

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