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As the Representative for western Wisconsin, I have always treasured the strong emphasis that's placed in our area on higher education. All of the six universities located in the congressional district have superior technology, science and math programs that will place graduates in the innovative industries in the future.

The University of Wisconsin-La Crosse is no exception to this. It is the leading public university that excels in academics, athletics and the quality of life for its students.

UW-L also has an extremely diverse student body that enhances students' cultural awareness and learning experience. The university is a member of the International Student Exchange programs and has made partnerships with other universities around the world. Currently students from over 54 different countries are enrolled at UW-L.

I can attest firsthand to the high caliber of graduates that UW-La Crosse produces, because throughout my time in Congress I have employed many of them. Currently, I have seven graduates from UW-La Crosse on my staff, who happen to be with us today in the House gallery, from my chief of staff, Erik Olson, to my district office manager, Loren Kannenberg, Shannon Glynn, Steve Sipe, Brad Smith, Karrie Jackelen and Mark Seitz. I congratulate them on their achievement and thank them for the outstanding work they do on behalf of the people of the Third Congressional District of western Wisconsin. It's clear that UW-La Crosse prepared them well for their careers after graduation.

I would like to congratulate all of the UW-La Crosse faculty, staff, students, alumni, of the past 100 years for the century of academic excellence. UW-L wouldn't be the success that it is if it wasn't for their hard work and dedication.

The university has achieved so many great things over the past 100 years. I know that the faculty, staff and students of UW-La Crosse will achieve even more over the next 100 years.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I encourage my associates and colleagues to vote for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 730, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution, as amended, was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

SUPPORTING NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 768) expressing support for the designation of the month of October as "National Work and Family Month," as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 768

Whereas, according to a report entitled "Attraction and Retention" published by an organization called WorldatWork, the quality of workers' jobs and the supportiveness of their workplaces are key predictors of job productivity, job satisfaction, commitment to employers, and retention;

Whereas, according to a 2008 report by the Families and Work Institute entitled National Study of the Changing Workforce, employees with a high level of work-life integration are, compared to employees with moderate or low levels of work-life integration, more highly engaged and less likely to look for a new job in the next year, and also enjoy better overall health, better mental health, and lower levels of stress;

Whereas, according to a 2004 report entitled "Overwork in America", employees who are able to effectively balance family and work responsibilities are less likely to report making mistakes or feeling resentment toward employers and coworkers;

Whereas, according to the Best Places to Work in the Federal Government rankings released by the Partnership for Public Service and American University's Institute for the Study of Public Policy Implementation, work-life balance and a family-friendly culture are among the key drivers of employee engagement and satisfaction in the Federal workforce;

Whereas finding a good work-life balance is important for workers in multiple generations, as indicated by a 2009 survey entitled "Great Expectations! What Students Want in an Employer and How Federal Agencies Can Deliver It", which found that attaining a healthy work-life balance was an important career goal of 66 percent of respondents, and a 2008 study entitled "A Golden Opportunity", which found that workers between the ages of 50 and 65 are a strong source of experienced talent for the Federal workforce and that nearly 50 percent of these potential workers find flexible work schedules "extremely appealing";

Whereas, according to research by the Radcliffe Public Policy Center in 2000, men in their 20s and 30s and women in their 20s, 30s, and 40s identified as the most important job characteristic a work schedule that allows them to spend time with their families;

Whereas, according to research by the Sloan Center for Aging and Work, a majority of workers age 53 and older attribute their success as an employee, by a great or moderate extent, to job flexibility, and also report that, to a great extent, job flexibility contributes to an overall higher quality of life;

Whereas employees who are able to effectively balance family and work responsibilities feel healthier and more successful in their relationships with their spouses, children, and friends;

Whereas 85 percent of United States wage and salaried workers have immediate, day-to-day family responsibilities outside of their jobs;

Whereas, according to the 2006 American Community Survey, 47 percent of wage and

salaried workers are parents with children under the age of 18 who live with them at least half-time;

Whereas job flexibility often allows parents to be more involved in their children's lives, and parental involvement is associated with higher child achievement in language and mathematics, improved behavior, greater academic persistence, and lower dropout rates;

Whereas a 2000 study entitled Urban Working Families revealed that a lack of job flexibility for parents negatively affects child health by preventing parents from making needed doctors' appointments and children from receiving adequate early care, which makes illnesses more severe and prolonged;

Whereas, from 2001 to early 2008, 1,700,000 active duty troops have served in Iraq and 600,000 members of the National Guard and Reserve (133,000 on more than one tour) have been called up to serve, creating a need for policies and programs to help military families adjust to the realities that come with having a family member in the military;

Whereas according to a Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) report, less than half of mothers who work full time exclusively breastfeed their newborns although support for lactation at work benefits individual families as well as employers by improving productivity and staff loyalty, and decreasing absenteeism and employee turnover;

Whereas according to the CDC, breastfeeding is the most beneficial form of infant nutrition, and the greater the duration of breastfeeding, the lower the odds of pediatric obesity;

Whereas studies report that family rituals, such as sitting down to dinner together positively influence children's health and development, and that healthy lifestyle habits, including healthy eating and physical activity, can lower the risk of becoming obese and developing related diseases;

Whereas unpaid family caregivers will likely continue to be the largest source of long-term care for elderly United States citizens, and the Department of Health and Human Services estimates the number of such caregivers to reach 37,000,000 by 2050, an increase of 85 percent from 2000, as baby boomers reach retirement age in record numbers; and

Whereas the month of October would be an appropriate month to designate as "National Work and Family Month": Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the designation of "National Work and Family Month";

(2) recognizes the importance of balancing work and family to job productivity and healthy families;

(3) recognizes that an important job characteristic is a work schedule that allows employees to spend time with families;

(4) supports the goals and ideals of "National Work and Family Month", and urges public officials, employers, employees, and the general public to work together to achieve more balance between work and family; and

(5) requests that the President issue a proclamation calling upon the people of the United States to observe "National Work and Family Month" with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 768 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands?

There was no objection.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 768, which expresses support for National Work and Family Month.

Currently, most people work, and balancing work and family is particularly challenging for these workers. This is particularly true for working women who comprise over one half of the workforce and are more likely than men to be primary caregivers of children or other family members.

According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, women spend about 6.3 hours a day caring for children under the age of 13, while men spend 4.1 hours.

In addition, women feel more societal pressure than men to stay home with a child or elderly parent who requires care. There is substantial evidence that family-friendly policies help parents balance work and family, improve employers' bottom line, and have beneficial effects on children.

A 2008 report by the Families and Work Institute found that workers who are able to balance work and family are more highly engaged in their work and less likely to look for a new job in the next year. They also enjoy better overall health, better mental health and lower levels of stress. In fact, family-friendly policies might be the keys to this country's prosperity. The Government Accountability Office has published a study on the practices of other countries and found that policies such as paid leave help workers, especially women, enter and remain in the workforce.

Finding a good balance between work and family is important to most people. A 2009 survey of students found that two-thirds of respondents cited a healthy work-life balance as an important career goal.

In addition, research by the Radcliff Public Policy Center found that women in their 20s, 30s and 40s and men in their 20s and 30s identified the most important job characteristic to be a job schedule that allows them to spend time with their families.

A majority of workers age 53 and older attribute their success as an employee to job flexibility, which contributes to an overall higher quality of life. By the same token, lack of job flexibility for parents negatively affects child health because they are taken to their doctor less often and do not receive adequate early care.

Studies have found that family rituals such as sitting down to dinner to-

gether and sharing activities and holidays positively influence children, children's health and development. Due to the aging of the baby boomers, the Department of Health and Human Services estimates that the number of unpaid caregivers will reach 37 million by 2050, up 85 percent from 2000.

I encourage my colleagues to support designating October as National Work and Family Month in order to shine a light on the beneficial effects of balancing work and family.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 768, expressing support for the designation of the month of October as National Work and Family Month.

Establishing a healthy balance between work and family obligations is something that most workers, women and men, struggle with at some point in their careers. Studies have shown that employees who are able to effectively balance family and work responsibilities are less likely to report making mistakes or feel resentment towards employers and coworkers.

Eighty-five percent of the United States' wage and salaried workers have immediate day-to-day family responsibilities outside of their jobs. Workplace flexibility often allows parents to be more involved in their children's lives. Parental involvement is associated with children's higher achievement in language and mathematics, improved behavior, greater academic persistence, and lower dropout rates.

Today, with this resolution, we support the designation of the month of October as National Work and Family Month. Through this designation, we recognize the importance of balancing work and family; and we urge public officials, employers, employees, and the general public to work together to achieve more balance between work and family.

I stand in support of this resolution, and I ask my colleagues' support.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize at this time the author of the resolution, the distinguished gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. MCCARTHY) for as much time as she may consume.

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. I want to thank my colleagues for bringing this resolution to the floor. I also want to thank my ranking member on our Subcommittee on Healthy Families and Communities, Mr. PLATTS. He and I have worked very well on a number of issues, and we appreciate his hard work in joining me as the lead cosponsor on this resolution.

I would also like to thank Chairman MILLER, Ranking Member KLINE, and all of the committee staff who always do such a wonderful job. National Work and Family Month is the centerpiece of a national educational campaign to

raise awareness among employers about the value of work-life integration.

The goal is to encourage all workplaces to pause once a year during the month of October to communicate and celebrate the progress already made on the journey to creating healthier and more flexible work environments and then raise the bar to accomplish even more the following year. Workplace flexibility is extremely important in today's busy world. Corporations that engage in these family-supportive practices have earned well in their stock values.

This year, more than ever, employers need to know there is an inexpensive, efficient way to motivate and retain top talent that they will need to get through tough times. Employees need to know it's good to utilize work-life programs offered in an organization because it will help them become much more productive. Over 5 years, every October, businesses all over the country have celebrated National Work and Family Month.

The problem of work-life conflicts affects everybody. A majority of working men and a significant portion of women with children under the age of 18 report some level of work-life conflict.

It's important to designate a time for employers to help employees understand their option and achieve better work-life integration. Meanwhile, employees need to know it's good to utilize work-life programs offered at any organization, because it will help them become more productive.

Decades of research show that an investment into work-life categories provide a positive return and investment, a more productive, engaged and healthier workforce.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers, and I encourage the adoption of this resolution in commemorating the work and balance that families have to have between work and family time. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, again, I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 768, as amended, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 768, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SUPPORTING RECOGNITION OF COLUMBUS AND HIS ROLE IN UNITED STATES HISTORY

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 822) expressing support for students to learn about Christopher Columbus.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 822

Whereas Columbus Day is celebrated the second Monday in October every year to honor Christopher Columbus;

Whereas Christopher Columbus arrived in the Americas on October 12, 1492, and is credited with initiating the European colonization of the Americas;

Whereas tributes and memorials to Christopher Columbus exist today in almost every State in the Nation;

Whereas the discovery and colonization of the Americas is an integral part of the history and heritage of the United States;

Whereas according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress in 2006, less than half of the country's high school seniors had a basic knowledge of United States history;

Whereas 29 States require high school students to take a class in civics or government;

Whereas a proficient knowledge of the history and heritage of the United States is important to promoting additional civic involvement; and

Whereas educating today's young people about the history and heritage of the United States is essential to creating an informed generation of citizens: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the recognition of Christopher Columbus and his role in the discovery and history of the United States;

(2) recognizes that it is important for young people to learn about Christopher Columbus and the discovery, heritage, and history of the Nation; and

(3) encourages all people to take advantage of educational opportunities in high schools and institutions of higher education to learn about Christopher Columbus' discovery of the Americas and United States history.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) and the gentleman from Kentucky (Mr. GUTHRIE) each will control 20 minutes.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 822 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands?

There was no objection.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 822, which recognizes the important role Christopher Columbus played in the history of the United States. The resolution also underlines the overall importance of learning about our history.

On October 12, 1492, Christopher Columbus and his 90 crew members arrived in the Americas aboard his famous three-ship fleet. The voyage, which lasted nearly 10 weeks, began in Spain and ended on the Bahamian island of Guanahani. Credited with discovering the new world, Columbus is a controversial figure whose quest to find new trade routes to Asia brought him to our shores.

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Americans first celebrated Columbus Day on October 12, 1792, to commemorate the 300th anniversary of his landing. The first official Columbus Day holiday, however, was not celebrated until after the 400th anniversary, when President Benjamin Harrison issued a proclamation in 1892. Today, tributes and memorial celebrations in honor of Christopher Columbus take place across the Nation.

This resolution stresses the importance of understanding the importance of Christopher Columbus' voyage, our broader history, and a call for students to learn about our Nation's heritage.

The importance of an educated and active citizenship cannot be overstated. Without a basic civic education, it is less likely that today's students will vote or engage in active citizenship as adults. Civic education raises awareness and responsibility in our students. Learning about our history is important not only for its academic aspects, but also for the way in which it improves our democracy.

I want to express my support for this resolution and encourage young people to learn about how history affects their everyday lives. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I thank Representative THOMPSON for bringing it to the floor.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 822, expressing support for students to learn about Christopher Columbus. Yesterday, we celebrated the 517th anniversary of Christopher Columbus' voyage to the Americas. Columbus landed in the Americas in what is now the Commonwealth of the Bahamas on October 12, 1492. Christopher Columbus' voyage to America was an integral part in the history and founding of our Nation.

Today, tributes to Christopher Columbus can be found all around the country. Almost every State has a city that bears the name "Columbus." There are memorials located from coast to coast. There is a fountain memorializing Columbus here in Washington, D.C., and a chapel relocated from the Columbus family castle in Spain to Pennsylvania, just to name a couple of examples.

The importance of Christopher Columbus in American history and heritage is obvious. However, if you asked students today, many cannot tell you why yesterday was a holiday and for

most a day off from school. The importance of a knowledge of history has been argued for centuries. Yet, according to the National Assessment of Educational Progress in 2006, less than half of the country's high school seniors have a basic knowledge of American history. For this reason, it is important to support this resolution and encourage students to take advantage of educational opportunities, in and out of school, to learn about Christopher Columbus and his voyage to America and the history of the United States.

I would like to thank my colleague from Pennsylvania, Mr. GLENN THOMPSON, for introducing this resolution. I ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further speakers. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, again I urge my colleagues to support House Resolution 822. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from the Northern Mariana Islands (Mr. SABLAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 822.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

IRAN SANCTIONS ENABLING ACT OF 2009

Mr. FRANK of Massachusetts. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1327) to authorize State and local governments to direct divestiture from, and prevent investment in, companies with investments of \$20,000,000 or more in Iran's energy sector, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1327

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Iran Sanctions Enabling Act of 2009".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS.

The Congress finds as follows:

(1) There is an increasing interest by States, local governments, educational institutions, and private institutions to seek to disassociate themselves from companies that directly or indirectly support the Government of Iran's efforts to achieve a nuclear weapons capability.

(2) Policy makers and fund managers may find moral, prudential, or reputational reasons to divest from companies that accept the business risk of operating in countries that are subject to international economic sanctions or that have business relationships with countries, governments, or entities with which any United States company would be prohibited from dealing because of economic sanctions imposed by the United States.