

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF ELK GROVE BAPTIST CHURCH

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th anniversary of Elk Grove Baptist Church located in Elk Grove Village in my Congressional district. Elk Grove Baptist Church was founded with the dedication and signing of the church's charter in 1959.

Through the last fifty years, Elk Grove Baptist Church has grown into a thriving congregation of 200 weekly attendees and has become an important part of the community. From weekly outreach events, to Sunday morning worship services and community service, the church has proved to be a driving force in the township's growth and prosperity.

Over the years, Elk Grove Baptist Church has grown its facilities to keep pace with its outreach and expanding ministry. Since its inception, there have been nine senior pastors in the church's history and I am pleased to recognize the hard work and faithful service of the current Pastor, Reverend Curt Hansen.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing the special occasion of this 50th Anniversary as we celebrate Elk Grove Baptist Church's legacy of faith, fellowship and service. I look forward to many more years of fruitfulness.

RECOGNIZING THE GOVERNMENTS OF TURKEY AND ARMENIA

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support the efforts underway to improve the relationship between the Republics of Turkey and Armenia.

Over the past several years, the two countries have been meeting quietly, with the assistance of Switzerland, to come to an agreement to normalize their relations and open the borders between Armenia and Turkey. I am pleased that these negotiations have been fruitful. A strong relationship between these two countries will benefit not only the citizens of Armenia and Turkey, but the region and world as well. I also encourage the two countries to continue to work together to finish this process.

I am optimistic that these efforts will lead to greater stabilization of the region, and I applaud and congratulate the governments of Armenia and Turkey on their efforts to date and offer our friendship and help as they move on to the next steps in the process.

COMMEMORATING THE 220TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE UNITED STATES MARSHALS SERVICE

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to commemorate the 220th Anniversary of the United States Marshals Service on September 24, 2009. The U.S. Marshals Service is our Nation's oldest and most versatile federal law enforcement agency. Since its national inception in 1789, the U.S. Marshals Service has served a unique place in America's history.

The first U.S. marshal in the Colorado Territory was appointed by President Lincoln and began his service on March 25, 1861. On August 1, 1876, Colorado became the 38th State, which created the Judicial District of Colorado. U.S. marshals and their deputies have served the District of Colorado since with great valor and courage. With their broad statutory law enforcement authority granted by the Judiciary Act of 1789, U.S. marshals and their deputies distributed presidential proclamations, tamed the American West, registered enemy aliens in time of war, helped conduct the national census, protected the President, and served on the front lines of the civil rights movement. More recently, deputy U.S. marshals have been called by Presidential orders and have served valiantly during national emergencies—large-scale natural disasters, hurricanes and to the terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001.

Today the men and women of the U.S. Marshals Service, District of Colorado, maintain their core mission to serve and protect our Federal courts. They ensure the safe conduct of judicial proceedings and protect Federal judges, jurors, and other members of the Federal judiciary. They provide for the safety and security of protected witnesses through the Witness Security Division. The U.S. Marshals Service also provides for the safe and secure transportation of federal inmates for federal court proceedings and to and from correctional facilities. Additionally, the U.S. Marshals Service is responsible for managing nearly 1.7 billion dollars worth of seized property illegally acquired through criminal means by maintaining and promptly disposing of assets through its Asset Forfeiture Program.

Most notably, the U.S. Marshals Service is the federal government's primary agency for conducting fugitive investigations. The men and women of the Marshals Service apprehend more federal fugitives than all other federal agencies combined. Working with law enforcement agencies at the federal, state and local levels, Marshals-led task forces arrested an additional 73,000 state and local fugitives, clearing 90,600 state and local felony warrants. The Marshals currently leads 82 district fugitive task forces and seven regional fugitive task forces dedicated to locating and appre-

hending wanted criminals. The U.S. Marshals Service has developed close working relationships with other law enforcement agencies on fugitive matters, and provides assistance, expertise and training to agencies on the federal, state, local and international levels. The U.S. Marshals Service is the premier agency to apprehend foreign fugitives believed to be in the United States, and it is the agency responsible for locating and extraditing American fugitives who flee to foreign countries.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I would therefore submit that we congratulate the U.S. Marshals Service on their 220th Anniversary for their past and present accomplishments, and that those men and women we recognize wear "America's Star" nationally in their selfless dedication to Justice, Integrity and Service.

STUDENT AID AND FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO SABLAN**

OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. SABLAN. Madam Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and Fiscal Responsibility Act. I wish to thank Chairman MILLER for his leadership on this bill, and express my thanks to the staff as well.

Madam Chair, the financial resources of local governments and college and university scholarship funds are quickly dwindling. I am encouraged that this Congress is working to ensure access to student grants and loans at a time when many families, including those in my district in the Northern Mariana Islands, are struggling to make ends meet. The changes made by H.R. 3221 will mean that even more students will get the opportunity to pursue higher education.

This legislation will raise the annual maximum Pell grant to unprecedented levels and ensure that these grants will continue to increase with the cost of tuition. It will open up an additional \$4 million for Pell grants in the Northern Marianas alone. It will make investments in financial aid that will benefit students from every district, no matter where they go to college. Increased funding to minority-serving institutions, including those with large populations of Pacific Islanders, will ensure that our students from the Northern Marianas are cared for and supported, both socially and academically, when they are so far away from their home.

Three quarters of a million dollars will be available in the Northern Marianas for programs that encourage students to stay in

• 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.

school and make sure they succeed. And money will also be dedicated to community colleges, like Northern Marianas College, to help them finance new projects and cover existing needs.

Higher education is truly the investment of a lifetime—it creates opportunities and opens doors that will benefit our students and families far into the future. I applaud this legislation.

ADVANCED VEHICLE TECHNOLOGY  
ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3246) to provide for a program of research, development, demonstration and commercial application in vehicle technologies at the Department of Energy:

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today to express my support for the Advanced Vehicle Technology Act (H.R. 3246). I thank Chairman GORDON and the members of the Science and Technology Committee for their work on this important legislation, which will fuel innovation in the American automobile sector and capitalize on America's manufacturing infrastructure to spur the creation of millions of well-paying American jobs and reduce our greenhouse gas emissions.

Our country's approach to developing advanced technology vehicles must be comprehensive and coordinated to ensure innovation and advancement in our entire vehicle fleet. Historically, the Vehicle Technologies program at the U.S. Department of Energy has lacked a comprehensive approach to research and development, with various technologies competing for funding and imbalanced investment in between passenger and heavy duty vehicles research. The Advanced Vehicle Technology Act addresses these issues through authorization of long-term, sustained funding for a new comprehensive research and development program at the Department of Energy. H.R. 3246 invests in a diverse range of near-term and long-range vehicle technologies that will improve fuel efficiency, support domestic research and manufacturing, and reduce our country's dependence on petroleum that pollutes our planet and keeps us dependent on foreign energy sources. Such a comprehensive approach will fuel American innovation now and into the future.

Innovation is America's greatest strength. As our country recovers from a serious recession, funding for research and development is one of the best investments we can make to restore our American leadership in the global economy. America excels at high tech manufacturing, and investing in the development of a new generation of advanced technology vehicles will drive the creation of millions of new, well paying manufacturing jobs here at home. Innovation in vehicle technologies is also an important component in addressing the pressing challenge of global climate change. America's passenger and commercial transport sec-

tor produces one third of our country's total carbon dioxide emissions. Meeting the challenge of global climate change will require the development of a new generation of vehicles powered with clean energy.

Modernizing our nation's vehicle fleet through American innovation is critical for our economic prosperity, energy security, and responsible stewardship of our planet. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3246.

CONGRATULATIONS PEORIA  
CHRISTIAN ELEMENTARY ON  
BEING NAMED A NATIONAL  
BLUE RIBBON SCHOOL

**HON. AARON SCHOCK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 17, 2009*

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Peoria Christian Elementary School in Peoria, Illinois on being named a 2009 National Blue Ribbon School by the U.S. Department of Education.

Peoria Christian joined only 49 other private schools, from a pool of more than 27,000, as a private recipient of this award; the school was nominated by the Council for American Private Education, also known as CAPE. By being recognized with the award, Peoria Christian has demonstrated its successes in ensuring students achieve exceptionally high national test scores.

I applaud the concerted effort it took to elevate the school's test scores to such an extraordinary level. As I honor this school I must remind this body that while this award is presented to Peoria Christian School, the award really reflects the combined efforts of all those involved with the school. As former Peoria School Board President, I know that every successful school has the trinity of skilled educators, committed students and involved parents as a base.

Also on a personal note, I always find it impressive to see a school allow for students' academic and personal development. As such, I must applaud the school's commitment to the mission of preparing their "students to lead Christ-like lives." I'm certain that Peoria Christian will not only continue to flourish as an institution for years to come, but that its young students will eventually become active leaders in Peoria, Illinois and throughout these United States.

Again, congratulations Peoria Christian.

NETWORKS PROMOTE PRESI-  
DENT'S HEALTH CARE AGENDA

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 9, 2009*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, National news programs have boosted the Administration's health care agenda and ignored the high costs of a government takeover of health care, according to a study by the Business and Media Institute (BMI).

BMI examined 224 health care stories on ABC, CBS, and NBC from over a five-month period.

The survey found that these stories favored proponents of the Administration's health care plan over critics of the plan by a margin of more than 2-to-1.

Yet the American people are split evenly for and against it, with the trend against it.

Only nine percent of stories mentioned the high cost of the Administration's plan.

And the networks frequently repeated the Administration's incorrect claim that there are 47 million uninsured people in America—a claim the President backed down from during his recent health care speech

The national media should report the facts on health care, not tell Americans what to think.

STUDENT AID FINANCIAL  
RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

**HON. PETER J. ROSKAM**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 16, 2009*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3221) to amend the Higher Education Act of 1965, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Chair, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3221, the Student Aid and Financial Responsibility Act, which abolishes a historically successful private-public partnership in the student lending market in favor of a newer government-run program. In an unwise grab for total government control over the student lending market, this Majority is going to destroy a program that has provided need-based financial assistance to thousands of graduate students that have attended Midwestern University in my Congressional District.

Created in 1966, the Federal Family Education Loan program has distributed more than 200 million loans to college students totaling nearly \$800 billion. In 1993, the Direct Loan program—the government "option" in the student lending program—was established to promote competition. Now, this Majority wants to consolidate all federally supported student lending under the Direct Loan Program. Let me be clear about the consequences of this ploy: millions of dollars in financial aid for thousands of students across the country will be lost. Doing away with the Federal Family Education Loan program will also do away with the School as Lender program.

H.R. 3221 ignores the needs of graduate students. School as Lender is a vital need-based aid program for financially struggling graduate student education. Opponents of the School as Lender program have characterized these schools as profit-hungry proxies for commercial lenders. To the contrary, these schools obtain credit to make loans and use the proceeds from their origination to support financial aid. School as Lender institutions are prohibited by law from making money from the program—all proceeds from the sale of loans must be returned to graduate students in the form of need-based grants. School lenders have low default rates, indicating that schools are not irresponsibly encouraging students to