and the entire Pacific Northwest region have benefited immeasurably from Mimi Gates' talent and dedication to public art, and I am privileged now to acknowledge her outstanding work and to thank her for her many years of exceptional service.

Mrs. Gates also has made considerable contributions to the arts in the classroom, and she has held leadership positions with several arts organizations. She served on the staff of the Yale University Art Gallery, where she currently is a member of the Governing Board, and is a fellow of the Yale Corporation. A past president of the Association of Art Museum Directors, she also chaired the Federal Indemnity panel at The National Endowment for the Arts, and served as a member of the Advisory Board of the Getty Leadership Institute. Mrs. Gates is also an adjunct faculty member in the Department of Art at the University of Washington, and she serves on the boards of directors of the Northwest African American Museum, the Greater Seattle YWCA, the Downtown Seattle Association, and Copper Canyon Press.

Madam Speaker, Mimi Gates has been an enormous asset to the Seattle arts and civic communities. The people of Seattle, including thousands of patrons, students, and professionals, are grateful for the guidance and leadership she has shown, and I join them in thanking Mrs. Gates for her service, and in wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, on March 11, 2009, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 121, concerning H. Res. 226, recognizing the plight of the Tibetan people on the 50th anniversary of His Holiness the Dalai Lama being forced into exile and calling for a sustained multilateral ef-

fort to bring about a durable and peaceful solution to the Tibet issue. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

On March 31, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 166, concerning H. Res. 296, providing for the consideration of the Senate Amendments to H.R. 1388. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

On May 7, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 238, concerning H.R. 1728, the Mortgage Reform and Antipredatory Lending Act. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

On May 12, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 244, concerning H. Res. 413, supporting the goals and ideals of "IEEE Engineering the Future" Day on May 13, 2009, and for other purposes. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

On May 14, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 260, concerning H.R. 2187, the amendment to the title of the 21st Century Green High-Performing Public School Facilities Act. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "no."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 10TH
ANNIVERSARY OF CAREER GEAR

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Career Gear. In June of 2009, Career Gear is celebrating its 10th Anniversary by hosting its Capital PerSuit Awards Dinner in New York, NY.

Career Gear, a grassroots 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, was founded in New York City in 1998 to promote the gainful employment and self-sufficiency of disadvantaged men who are actively seeking employment. The organization began with the goal of providing appropriate business clothing for those seeking jobs and has grown to provide services and resources that help clients retain employment and advance in the workplace.

Once employed, a client is encouraged to participate in an alumni program that is designed to provide peer support and networking opportunities to others in need. This program affects other non-employment issues like budgeting and financial management, emotional coping skills, as well as family and child support. All of these matters impact an individual's ability to remain employed.

Over the past 10 years, Career Gear has provided clients with assistance in starting a new chapter of their lives. The success over the past decade is evident by the fact that through the good work of Career Gear, 18,000 men have reentered the workforce with a renewed sense of confidence and have become self-sufficient members of their communities. It is for this attitude of empowerment that I rise today and commend Career Gear.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO ROGER
ANDERSON

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding citizen in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. Roger Anderson is an individual who is dedicated to serving the public and has given much of his time and expertise in helping community groups achieve success.

Madam Speaker, there is no question that our citizens are the foundation of our country. From the earliest day of our nation's history, the men and women of the United States have worked to create opportunities that would provide a better life for future generations.

Roger Anderson has contributed to our community as a volunteer for various clubs and committees, as an educator, an advocate for non-profit organizations, and a public servant. Mr. Anderson served as a Bowling Green City Councilman from 1976-1980 and was a member of Bowling Green's Planning and Zoning, Public Lands, and Building Committees.

Roger Anderson has also held a leadership role in twelve different organizations including the Bowling Green Kiwanas Club, the Ohio Council of Higher Education Retirees, the WSOS Community Action Commission, and most recently, the League of Women Voters, where he was elected the first ever male president.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to Roger Anderson. Mr. Anderson's selfless commitment and dedication to the betterment of his community have set an example for future generations to follow. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize the service of Roger Anderson.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, June 10, 2009 I was in a meeting and missed the vote on the Kirk amendment to the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" on the Kirk Amendment No. 19 to H.R. 2410 (Rollcall 326).

ON THE FIFTIETH ANNIVERSARY
OF AMERICAN HONDA MOTOR
COMPANY

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize American Honda Motor Company—whose North American headquarters is located in my Congressional District—on the

occasion of its 50th anniversary. Established on June 11, 1959 in a small Los Angeles storefront, a handful of Honda associates began selling motorcycles. Fifty years later, American Honda has grown from a single office into a company with significant investments throughout the U.S. and is a leader in fuel economy, safety and environmental technology.

In the midst of the of 1973 oil crisis, Honda introduced the fuel-efficient Civic, marking its official entry into the U.S. market. Two years later, it began market research and new model development activities in America, which today encompass 13 facilities with the capability of complete product creation.

Fast forward to the 1990s, when Honda continued its environmental leadership through investment in advanced internal combustion engines and the introduction in 1999 of the first mass-produced hybrid vehicle in the U.S. On Earth Day of this year, Honda launched the 2010 Insight, a price competitive and exciting new hybrid design.

Starting with eight sales associates in 1959, Honda today employs nearly 28,000 direct employees whose jobs include design, development, manufacturing, sales and service of products ranging from automobiles, motorcycles, ATVs, personal watercraft, outboard marine engines, power equipment and an advanced light jet. Honda's flagship office in Torrance, California employs almost 2,400 people at its sprawling and energy efficient campus.

American Honda has 11 manufacturing plants in the U.S. with two more under construction, 13 research and development facilities, and regional sales, parts, service and finance offices across America. Honda buys parts and materials from 545 U.S. companies in 34 states with annual purchases exceeding \$17.5 billion in 2008.

More than just a carmaker, Honda prides itself on community stewardship. Its U.S. charity arm provided over \$1.8 million in grants last year—including \$75,000 for a local firefighter program.

I offer my hearty congratulations to American Honda, which has established a half century of commitment to investing in this country, innovation and strong environmental leadership. May the next 50 years be just as productive.

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A "NATIONAL HEREDITARY HEMORRHAGIC TELANGIECTASIA (HHT) MONTH"

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution that affects families across America. This resolution expresses support for the designation of a "National Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia, HHT, Month" as well as other efforts to increase public awareness of the disease. Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia (HHT) is complex genetic disorder of the blood vessels affecting approximately 70,000 Americans. It is characterized by malformations that occur in major organs, including the lungs, brain, and liver. If left untreated, it can lead to

chronic health problems or even sudden death due to the rupture of blood vessels in major organs.

Unfortunately, due to a widespread lack of knowledge of the disorder, approximately 90 percent of Americans suffering from HHT currently remain undiagnosed. These people are at risk of sudden death or becoming disabled. However, tests exist for the early detection and diagnosis of HHT and certain treatments are available for those suffering from the disease. It is estimated that between 20 and 40 percent of deaths and disabilities resulting from HHT would have been preventable if the condition had been diagnosed.

This resolution aims to reduce future HHT-related deaths and disabilities. The HHT Foundation International's designation of a "National Hereditary Hemorrhagic Telangiectasia, HHT, Month" and other efforts to educate the public should increase public awareness of the disease, leading to more HHT testing and fewer instances of undiagnosed HHT. Additionally, support for further research will improve outcomes, reduce costs, and increase the quality of life for those living with HHT, while also searching for a cure for the disorder.

This important bill will decrease the suffering of families affected by this devastating disease. It is my goal to improve the quality of life of the approximately 70,000 Americans suffering from HHT. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution to make the public aware of this national health problem.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CENTER FOR MISSING AND EXPLOITED CHILDREN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, on June 9, 2009, the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children celebrated its 25th anniversary. I stand here today to express my gratitude to an organization that continues to help so many children all across this nation.

In 1984, President Ronald Regan established the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. Twenty-five years later, the center has a missing child recovery rate of 97 percent. Within my own district, the organization established The Adam Walsh Child Resource Center, having collected fingerprint data from over 50,000 children, providing help to victim parents, and creating victim prevention programs for south Florida—all steps towards making Florida and American families safer.

A price cannot be placed upon the safety of our children and it is essential that, as lawmakers, we continue to support those organizations who strive to great lengths to protect America's youth. As a Member of Congress, it is imperative that we do everything in our power to ensure the safety and protection of our children.

Madam Speaker, as national security threats continue to grow, threatening our freedom and livelihoods, we must recognize the domestic problems which threaten our society and always be vigilant of those who wish to

cause harm to others. I applaud the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children whose efforts over the past twenty-five years have undoubtedly been at the forefront of keeping our children safer from abduction and sexual exploitation.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GOLF COURSE PRESERVATION AND MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2009

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the Golf Course Preservation and Modernization Act to renovate and modernize the three National Park Service, NPS, golf courses in the District of Columbia. Several years of research, investigation and consulting on ways to improve these courses demonstrate this bill is necessary to turn around the deterioration of these unique and valuable federal assets. Langston Golf Course, Rock Creek Golf Course and East Potomac Golf Course are in desperate need of capital investment to maintain and preserve their historic features and to reverse decades of deterioration.

East Potomac Golf Course was built in 1920 and included three courses that accommodated all levels of play, with an 18-hole tournament level course and two 9-hole practice courses. East Potomac was initially segregated, with African Americans permitted to play only on Mondays. The course was desegregated in 1941 by the Secretary of the Interior, Harold Ickes, following pressure from an African American women golfers club, the Wake Robin Golf Club. Rock Creek Golf Course opened in 1923 as a 9-hole golf course and an additional nine holes were added to make Rock Creek an 18-hole tournament level course in 1926. Langston Golf Course opened in 1939 as a segregated golf facility for African Americans and is listed in the National Register of Historic Places. Langston was the home course to the Royal Golf Club and the Wake Robin Golf Club, the nation's first clubs for African American men and women golfers respectively. Langston was named for John Mercer Langston, the first African American Congressman from Virginia elected in 1888. Originally a 9-hole course, Langston's expansion to an 18-hole course began in 1955, but was not completed until the mid 1980s.

The courses were built and have been administered by the NPS since the early 20th century for the enjoyment of the general public. However, despite their best efforts, NPS has had a constant struggle to maintain the courses. None has been modernized and all three courses have fallen into disrepair and lack the amenities necessary to serve the public today. As a result, they are underused considering their value to the public.

NPS was created by Congress to "... conserve the scenery and the natural and historical objects and the wild life therein, and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such a manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." (16 U.S.C. 1) However, NPS's own backlog of repairs, its chronic funding limitations, and the continuing use of concession

contracts that are inappropriate for the unique capital investment required for golf courses militate against appropriate maintenance, historic preservation and the NPS mission "to leave them unimpaired for the public enjoyment." This bill will restore the original intent of Congress, consistent with this important NPS mission.

The three courses together constitute an undervalued public asset that, if appropriately funded, could be renovated and modernized, facilitating affordable recreation, attracting significantly more golfers, and perhaps producing new revenue for the United States Treasury. Unlike other NPS facilities, golf courses require unique and continuing significant capital investment to keep them not only maintained but operational. As a result for nearly 100 years, the courses have had problems associated with upkeep and insufficient capital investment. Without a ready source for capital investment, apart from appropriations, NPS has continuously struggled to manage and maintain each of these courses since their inception. There is no prospect that the necessary federal funds for capital investment and improvement of golf will be available today or in the future. Moreover, the current fee to play at the golf courses, as established in the concessions contract process, must remain affordable and cannot generate sufficient revenue for NPS or the concessioners to keep the courses properly maintained, or to make the capital investment required for a golf course today. In fact, NPS owes millions of dollars to the concessioner of the golf courses for necessary improvements.

General Services Administration land and real estate professionals and other experts advise that the best option consistent with federal law and practices is to create a long-term ground lease that bundles all three of the courses into a single contract and then to request proposals that allow for response with ideas and alternatives for modernization and maintenance consistent with anticipated use and affordability. This bill requires that historic features of the courses be preserved and that two of the three courses remain affordable to the general public.

The confines of federal concession law inhibited NPS and the concessioner from making improvements to the courses because Federal concession laws are incompatible with golf course operations. Historically, the restrictions of NPS concessions law have been a direct cause of disrepair and capital disinvestment, reducing the quality of play and jeopardizing the historic preservation of the courses. However, the NPS joined two of the three golf courses together for the next seven years under a proposed concession contract that was issued on October 23, 2007. The contract requires only that the next concessioner be able to perform routine repair and maintenance consistent with NPS practice and the limits imposed by concession law. The contract does not and could not impose any requirement that capital improvements be made to the courses, usually guaranteeing that these courses will stay in the same poor condition until 2015. East Potomac was excluded from the proposed concession contract because its concession contract expires next year, not for any reason associated with maintaining and improving the courses for public

use. This separates East Potomac, the only financially viable golf course, from Langston and Rock Creek, the two that need subsidy for their operations. The effect will leave Langston and Rock Creek worse off than they are today. Now the contract for East Potomac is expected to be put out this fall.

This bill would require the new lease for East Potomac to be set to expire on the same date as Langston and Rock Creek leases, binds the three courses into one contract and exempts these golf courses from concession law. This approach applies another vehicle commonly used by the federal government to allow for more creative solutions consistent with the NPS mission to preserve general public access and preserve the historic qualities of the courses. The single long-term ground lease for all three courses, designed outside of the constraints of concession law, provided by this bill would encourage private investment in these courses, improve the quality of the courses, ensure affordable play, and preserve their historic nature.

I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO RAÚL H. CASTRO

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Raúl H. Castro, Arizona's first Hispanic Governor, who has devoted his life to ensuring democracy for all.

To review the lifelong commitments of Governor Castro is to describe the epitome of the American Dream.

Born in Mexico, he immigrated to a community near Douglas, AZ in his teenage years. The son of a copper miner and a midwife, he overcame great poverty and adversity as a young adult. He was always committed to his family and the need to do something great with his life. In high school he was a stellar athlete and student, which taught him discipline and earned him an athletic scholarship for college. In college, he was an undefeated boxer, winning mostly by knockout and earning the name the "Douglas Destroyer."

Governor Castro worked diligently through school, completing his first degree in higher education in 1939, the same year he became a United States citizen. He worked for the U.S. State Department as a Foreign Service officer in Agua Prieta, Sonora for a period of time, then applied and was accepted at the University of Arizona, where he earned his Juris Doctor degree.

He then practiced law in Tucson, AZ, became deputy Pima County Attorney and was elected Pima County Superior Court Judge. In his six years on the Superior Court bench, he gained a reputation of being fair and grew further respected in the community for his work and commitment to justice.

It wouldn't take long for the country to notice the young judge from Pima County. President Lyndon Johnson appointed Raúl as U.S. Ambassador to El Salvador in 1964, where he served until 1968. He then served as Amba-

sador to Bolivia from 1968–1969, and returned to Tucson to specialize in international law.

His work abroad became a benefit for the state of Arizona. He continued his commitment to his country by becoming active in Arizona Democratic Party politics, and ultimately won a spirited campaign for the governorship in 1974, becoming Arizona's first Hispanic governor.

Governor Castro wouldn't complete his term, President Jimmy Carter selected him to represent the United States again and serve as Ambassador to Argentina, where he served until 1980.

Governor Castro returned to Arizona and devoted more than two decades to practicing law. He has recently retired to Nogales, AZ where he remains involved in the community.

Governor Castro's story is one of inspiration for young and old alike. He has shown all aspects of the American Dream, to work hard, care about your community and success will follow. Arizona and this nation have been blessed by his commitment to democracy and justice.

Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Governor Castro and thank him for being a role model for so many of us.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 334, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING THE LIFE OF G.A. GINDICK

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of G.A. Gindick—an inspirational community leader and philanthropist who touched the lives of all who knew her.

Madam Speaker, I had the honor of representing Mrs. Gindick in Congress. I witnessed her impact on the community of Visalia first-hand. She and her late husband Frank were instrumental in starting the Visalia Boys and Girls Club—an organization that has touched the lives of both the young and young at heart. She was a true booster—a financial supporter and active volunteer.

Mrs. Gindick's dedication to Visalia was full-time. She was a powerful advocate for local art and cultural institutions and was constantly engaged in the defense of Visalia's heritage and quality of life.

She was a tenacious woman; a woman it was hard to say no to; a woman who understood what community meant, and always strove to help those in need.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Gindick will be sorely missed. But because of her enormous heart and lifelong commitment to others, she will not be forgotten.

A SPECIAL TRIBUTE TO
EASTWOOD HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
TRACK AND FIELD TEAM

HON. ROBERT E. LATTA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. LATTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a great deal of pride that I rise to pay a very special tribute to an outstanding high school track and field team in Ohio's Fifth Congressional District. The young men of Eastwood High School's Track and Field team have represented their school and families ably on their way to achieving their first ever State Track and Field Championship.

In their effort to surpass all other teams in the Division II State Track and Field Championship, the Eastwood Eagles overcame the challenges posed by injuries and intense competition.

In their bid for the State Title, the Eastwood High Boys Team produced 4 All-Ohio performances from individuals on the team. In winning the Ohio State Division II Track and Field Championship, the members of this very special team have shown that their sport requires an individual effort for a team result. As a direct consequence of their hard work and dedication on and off the track, both their efforts and their results were outstanding.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in paying special tribute to the Eastwood High School Boys Track Team. Our communities are well served by the type of effort and perseverance demonstrated by these young men. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Ohio, I am proud to recognize this great achievement.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of this Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the Foreign Service, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Chair, thank you, Madam Speaker and thank you Chairman BERMAN for your efforts on H.R. 2410, Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011." The Committee has once again produced legislation that will help America engage its neighbors and promote national security.

The primary objective of this legislation is to rebuild the capacity of the Department of State to fulfill its core diplomatic mission in fulfilling U.S. national security goals. In a recent hearing Secretary Clinton stated that the priorities of the State Department and other international organizations are clear. Their focus is to deploying the tools of diplomacy and development along with military power. We are securing historic alliances, working with emerg-

ing regional powers, and seeking new avenues of engagement. While this may seem like a herculean task, I have confidence that these goals can be successfully accomplished with the passing of this legislation.

H.R. 2410 is a wide encompassing bill that will set the tone on how we engage other nations and strengthen the use of diplomacy as a tool to interact with other countries around the world. This legislation will give President Obama and Secretary Clinton the non-military support they need to engage other nations and change the view of America in the world. President Obama has stated that defense, diplomacy and development are the three keys to strengthening our national security. In recent years, diplomacy and development have been short-changed. Capacity must be rebuilt in these critical areas.

In addition, I appreciate my Sense of Congress language being included in Section 1127, entitled Sense of Congress Sudan, that the United States should support efforts to find a stable and lasting peace in Sudan in the wake of devastating conflict that led to major humanitarian disaster in Darfur and through the Sudan. This conflict caused the deaths of hundreds of thousands and continues to cause violence in Darfur and throughout Sudan. The language further provides that to achieve peace in Darfur, all parties must agree to uphold the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA). The language provides that the United States should support efforts to prepare for the national elections and for the referendum. It further provides that the United States should support efforts to develop international strategy to support the rebuilding of Sudan, with a particular focus on key CPA benchmarks including transitional justice, actions addressing the perpetrators of war crimes, policies towards, the return of displaced Darfuris and other people to their homeland, and management of the armed forces, and that U.S. policy toward Darfur should be fully integrated with U.S. policy toward the CPA as a full and lasting resolution to the Darfur crisis hinges on the resolution of a common set of national problems. We must insure the solution to the continued genocide in Sudan.

To understand the importance of my Sense of Congress language, it is important to address the history of Sudan. The crisis in Darfur began in February 2003, when two rebel groups emerged to challenge the National Congress Party (NCP) government in Darfur. The crisis in Darfur in western Sudan has led to a major humanitarian disaster, with an estimated 2.45 million people displaced, more than 240,000 people forced into neighboring Chad, and an estimated 450,000 people killed.

In July 2004, the House and Senate declared the atrocities in Darfur genocide and on May 4, 2006, the Government of National Unity and the Sudan Liberation Movement/Army signed the Darfur Peace Agreement after almost two years of negotiation. In July 2007, the U.N. Security Council passed Resolution 1769, authorizing the deployment of a robust peacekeeping force in Darfur. The resolution authorized the United Nations African Union force in Darfur to take all necessary measures to protect its personnel and humanitarian workers.

In July 2008, International Criminal Court (ICC) Chief Prosecutor Luis Moreno-Ocampo accused President Omar Bashir of Sudan of

genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes and asked ICC judges to issue an arrest warrant for President Bashir. On March 4, 2009, the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber issued a warrant of arrest for President Bashir. On March 4, 2009, the ICC Pre-Trial Chamber issued a warrant of arrest for President Bashir for war crimes and crimes against humanity.

It is important that against this backdrop that the U.S. reaffirms that genocide is still occurring in Darfur, displaced individuals should be resettled in their homeland, and the perpetrators of war crimes should be prosecuted.

This legislation is intended to shore up U.S. diplomacy and development efforts. Defense, diplomacy, and development are the three pillars of our national security. In recent years, diplomacy and development have been short-changed. Capacity must be rebuilt in these critical areas.

The legislation authorizes hiring 1500 additional Foreign Service Officers over the next two years and contains provisions on recruitment and training of officers to improve the Foreign Service's ability to respond to modern challenges. It requires the State Department to conduct a quadrennial review of its policies and programs that defines objectives, budget requirements and how these programs fit into the President's national security strategy.

Among other significant measures in the bill are provisions that:

Ensure that the United States will meet its financial commitments to the United Nations (U.N.) and other international organizations;

Allow financing the refurbishment of helicopters for U.N. peacekeeping missions in Darfur, the Republic of Congo and Chad;

Establish the Senator Paul Simon Study Abroad Foundation as a new executive branch corporation to expand dramatically the number and economic diversity of U.S. students studying overseas;

End the long-standing practice of excluding the committed partners of Foreign Service officers from the benefits routinely provided to the spouses and children of officers serving abroad;

Support the Administration's plan to double the size of the Peace Corps, and authorize a plan to use short-term volunteers to respond to humanitarian and development needs worldwide;

Broaden the Merida anti-drug trafficking initiative to include the Caribbean, and improve monitoring and evaluation of Merida programs; and

Increase resources and training for enforcement of intellectual property rights, especially in countries identified by the U.S. government as lax in enforcing those rights.

I have also worked tirelessly on incorporating my bill on Statelessness in its entirety in Section 1104, entitled "Statelessness." The purpose of this section is to increase global stability and security for the United States and the international community and decrease trafficking and discrimination by reducing the number of individuals who are de jure or de facto stateless. As a consequence of their statelessness, individuals are unable to claim right to a nationality and its respective rights and obligations, and instead they are excluded from full participation in civil society. The framework of this language establishes that the right to a nationality is a foundation of human rights, and a deterrent to displacement, since the State is the primary vehicle through which people are guaranteed their inalienable rights, and are made subject to the rule of law.

Additionally, this language ensures that it shall be the policy of the United States that the President and the permanent U.S. Representative to the United Nations work with the international community to increase political and financial support for the work of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) to prevent and resolve problems related to statelessness, and to promote the rights of the stateless by taking the following specific actions. The language urges U.N. and U.N. Country teams in countries with significant stateless populations to devote increasing attention and resources to bring about registration and documentation of all residents. The language advocates for the creation of an Inter-Agency Task Force on Statelessness with UNHCR and UNICEF. With respect to improving conditions for Women and children, Section 1104 urges the U.N. to devote special attention to restore secured citizenship to trafficked women and girls, and to work with Member States to guarantee that national legislation gives women full and equal rights regarding citizenship, and addressing the needs and rights of stateless children. Finally, this important language urges UNICEF to increase its efforts to encourage all U.N. Member States to permit full and easy access to birth registration for all children born in their territories, and promotes the issuance of birth certificates to all children born to refugees and displaced persons.

In conclusion, emerging challenges that will define our century such as climate change, weak states, rogue regimes, criminal cartels, nuclear proliferation, terrorism, poverty, and disease all must be addressed in order to protect our national security. America must work with our neighbors around the world to address these challenges and in doing so, it is our responsibility as Members of Congress to make sure organizations that are dealing with these issues get the resources they need to do their jobs safely and effectively.

NICOLE MOLUMBY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Nicole Molumbo of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Nicole is active in the community through her school and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Future Leader Award.

Nicole Molumbo possesses a 4.0 GPA on a 4.0 scale and is ranked #1 in a class of 364 students while volunteering more than 300 hours to the community during her high school career. Nicole has lettered three times, been a member of the All-District Choir and has been involved in Show Choir for three years. She is a member of the Spanish and Forum clubs. Nicole was inducted into the International Thespian Society and the National Honor Society and participated in the People to People Student Ambassador Program touring Italy and Greece. She has been a Freshman Mentor for two years. Nicole has volunteered for America's Second Harvest Backpack Buddies program and the United Cerebral Palsy preschool. She is active in her church's youth group and choir. After Hurricane Katrina, she

participated in a mission trip to New Orleans to assist in clean up efforts. Nicole is much more than an honor student and role model, she is an asset to the community in which she lives and the high school she attends.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Nicole Molumbo. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in and beyond the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

BJ OFFICE PRODUCTS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize BJ Office Products of Saint Joseph, Missouri. This business has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Employer of Excellence.

In the 1979's, Barbara Burns worked for a small office supply company. She soon borrowed enough to buy the company and build it into BJ Office Products, which 30 years later remains a fixture in the St. Joseph business community. She most recently won the American Business Women's Business Woman of the Year Award. As an employer, she is compassionate to daily life struggles in her employees' families. She is a member of the Eastside Rotary Club and the St. Joseph Chamber of Commerce. Barbara started her business by taking a huge gamble and has worked tirelessly to keep her business running while always making time for her family and her community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing BJ Office Products. They are a tremendous asset to the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent this business in the United States Congress.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the Foreign Service, and for other purposes:

Mr. SCALISE. Mr. Chair, last night, the House of Representatives passed the Foreign Relations Authorization Act. Unfortunately, this bill opens a door that will jeopardize one of the fundamental principles that our country was founded upon: the right to life.

I am disturbed that the liberals in Congress want to allow taxpayer dollars to be spent on the promotion of abortion in foreign countries through the creation of the "Office of Global Women's Issues." Secretary Clinton has acknowledged that this office will be used as a means to promote reproductive rights of

women. She also testified before Congress that she believes that reproductive rights include abortion. I find it troubling that Secretary Clinton is forcing a pro abortion agenda on foreign nations, including countries with pro life laws. This pro abortion agenda by the State Department contradicts President Obama's statements that he wants to work toward reducing the number of abortions that are performed.

I applaud Congressman CHRIS SMITH for offering an amendment that would have explicitly prohibited this Office from participating in abortion activity. His amendment would have also promoted maternal health, women's empowerment, and educational opportunities for women. While I supported his amendment, unfortunately it was rejected. If we establish this office, we should set guidelines that promote a culture of life, not a culture of abortion.

Secretary Clinton clearly expressed that she intends to promote and provide abortion through the Office of Global Women's Issues when she said: "We happen to think that family planning is an important part of women's health and reproductive health includes access to abortion . . ." and also that "we are now an administration that will protect the rights of women, including their rights to reproductive health care."

Unborn lives are the most defenseless lives, and it is our job to stand up and protect them. Under no circumstances should Americans be forced to fund abortions, either domestically or abroad.

BARBARA SPRONG

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Barbara Sprong of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Barbara is active in the community and she has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in Volunteerism.

After graduating from Central High School, Barbara received a degree in elementary education from Northwest Missouri State University. She then moved to Independence, volunteering as a docent to the Harry Truman Library, and to the Nelson Atkins Museum of Art, and becoming a member of the Junior Service League of Independence, the University of Kansas City Ambassadors, and the American Association of University Women.

Upon returning to Saint Joseph, Barbara worked with Heartland Regional Medical Center to develop its first volunteer program, and later joined the Board of Directors of Heartland Health, and the Heartland Foundation Board. She has served on the Family Guidance Center of Behavioral Health Care Board of Directors and the Community Living Services Board.

Barbara helped develop the Missouri Western Ambassadors program, and later served on the University's Board of Regents. She served as director of the Profit in Education program, and as a member of the Saint Joseph School District Foundation Board of Directors. She has also supported the United Way, having served on its Board of Directors,

the Albrecht Kemper Museum of Art, the PEO, and is a member of the Wyatt Park Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Barbara Sprong. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

BECKY SHELLITO

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Becky Shellito of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Becky is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in Support Services.

Becky Shellito married after attending Missouri Western State University; nevertheless, this high school valedictorian lived up to the expectations of that designation in her life. While raising two young daughters, she was active in the Parent Teacher Association and was elected as president of that organization. She went to work part-time for the Grace Evangelical Church while her youngest daughter was in middle school and today serves as Office Manager, handling all administrative functions for a staff of six pastors, four secretaries and two custodians. Becky is a great coach and strong administrator. She has assisted families who have faced tragedy, knowing all too well the challenges faced by families who have lost loved ones. Seventeen years ago, Becky and her family lost their two daughters in a tragic automobile accident. It is not simply her testimony, but her life that brings hope to individuals who face the most difficult circumstances. Her leadership and professionalism are shadowed only by her strong resolve and perseverance.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Becky Shellito. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record that I inadvertently voted against a bill which I had cosponsored and intended to support.

H.R. 1886, the Pakistan Enduring Assistance and Cooperation Enhancement Act, provides for a new framework for U.S. assistance to Pakistan in a relationship characterized by commitment. It is especially urgent that the United States and Pakistan pull together during these critical times in Pakistan. As co-Chair of the India Caucus, I was pleased to see provisions that would focus American assistance to Pakistan on the threats it faces from various terrorist groups, instead of allow-

ing for military aid that could inflame tensions with India. It is vital that our assistance demonstrates that we support the people of Pakistan and contributes to stability and the rule of law—this will be a help to all the people of the region.

I encourage the continued progress of H.R. 1886 through the remainder of the legislative process, and I regret losing the opportunity to demonstrate my support for the measure with my vote in the House.

JULIA RUPP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Julia Rupp of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Julia is active in the community through work and in her spare time and she has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Lifetime Achievement Award: Woman in the Workplace.

Julia Rupp has devoted much of her life toward bettering the St. Joseph community. Following her marriage to John Rupp, the two started Rupp Funeral Home in 1939. Julia was instrumental in the formation of the South Side Fall Festival and was the First Grand Marshall of the event, which has grown each year since its beginning in 1989. Julia is a charter member, past president, and treasurer of the South Side Business Woman's Association. For 21 years, she has been a member of the South St. Joseph Progressive Association, which seeks funding for projects to better St. Joseph. Julia served as a member of the InterServ Community Housing Board, and gave leadership in the development of King Hill Apartments, the first senior housing in South St. Joseph.

She is a past member of the Board of Regents of Missouri Western State University, a member of the Missouri Funeral Directors and Embalmers Association, and the National Funeral Directors Association. Julia is also a member of the St. James Catholic Church. She is active in the Altar Society and is a member of the Daughters of Isabella. At the Fourth annual Winter Splendor, hosted by Catholic Charities, she was honored for her work in the business community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Julia Rupp. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

JODI BLOEMKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jodi Bloemker of Missouri. Jodi is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Emerging Leader Award.

Jodi Bloemker has accomplished much in the ten years since graduating from Central

High School. She graduated from Missouri State University in 2002 and received a Master of Public Administration from American University in Washington, D.C. in 2005. While in graduate school, Jodi worked for a U.S. Congressman as a Legislative Correspondent and later as Director of Research and Firm Administrator for U.S. Strategies Corporation.

Upon returning to St. Joseph, Jodi has worked with the Community Action Partnership as a Community Development Specialist and with the United Way of Greater St. Joseph as Director of Community Investment. Jodi has lent considerable time and talent to several projects bringing education and career opportunities to students in our community. She has served with the Heartland Foundation's Healthy Communities Investor Council, the St. Joseph Employment Coalition. She has served on the Preschool-20 Education Council-Northwest Missouri, and the My Success Event Steering Committee. Jodi is a member of the 2009 class of Leadership St. Joseph and is a member of Rotary Club #32 Downtown St. Joseph.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Jodi Bloemker. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

TRANSPORTATION SECURITY ADMINISTRATION AUTHORIZATION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2200) to authorize the Transportation Security Administration's programs relating to the provision of transportation security, and for other purposes:

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Chair, there are many worthy and needed provisions in this legislation. It authorizes a tripling of surface transportation security funding, to \$15.6 billion. It requires the Transportation Security Administration to field at least 100 canine teams, which are absolutely critical to our bomb detection efforts. The bill creates a \$10 million grant program for improving security measures at general aviation airports. These and many other provisions in the bill are laudable.

Unfortunately, the bill includes a provision that would allow TSA at least two more years to achieve the congressionally-mandated goal of screening 100 percent of air cargo on passenger jets. Mr. Chair, we can't keep kicking this can down the road. The traveling public has been demanding for years that we close this major airline security gap. We said we would fulfill all the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. We haven't.

If we give TSA two more years, two years from now TSA will say "We need more time." Congress has supplied the money to achieve this goal. What we need from TSA is results-oriented leadership to get the job done. The best way to finish this job is to keep the existing deadline in place, which is why I could not

support this bill. I hope that we can improve this bill during any conference with the Senate or if it is included in a larger Homeland Security authorization bill by removing this two-year extension on meeting the cargo screening requirement.

KAREN WOODBURY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Karen Woodbury of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Karen is active in the community and she has been chosen to receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in Volunteerism.

Karen Woodbury is the Master of Social Work Off-Campus Coordinator in Northwest Missouri for the University of Missouri School of Social Work. As a social worker, Karen has translated her professional commitment to community advocacy into meeting many needs of the St. Joseph community through countless hours of volunteerism. Karen was a pioneer in establishing the Choices program in the St. Joseph School District middle schools for the YWCA. She served on the YWCA St. Joseph Board of Directors for several years and is a past co-chair of the steering committee of Women of Excellence.

Karen has assisted several organizations to develop programs to meet community needs. She helped the Buchanan County Juvenile Office to create a program for young teen women to divert them from the juvenile justice system and was awarded the Missouri Juvenile Justice Award of Excellence in 1998 for this program. She has served on the St. Joseph Safety Council, the United Cerebral Palsy Board of Board of Directors and on the Buchanan County Social Welfare Board. Karen also helped to establish the Social Welfare Board's counseling program for indigent clients. She was awarded the Roy Blunt Citation for Literacy in 1998 for her work with middle school age girls.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Karen Woodbury. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.

LAURA BAKKEN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Laura Bakken of Saint Joseph, Missouri. Laura is active in the community through her work and has been chosen to

receive the YWCA Women of Excellence Award for Woman in the Workplace.

Laura Bakken serves as the Spanish interpreter for the Head Start at Community Action Partnership, and is certified in "Los Ninos Bien Educados," a nationally acclaimed curriculum for strengthening Hispanic families and enhancing parenting success. Laura recruits low income Hispanic families to participate in the Head Start program. She was nominated by her peers for excellence in performance and is currently training colleagues about cultural diversity. Laura uses her interpretation skills throughout the community to assist children and families. "To make a community better, it starts with the people. If everyone can adopt one family, and help that one, and get them on their feet, then it'll be a chain reaction." Laura has faced the challenge of overcoming an abusive childhood, homelessness as a teenager, breast cancer, and physical disability to become a survivor and a nurturer. As her nominator describes her, "She defies the odds and simply gets the job done, making the world a brighter, prettier place just by the doing."

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in recognizing Laura Bakken. She has made an amazing impact on countless individuals in the St. Joseph Community. I am honored to represent her in the United States Congress.