

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. STEPHANIE HERSETH SANDLIN

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2868) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to extend, modify, and recodify the authority of the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance security and protect against acts of terrorism against chemical facilities, and for other purposes:

Ms. HERSETH SANDLIN. Mr. Chair, today the House is considering H.R. 2868, the Chemical and Water Security Act of 2009. Chemical and water security is essential and of course we must take every sensible step to support the establishment of adequate security programs for drinking water and wastewater facilities and a continuation of efforts to properly improve security measures and risks related to chemical facilities.

However, I have heard serious concerns from agricultural retailers and farm groups in South Dakota about the potential implications of this legislation and am concerned that it is being rushed through the House. Specifically, these constituents are concerned about the inclusion of Inherently Safer Technology (IST) requirements, which will affect products important to agriculture in our state such as anhydrous ammonia fertilizer. Anhydrous ammonia fertilizer is a widely-used and essential lower-cost source of plant nutrients on which many farmers in South Dakota rely. The South Dakota Agribusiness Association has informed my office that, while the bill does not require smaller Tier 3 and 4 facilities to switch to a safer product or process, in the face of higher regulatory costs and increased liability concerns, these facilities may well opt to stop handling this product. While there are replacement fertilizers that could be substituted for anhydrous ammonia, the South Dakota Agribusiness Association anticipates that the cost per acre would increase for farmers as more product application would be needed to obtain the same nitrogen levels needed for certain leading crops, like corn. Farmers in South Dakota are already struggling with increased input costs and I believe we should not rush to put in place new rules that could further raise these costs.

This is especially true, where, as here, the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is currently engaged in implementing Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards (CFATS), which were authorized as part of the Homeland Security Appropriations Act of 2007, which I supported. The crop-related chemical facilities have been working cooperatively with DHS throughout the CFATS process to establish appropriate risk-based standards and ensure compliance. This rulemaking process is not yet complete and I would prefer to allow

the Department time to implement CFATS so we can more fully assess the effectiveness of current regulation before authorizing further significant changes to the program. In addition, during testimony before the Committees on Homeland Security and Energy and Commerce, Administration officials expressed concern over whether DHS had the necessary resources and expertise to properly administer IST requirements. Such uncertainty over a critical section of the proposed regulations further supports the view that it is more appropriate to allow the current regulatory process to continue.

At this point there is no companion authorization bill in the Senate. However, as the legislative process continues to move forward, I will continue to work with my colleagues in the House and Senate toward a bill that achieves the goal of properly protecting our citizens, in South Dakota and across the country, from risks posed by accidents or terrorist attacks on chemical, drinking water and wastewater facilities, and ensures that agricultural and other businesses will be protected from overly burdensome regulations. Thank you.

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF MR. JIM DURRETT

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mr. Jim Durrett of Clarksville, Tennessee, upon his retirement after 32 years of civil service to the City of Clarksville.

Jim's story is inspiring. A native son, he began his work for the city as a laborer in the Street Department. Jim worked diligently and continued to assume more and more responsibility. Eventually, he became the Superintendent of that department and served capably in that role for 20 years through many difficult times.

Jim's leadership over those years prepared him to be named as the Mayor's Chief of Staff in 2007. Since that time, Jim has overseen the city's involvement in some of Clarksville's most exciting developments—the recruitment of Hemlock Semiconductor, the extension of the RiverWalk, the beginning of construction on the long-awaited Marina, and many other important projects. Despite the heavy load of responsibility, Jim's strong work ethic, pleasant demeanor, and the continuing respect of his colleagues is remarkable.

Please join me in honoring Jim Durrett on his service to the City of Clarksville, and wishing him only the best in the years to come.

DEMOCRAT HEALTHCARE BILL: ABORTION COVERAGE

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, for 30 years, the pro-life beliefs of millions of Americans have been protected by the federal government. Congress passed the Hyde Amendment in 1976 which bars federal funds from paying for elective abortions. This amendment must be renewed yearly in the annual Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill.

However, the programs included in the Pelosi health care bill, including the government-run plan, are not funded by or beholden to this annual appropriations bill and are therefore not subject to the Hyde amendment.

Legislation of this magnitude must contain clear and decisive language that makes certain that federal funds are not used to pay for elective abortions. References to provisions in current law that are susceptible to being stripped in the annual appropriations process is not any kind of protection at all.

The Pelosi health care plan is also a clear departure from the long-standing federal policy against federal funding of health plans that cover abortions. The Pelosi bill explicitly permits federal funds to subsidize health plans that cover abortions.

The bill's proponents will claim that public dollars are separated from private insurance premiums, but this is nothing more than a slick accounting gimmick rejected by the pro-life community at-large.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Research Service, any outlay by a government run plan for abortions or health care services would by definition be federal funds. The Pelosi health care bill also includes a mandate requiring at least one insurance plan offered in the federal exchange to cover abortions.

The bill before us is a clear departure from the longstanding Hyde law and violates the beliefs of millions of pro-life Americans who find abortion morally unconscionable.

I urge Speaker Pelosi to allow an up-or-down vote on a truly pro-life amendment—the Stupak/Pitts amendment. The Stupak/Pitts amendment would prevent federal dollars from funding abortion and preserve the long-standing federal policy of protecting the unborn. In a last-ditch effort to garner votes, the Democrat majority plans to propose a rule for considering the legislation that claims to “fix” the pro-life concerns in the bill, but the new language still allows federal funding for abortions. This is little more than a political scheme, and the language has been rejected by every major pro-life group in the country.

I urge the Speaker to include genuinely pro-life language into one of the most important pieces of legislation we will likely consider in our lifetime. A vote on the Stupak/Pitts amendment must be allowed to ensure the protection and safety of America's future—our children.

• 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.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Monday, November 2, 2009, I missed three recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 832, "yea" on Roll Call 833, and "yea" on Roll Call 834.

Additionally, I missed three recorded votes on Tuesday, November 3, 2009. I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 835, "yea" on rollcall 836, and "yea" on rollcall 837.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS**HON. GREG WALDEN**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. WALDEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the more than 100 members of the Marine Corps League Rogue Valley Detachment 386 of southern Oregon on the occasion of the Marine Corps' 234th birthday. Since 1921, all Marines—past and present—have heeded the order issued by Major General John A. Lejeune to come together each November to remember the history, honor, and traditions of their Corps.

Next week, on November 10, I will have the honor and the privilege of joining with the Rogue Valley detachment to celebrate and commemorate the founding of the United States Marine Corps when, in 1775, the Second Continental Congress resolved to raise two battalions of Continental Marines.

For the 234 years that have followed, the United States Marine Corps has stood as the epitome of America's military strength. From the Battle of Belleau Wood to the Battle of Khe Sanh, from the sands of Iwo Jima to the streets of Fallujah, from Grenada to Beirut, the Marine Corps has never failed in answering the call to defend this Nation and its interests around the world. Marines truly have served in every clime and place in defense of freedom.

It is this tradition of service and commitment to freedom that most impresses me whenever I meet a Marine or former Marine.

Proving that "Once a Marine, Always a Marine" is more than just a slogan, the members of the Marine Corps League Rogue Valley detachment are dedicated to the purpose of preserving these traditions and promoting the interests of the United States Marine Corps. They do this by promoting the ideals of freedom and democracy throughout their community and by volunteering aid and assistance to all current and former Marines and Fleet Marine Force Corpsman and their families.

In the past year, the Rogue Valley detachment, led by Commandant Loren Otto, organized its first annual "Tee It Up for Local Heroes" golf tournament and raised \$2,100 to support Toys for Tots, the Marines Helping Marines Wounded Warrior program, and to provide care packages for deployed service members. A portion of these funds also went to support the three local Young Marine units

that the detachment sponsors in southern Oregon.

I am very pleased to note that the Rogue Valley detachment is the only Marine Corps League unit in the country that sponsors this many Young Marine units. The detachment's commitment to making a positive impact on America's future is without question and we are indeed fortunate to have members Dave Dotterer and Anthony Guillory serve on the National Board of Directors for the Young Marines.

Other detachment members have sent out nearly 100 comfort packages to deployed Marines and soldiers. The detachment also recently volunteered to support their local community when the Cycle Oregon tour came through the Rogue Valley and in return raised over \$500 to put toward future fundraising efforts. In addition, the detachment regularly offers an Honor Guard detail to the Eagle Point National Cemetery to provide funeral honors for their fallen brethren. Finally, in probably their most fulfilling service to community, the Rogue Valley detachment collects and distributes toys for the yearly Marine Toys for Tots program throughout Jackson and Josephine counties.

By their actions and deeds, the men and women of the Marine Corps League Rogue Valley Detachment 386 have demonstrated the honor, commitment, and values that Marines have been renowned for since their inception. While our gathering next Tuesday to mark this auspicious occasion in the Corps' 234-year history may be small compared to others, I am extremely honored to share this time with such a dedicated group of veterans, constituents, and friends.

Madam Speaker, I encourage all Members of Congress seek out their local Marine Corps League detachments or active duty Marines on November 10 and raise a glass to celebrate the world's finest fighting force. Semper Fidelis, Marines, and Happy Birthday.

IN RECOGNITION OF ARKANSAS
AVIATION HALL OF FAME IN-
DUCTEE GREG ARNOLD**HON. MIKE ROSS**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Greg Arnold who will be the 94th individual inducted into the Arkansas Aviation Hall of Fame on Thursday, November 12, 2009, at the Aerospace Education Center in Little Rock, Arkansas.

Greg Arnold is president and chief executive officer (CEO) of Truman Arnold Companies (TAC), a Texarkana, Texas, based company founded by Truman Arnold in 1964 as a branded petroleum jobber. Today, TAC is a leading national petroleum marketing company, offering a variety of services through a network of petroleum terminals and aviation Fixed Base Operations (FBO) facilities. A rapidly growing company, TAC currently employs more than 500 highly trained people.

As president of TAC for more than 16 years and CEO for 6, Greg has served as president of the Arkansas Oil Marketers Association, president of the Texarkana Chamber of Commerce, vice president of the Independent Liq-

uid Terminal Association, board and campaign member of the United Way of Texarkana, board member of CHRISTUS St. Michael Hospital and CHRISTUS St. Michael Health Care Center Foundation, chairman of the Governor's Task Force on Flooding on the Lower Red River, board member of Century Bancshares and member of the Red River Redevelopment Authority. He recently completed a term as board chairman of the National Air Transportation Association, one of the aviation industry's leading advocacy organizations.

Greg and his wife, Ashley Arnold, have three children: Anthony, Regan and Carsen.

Established in 1980 by the Arkansas Aviation Historical Society, the Arkansas Aviation Hall of Fame inducts those who make a difference or play a significant role in the history of aviation on the national or state scenes. Greg Arnold has had a major impact on aviation in Arkansas and in this country and he deserves a place on this esteemed list. His commitment to community, to state, to country and to excellence in his field is what makes Greg the respected and admired leader he is today.

I applaud Greg's vision and leadership in the field of aviation. I offer my deepest gratitude and admiration for all that he has done to make our state a better place to live and I extend to him my congratulations on this prestigious accomplishment.

JACK F. KEMP POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Speaker, I would like to add my voice to those supporting S. 1211, honoring the life of Jack Kemp by designating the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 60 School Street, Orchard Park, New York, as the "Jack F. Kemp Post Office Building."

Jack was an accomplished and respected politician and athlete. He served his country in the United States Army Reserve and was a professional quarterback for 13 years, probably best known for his time with the San Diego Chargers and Buffalo Bills. He served as a Member of this body from 1971 to 1989, as the Secretary of Housing and Urban Development from 1989 to 1993, and as the Republican Party's nominee for Vice President and presidential nominee Bob Dole's running-mate in the 1996 election.

Both as a public official and as a private citizen, Jack was a great voice for common-sense conservatism in America. Laws still bear his name, which is a testament to his effectiveness as a Member of Congress. Jack Kemp left behind a legacy of principled determination and resolve to find practical solutions, not only within the Republican Party, but in the realm of public service as a whole.

Even more important than his career accomplishments was Jack's strong character. He had a deep faith that he lived out every day. He cherished his wife Joanne and their four children, making sure that, despite his many roles and responsibilities, he was there for them as a husband and father.

I am honored to have known Jack as a colleague and friend, and hope that the designation of the Jack F. Kemp Post Office Building will serve as one of many different recognitions of his life and service to our country. His family remains in our thoughts and prayers, and I encourage my colleagues to keep his memory alive as we work together in the fight for freedom and opportunity for all Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, on Wednesday, November 4, 2009, I missed eleven recorded votes on the House floor. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 841, "nay" on rollcall 842, "yea" on rollcall 843, "yea" on rollcall 844, "yea" on rollcall 845, "yea" on rollcall 846, "nay" on rollcall 847, "yea" on rollcall 848, "nay" on rollcall 849, "yea" on rollcall 850, and "yea" on rollcall 851.

HONORING MRS. MARGIE SULLIVAN

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to Mrs. Margie Sullivan for her accomplishments and dedication to the bluegrass gospel music industry.

Sullivan, born in Baskin, LA, has devoted more than 60 years to the bluegrass gospel music ministry. Known as the "First Lady of Bluegrass Gospel Music," she is featured in the Bluegrass Music Hall of Fame located in Bean Blossom, Indiana. In addition, she is an International Bluegrass Music Association Living Legend recipient, member of the Alabama Country Music Hall of Fame in Tusculumbia, Alabama, and has been named as "Goodwill Ambassador" for bluegrass music in several European countries.

Earning these recognitions is a tremendous honor, and I commend Margie for her hard work and compassion.

I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Mrs. Margie Sullivan. She is truly deserving of our appreciation.

REMEMBERING VICTIMS OF UKRAINIAN HOLODOMOR ON THE 76TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, this year marks the 76th anniversary of the famine that was deliberately and systematically inflicted upon the Ukrainian people by Josef Stalin's brutal regime. I rise today in solemn memory of the Ukrainians who were killed between 1932 and 1933.

The Ukrainian famine, referred to as Holodomor or "Death by Starvation," remains one of the least known human tragedies. An estimated 7 to 10 million Ukrainians perished when the Soviet government, using food as a weapon to suppress the nationalism and identity of the Ukrainian people, seized the country's 1932 grain crop and executed thousands who resisted. The country's borders were sealed to prevent starving Ukrainians from fleeing and to prevent any outside relief efforts from reaching the people.

In its effort to suppress the Ukrainian nation, the Soviet Union perpetrated a famine so brutal that it ranks as one of the starkest examples of inhumanity in modern history.

For generations, the Soviet Union tried to ban discussion of the famine, deceptively portraying the millions of deaths as the result of drought, food shortages, or unavoidable circumstances. We know this is false. The recently opened Soviet archives show the premeditated, political nature of the famine. The commendable work of Ukrainian scholars and the Ukrainian-American community is helping to bring these horrors to light and to ensure our collective memory of this terrible act.

I am proud that Congress has supported efforts to recognize the Holodomor, particularly legislation allowing Ukraine to donate a memorial in the District of Columbia honoring the famine's victims. The Ukrainian Government, the Ukrainian-American Community, and the Department of the Interior have identified a site for this memorial and the Ukrainian Government is now working toward a design. This memorial is deeply significant to the 1.5 million Ukrainian-Americans, indeed to all of us, and will serve as a tangible reminder of the horror tyranny can inflict.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in remembering the victims of the Ukrainian Holodomor on its 76th anniversary and in renewing our commitment to ensure events such as this are never repeated.

SALUTING KATHLEEN HODGES OF GARLAND'S WALNUT GLEN ACADEMY

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to recognize Kathleen Hodges for winning the Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award 2008–2009. She teaches at Walnut Glen Academy in Garland and lives in Rowlett. Kathleen stands head and shoulders above her peers for her role as an outstanding humanities teacher making a difference in the lives of young Texans.

The Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards recognizes 11 exemplary K–12 humanities teachers. Humanities Texas, formerly the Texas Council for the Humanities, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Humanities Texas conducts and supports public programs in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines. These programs strengthen Texas communities and ultimately help sustain representative democracy by cultivating informed, educated citizens.

After a 21-year career in education, Hodges has numerous teaching accolades to her

name, including the Wal-Mart Teacher of the Year and the Walnut Glen Academy Teacher of the Year Award. She considers her proudest accomplishment the art program she has helped establish at Walnut Glen Academy.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Karen for her selfless contributions to make Texas and America a better place by pouring into our young people. Please join me in congratulating Karen on a magnificent achievement and wishing her all the best with her future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING OLD NATIONAL BANK ON ITS 175TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service of Old National Bank as a community leader and trusted financial institution. For 175 years, Old National Bank has been providing outstanding service and banking options to communities throughout the Ohio River Valley.

The bank was founded in 1834 in Evansville, Indiana. And since that time, Old National has grown to become one of the most trusted financial institutions in the country. By committing itself to a sound, conservative approach to banking, Old National has survived and thrived when others faltered.

Old National is more than just a bank; it is actively working to improve our communities, too. Through its foundation, the bank is giving back and supporting community initiatives through generous grants. And employees have added manpower to those initiatives, volunteering thousands of hours to the communities and causes they care about.

Without a doubt, Old National Bank has made Evansville and the other communities it serves a better place for our citizens.

Congratulations, Old National; here's to another 175 years of success and prosperity.

CONGRATULATING MARGARET BEATTY

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to congratulate Margaret Beatty for being selected Queen Evangeline of the 41st International Acadian Festival in Iberville Parish.

Margaret, a 17-year-old senior at St. John High School in Plaquemine, La., is the daughter of Donnie and Amy Beatty.

The International Acadian Festival is sponsored by the Knights of Columbus, Council #970 of Plaquemine, which is the oldest Knights of Columbus Council in Louisiana.

It is always outstanding to see the diligence with which the young students of Louisiana work to give back and better their communities. I have the highest confidence that Margaret will succeed in whatever endeavors she pursues.

I ask my colleagues to join me in passing good wishes to Margaret Beatty, her family,

and the entire International Acadian Festival. Margaret is truly deserving of this recognition.

HONORING THE DEDICATION OF
THE VIETNAM MEMORIAL WALL
OF TEXAS

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. HENSARLING. Madam Speaker, today I recognize Kaufman County Veterans for their tremendous work in procuring a replica of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall.

The memorial wall, which will be permanently located at the Kaufman County Veterans Memorial Park, will be a lasting tribute to those who not only served in Vietnam, but to all the veterans of Kaufman County.

As we prepare for Veterans Day on November 11th, let us remember those throughout our nation's history who have sacrificed so much so that we may be free. Freedom is not free; it comes at an incredible cost. Veterans and their families, more than any other group of Americans, understand that cost.

President Coolidge once said, "A nation which forgets its defenders, will itself soon be forgotten." This park and wall in Kaufman, Texas, will forever be a reminder of the sacrifices our fellow Americans and their families endured so that we may enjoy the freedoms that have made our country so great.

As the Congressman of the Fifth District, I would like to thank everyone who played a role in building the Kaufman County Veterans Memorial Park and bringing the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Wall to Kaufman County.

CONGRATULATIONS TO E.M.
DAGGETT ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
IN FORT WORTH

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. GRANGER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to offer my congratulations to an elementary school in my District. E.M. Daggett Elementary in Fort Worth, Texas is celebrating its 100th anniversary. This is particularly noteworthy because Daggett Elementary is only the second elementary school in the country to reach this milestone.

Named after a pioneer settler of Fort Worth, E.M. Daggett Elementary opened in September of 1909. At that time, Fort Worth was experiencing a tremendous amount of growth and a new school was needed to serve the families moving into the southern parts of the city. As the city has continued to grow, so has E.M. Daggett Elementary. Buildings were added in 1914, 1926, and 1988 to increase the number of classrooms and the overall size of the school so it would be better equipped to serve the community.

E.M. Daggett Elementary has always been a site of innovation and progress for the Fort Worth Independent School District. In the 1940s, the regional day school for the deaf was established. This school served deaf students from all over Tarrant County and sur-

rounding counties. In 1983, Daggett Montessori School became the first public Montessori school in the school district. E.M. Daggett Elementary recently began a Parents as Teachers Program.

As a former teacher, I know that quality education is the foundation of a successful future. E.M. Daggett Elementary has been able to provide that essential foundation to countless people from Fort Worth. It has been a vital part of Fort Worth for the past 100 years, and I hope it will continue to be an invaluable part of the community for many years to come.

Again, I congratulate E.M. Daggett Elementary on its 100th anniversary.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2996, the Department of Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act of 2010.

Project Name: Caroline County for the Dawn Community Decentralized Wastewater System project

Amount: \$3,000,000

Account: STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Requested by: Caroline County

Intended Recipient of Funds: Caroline County, VA, 117 Ennis Street, P.O. Box 447, Bowling Green, VA 22427

Project description and explanation of the request: The project will expand the availability of safe county-owned and operated wastewater treatment to replace failing or problem septic systems in the community of Dawn. The Dawn area has experienced serious public health issues for years due to failing septic systems. Phase 1 of the project was successful in connecting over 180 households to the county owned and operated Dawn Decentralized Wastewater System. Phase 2 is estimated to connect another 180 homes and small businesses.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DOC HASTINGS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. HASTINGS of Washington. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding an earmark I received as part of H.R. 2996, the Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agency Appropriations Act of 2010. This earmark in the Environmental Protection Agency's State and Tribal Assistance Grant Program is for \$500,000 to the City of Rock Island, P.O. Box 99, Rock Island, WA 98850.

This project would construct a wastewater collection and treatment system for the City of Rock Island and a portion of the unincor-

porated area of Douglas County. More than five years of technical study have demonstrated the need for a central sewer system to address the high risk of drinking water contamination that exists as a result of failing on-site septic systems, inadequate soils and a high water table. Design of the system is complete, and the project is ready for construction.

IN HONOR OF ACEL MOORE, DIS-
TINGUISHED PHILADELPHIA
JOURNALIST, EDUCATOR, MEN-
TOR AND ROLE MODEL

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Accl Moore, a distinguished Philadelphia journalist and educator, mentor and role model, who is adding another significant honor to his already impressive career. Along the way, Accl Moore has been a pioneer in the promotion and showcasing of minority journalism and a star in the ranks of Philadelphia journalists.

Accl Moore has been called "the conscience of the community," a title and responsibility that he continues to earn every day.

His latest honor, the 2009 Star Alumnus EDDY from the Philadelphia Education Fund as a Star of Public Education, will be presented November 19, 2009 at the Philadelphia Education Fund awards ceremony on the campus of Drexel University in my district.

Accl's journalism career began at the Philadelphia Inquirer in 1962 as a copy book, gained added prominence with the 1977 Pulitzer Prize and continues today as the Inquirer's Associate Editor Emeritus and columnist. Yet alongside his work in the newsroom, Accl has been the creator of programs, motivator and instructor for generations of public school youth in Philadelphia.

Most significantly, he has blended these dual passions. Accl Moore has not only opened the door for talented youth of color to launch journalism and communications careers in workplaces desperately in need of diversity. He has, time after time, built the doorway itself.

Accl—known throughout Philadelphia and in wider journalism circles simply by his distinctive first name—continues to lecture at several colleges and universities around the country. At the Inquirer, he writes and directs recruitment, training and staff development while still being consulted to help shape and balance the paper's editorial policies.

In 1979, he established the Art Peters Fellowship Program, a copy editor internship that has launched the careers of 50 journalists. In 1984, he created the Journalism Career Development Workshop that has trained dozens of Philadelphia high school students. The program is now named in his honor—the Accl Moore Minority Workshop. He also has developed writing and journalism programs for the School District of Philadelphia.

In 1970 he won the Pennsylvania Bar Association's Scale of Justice Award for his series on the juvenile court system. Then came the Public Service Award from the Society of Professional Journalism in 1971 and an award from the Pennsylvania Associated Press Managing Editors Association in 1974. That same

year Moore joined Reggie Bryant to host an influential television show called Black Perspectives on the News on WHYY public television.

In 1975, Acel Moore and 43 other newsmen and women met in Washington to launch the National Association of Black Journalists. NABJ soon spawned a Philadelphia chapter, and many more local chapters.

A quarter century later, Acel Moore reflected, "If I had said in 1975 . . . that I thought NABJ would have the impact and import it has today, I'd be lying. There was a feeling among some people that signing their name on the list [to form NABJ] was a risk, that there would be a retaliation for doing that."

NABJ soon spawned a Philadelphia chapter, and many more local chapters. It was an advocacy group, an employment agency, a civil rights crusader. Now NABJ has 3,300 members. It has provided the example for minority journalism organizations of Hispanics, Native Americans, Asian Americans, lesbians and gays, significantly increasing the diversity of our newsrooms, networks and the communications executive ranks. This is no small feat, and it is a tremendous service to the profession that Acel Moore loves: A newsroom or newscast must reflect the audience and the community it serves or its credibility suffers.

Acel Moore had already achieved prominence and impact by the time he and Inquirer colleague Wendell Rawls began their investigation of abuse of inmates at Farview State Hospital. Their series led to awarding of the 1977 Pulitzer Prize, journalism's most important award, for local investigative reporting—and to significant changes at the hospital itself. Typically, Acel Moore was digging hard, uncovering the truth and providing a voice for the voiceless.

I was honored to attend Acel Moore's "retirement" party in December 2005 with 250 colleagues, admirers, movers and shakers at the Moore College of Art. I put retirement in quotes because Acel wasn't truly retiring then, or in full retirement even today. He has taken up the hobby of painting. But he has never really stepped away from his day job—serving the Philadelphia community, its underprivileged and voiceless, coaxing and grooming the next generation of communicators to continue his life's work.

On the eve of this next great and greatly deserved honor, I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating and thanking a great Philadelphian, Acel Moore.

**PROFESSOR HARREL RECEIVES
AWARD**

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Professor Richard Harrel of Lamar University. Professor Harrel is the recent recipient of the Maxine Johnston Distinguished Service Award. The biology professor received this award for more than four decades of research, field studies and publications that benefited the Big Thicket region. Harrel is also one of the founding members of Clean Air and Water Inc., a Beaumont-based environmental organization.

For all of his hard work, Harrel was rightfully awarded at the 35th anniversary of the Big Thicket National Preserve in October. The Second District of Texas commends Professor Harrel for his dedication to improving and preserving this dense wilderness area.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 2996, the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations bill.

Project Name: Water and Sewer Improvements, Kodiak, AK

Bill Number: H.R. 2996 Title II Environmental Protection Agency

Legal name and address of entity receiving earmark: City of Kodiak, P.O. Box 1397, 710 Mill Bay Rd., Kodiak, AK 99615

Description of how the money will be spent and why the use of federal taxpayer funding is justified: This project would replace aging sewer and waterlines in a residential area of Kodiak, and enable the City to comply with the Clean Water Act.

**UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION
EXTENSION ACT OF 2009**

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Senate Amendment to H.R. 3548. This bill combines vital assistance to unemployed Americans and includes measures to help get our economy back on track.

Despite some significant indicators that our economy is beginning to recover, far too many people are looking for work. In my state of North Carolina, unemployment has risen to 10.8 percent, with many counties experiencing rates above 15 percent. This bill will extend unemployment insurance to provide critical assistance for these Americans who are struggling the most. Unemployment insurance would be extended for 14 additional weeks, with an extra six weeks for states like North Carolina with unemployment levels over 8.5 percent.

Other provisions in this bill are critical to creating new job opportunities and helping millions of Americans keep the jobs they have. This bill would extend the First-Time Homebuyers Tax Credit through the end of April 2010 and create a new credit of \$6,500 for homeowners who have lived in their current residence for at least five years. The housing industry has been hit hard during this recession, and creating an incentive for homebuyers to rejoin the market can lessen the drag that this is creating on the economy as a whole. The extended homebuyer tax credit not only helps put American families in new

homes, but it benefits our flagging housing industry and the millions of jobs throughout this sector whether it is real estate, construction, or the building supply chain.

As a Member of the House Committee on Ways and Means, I am also proud that this bill expands the carryback of net operating losses that was included in the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The Net Operating Loss provisions in this bill will help many businesses offset past losses and reduce their tax liability. Many American businesses are continuing to struggle in the face of our sluggish economy. The Five-Year Carryback of Net Operating Losses results in more capital for these businesses, allowing them to get healthy, contribute to the growth of our economy, and create more jobs.

I applaud the Senate for sending this timely bill back to the House for a vote, as we move forward on growing our economy and creating jobs for Americans. I support the Senate amendment to H.R. 3548, and I urge my colleagues to join me in voting in favor of it.

**RECOGNIZING THE DALLAS-FORT
WORTH INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I am very privileged today to recognize the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport as one of the country's leading green power purchasers. Recently, the Environmental Protection Agency released a list of the top twenty local government organizations that are green power purchasers in the United States. Both the City of Dallas and the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport were included in this listing. Impressively, the DFW Airport receives 18 percent of its total electricity from green power purchases, and this is equivalent to removing 7,000 vehicles from the road or powering 5,000 homes annually.

Green power purchasing is important for a variety of reasons. The Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport uses large amounts of energy, and green power purchases ensure that this energy is generated from renewable resources like solar, wind, geothermal, biomass, and low-impact hydro. In turn, this leads to a reduction of green house gas emissions that will help to create a greener future for us all.

While this is a very prestigious honor, it is important to note that this is one of numerous distinctions that the airport has received in recent years. As the third busiest airport in the world, the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport offers over 1,500 flights per day and serves roughly 57 million passengers in a year. Despite its busy nature, DFW was named the "Best Airport for Customer Service in North America" by an Airports Council International survey of passengers in 2006 and 2007.

Madam Speaker, I am incredibly proud of the accomplishments that the Dallas-Fort Worth International Airport has achieved, and I encourage my colleagues to join me in celebrating this airport as a leader among green power purchasing organizations.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF
KATHRYN BROPHY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. DeLAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise to commemorate the life and work of Kathryn Brophy, longtime Director of the School Lunch Program for Boston's public schools, who passed away at the age of 89 last month.

Kathryn Brophy's passionate commitment to the cause of fighting hunger and malnutrition was borne of personal experience. As the daughter of a single mother from the age of 10, Brophy, nee Kathryn Nagle, spent her formative years during the Depression as one of the very same vulnerable and often hungry children she would spend her life's work aiding. But, in part thanks to her mother's strong emphasis on education—Mrs. Brophy would go on to graduate from Framingham State Teacher's College in 1941, and study dietetics for a year at Duke.

From her years as a dietician for the U.S. Army during World War II, where she achieved the rank of captain, to her retirement from the Boston school system in 1988, Mrs. Brophy subsequently spent a lifetime of service in the cause of bettering nutrition. In Boston, she ultimately oversaw a program that fed over 30,000 children, and she made sure fruits, vegetables, skim milk, and other healthy foods were made available to her charges.

Aside from nutrition, Mrs. Brophy's other great passion in life was her two daughters, Susan and Jane, whom she took years off to raise. She leaves them now, along with a sister, Jean Hannon, nine grandchildren, and two great-grandchildren, as she goes to join her husband of 47 years, William Brophy, who passed in 1995. She is missed not only by her family and the many nutrition advocates who share her cause, but also by the thousands of Boston schoolchildren who could learn better and live healthier thanks to her decades of public service.

TEXAS HOUSE JOINT
RESOLUTION 39

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, at the request of the Secretary of State of the State of Texas, I submit House Joint Resolution 39, as passed by the 81st Legislature, Regular Session, 2009, of the State of Texas.

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Texas:

SECTION 1. The 87th Congress of the United States, on August 27, 1962, in the form of Senate Joint Resolution No. 29, proposed to the legislatures of the several states an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, and by a proclamation dated February 4, 1964, published at 29 Federal Register 1715-16 and at 78 Statutes at Large 1117-18, the Administrator of General Services, Bernard L. Boutin—in the presence of native Texan, President Lyndon Baines Johnson—declared the amendment to have been rati-

fied by the legislatures of 38 of the 50 states, thereby becoming Amendment XXIV to the United States Constitution, pursuant to Article V thereof, and reading as follows:

“AMENDMENT XXIV

“SECTION 1. The right of citizens of the United States to vote in any primary or other election for President or Vice President, for electors for President or Vice President, or for Senator or Representative in Congress, shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or any State by reason of failure to pay any poll tax or other tax.

“SECTION 2. The Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.”

SECTION 2. While the congress was still deliberating on the poll tax amendment in August of 1962, President John Fitzgerald Kennedy urged the United States House of Representatives to follow the lead of the Senate and propose the amendment for the consideration of the state legislatures “. . . to finally eliminate this outmoded and arbitrary bar to voting. American citizens should not have to pay to vote.” And in witnessing the issuance of Amendment XXIV's certificate of validity 17 months later, Kennedy's successor, President Johnson, noted that abolishing the tax requirement “. . . reaffirmed the simple but unbreakable theme of this Republic. Nothing is so valuable as liberty, and nothing is so necessary to liberty as the freedom to vote without bans or barriers. . . . A change in our Constitution is a serious event. . . . There can now be no one too poor to vote.”

SECTION 3. Although Amendment XXIV has been the law of the land since 1964, some 13 years following its effective date, it received symbolic post-ratification in 1977 from the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Virginia, as reflected in the Congressional Record of March 28, 1977, which printed the full text of Virginia's post-ratification; 12 years after that, the amendment gained ceremonial post-ratification in 1989 from the General Assembly of the State of North Carolina, as reflected in the Congressional Record of June 6, 1989, which printed the full text of North Carolina's post-ratification; and nearly 13 years after that, the amendment acquired its most recent post-ratification in 2002 from the Legislature of the State of Alabama, as reflected in the Congressional Record of September 26, 2002, which printed the full text of Alabama's post-ratification.

SECTION 4. The Legislature of the State of Texas—one of only five states still levying a poll tax by 1964—has never approved Amendment XXIV to the Constitution of the United States, but precedent makes clear the opportunity of Texas to post-ratify the amendment in a manner similar to the actions of lawmakers in Alabama, North Carolina, and Virginia.

SECTION 5. The Legislature of the State of Texas, as a symbolic gesture, hereby post-ratifies Amendment XXIV to the Constitution of the United States.

SECTION 6. Pursuant to Public Law No. 98-497, the Texas secretary of state shall notify the archivist of the United States of the action of the 81st Legislature of the State of Texas, Regular Session, 2009, by forwarding to the archivist an official copy of this resolution.

SECTION 7. The Texas secretary of state shall also forward official copies of this resolution to both United States senators from Texas, to all United States representatives from Texas, to the vice president of the United States in his capacity as presiding officer of the United States Senate, and to the speaker of the United States House of Representatives, with the request that this resolution be printed in full in the Congressional Record.

IN HONOR OF MARDI WORMHOUDT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today, with my colleague ANNA ESHOO to honor the memory of a great woman and model citizen, Mardi Wormhoudt. Mardi passed away October 21, 2009 in her Santa Cruz home at the age of 72. Mardi was an influential politician, a loving mother and wife, and a dedicated friend.

Mardi was born October 1, 1937 in Wisconsin. She graduated with honors from California State University at Los Angeles in 1967. During the late 1960's and early 1970's, Mardi worked as a caseworker for the Los Angeles Department of Social Services, as well as a project director for the Martin Luther King Center in Pasadena. During this time, Mardi and her husband Ken, the love of her life, started a family with the birth of their children: Zachary, Jonathon, Jacob and Lisa.

In the mid 1970's, Mardi moved her family to Santa Cruz and by 1981 she was an elected official. She was soon Santa Cruz County's leading female official. She is best known for her time as Mayor when she helped lead Santa Cruz through the tragic Loma Prieta earthquake. We all remember the iconic image of her briefing President Bush, Representative Panetta, State Senator Mello, Assemblyman Farr against the backdrop of destruction along Pacific Avenue. Mardi helped keep the spirits of citizens high, and encouraged the city to unite in rebuilding efforts. In total, Mardi dedicated twenty-one years to public office. Mardi will also be forever remembered for her dedication to women's rights, environmental protection, and a firm belief in local economic growth. Mardi was also an advocate for those who were marginalized and overlooked.

Mardi was constantly active in the community as a member of a plethora of groups, including: The Santa Cruz City School District and the Santa Cruz AIDS project. She also received a vast stable of awards, including: The People's Democratic Club Woman of the Year 1988 and the 1991 nomination by then Assemblyman Sam Farr for The California State Assembly Woman of the Year. Those who were close friends of Mardi will especially remember her for her veracity, playful humor, hard-working personality, loyalty, and devotion to family.

Madam Speaker, we know as co-representatives of Santa Cruz County that we speak for the entire House when we extend our deepest sympathies to her family, and our deepest appreciation for the work she did to make her community and the world a better place.

RECOGNIZING 110TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE BRONX ZOO

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 110th anniversary of the Bronx Zoo, a milestone in the cultural history of New York City. The Bronx Zoo opened its

doors on November 8, 1899 and is the largest metropolitan zoo in the country with approximately 4 million visitors annually and featuring 6,000 animals and 600 species.

The Bronx Zoo continues to win awards for its world class exhibits and is well known for creating naturalistic habitats. Chief among them is the Congo Gorilla Forest which is one of the zoo's most popular exhibits. Spanning more than 6 and a half acres, the exhibit's main attraction is the western lowland gorillas, making up the species' largest breeding group in all of the Americas. The Gorilla Forest is the largest manmade rainforest in the world. The rain forest simulation gives visitors the chance to experience the Congo as if they were there. Along with the lowland gorillas, the exhibit is home to white bearded debrazza monkeys, okapis and red river hogs. Since the opening of the exhibit, it has had 7 million visitors. The exhibit fees go to help conservation efforts in Africa which have helped 18 National Parks in such countries as Cameroon, The Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Gabon.

From the zoo grounds, hundreds of conservationists work every day hand-in-hand with more than 3,000 employees located in 65 developing countries around the world. The zoo's first conservation achievement was here in the United States of America, where, by 1905, uncontrolled hunting had reduced the great herds of bison to fewer than 1,000 animals. Theodore Roosevelt, along with William Hornaday, the Bronx Zoo's first director, were founding members of the American Bison Society (ABS), an organization formed at the Bronx Zoo to preserve this icon of the American prairies. In 1907, the Bronx Zoo sent a group of zoo-born bison to Oklahoma, South Dakota and Montana to help re-establish the species throughout the plains. Along with its broad conservation efforts, the Bronx Zoo's award-winning exhibits and pioneering research has garnered world recognition.

In the Bronx, the zoo's impact is felt in yet another way. In addition to being a cultural staple and headquarters for an international conservation organization, it is an economic cornerstone in the Bronx. On average, the Bronx Zoo employs more than 750 full-time staff per year and is the largest employer of youth in the borough, providing employment opportunities, job skills training, and scholarship opportunities for more than 700 teenagers each year. Two years ago, the Bronx Zoo opened the first New York City public school focused on wildlife conservation. At the school, children can learn math, sciences, history, and arts by interacting with the zoo's animals and experts.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to recognize the Bronx Zoo on its 110th Anniversary and to applaud the institution for its efforts in leading the world in wildlife conservation as well as bringing joy to the millions of visitors who have walked through its gates.

HONORING FORMER IOWA FOOTBALL COACH FOREST EVASHEVSKI

HON. DAVID LOESACK

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. LOESACK. Madam Speaker, today I would like to honor the life of former Iowa

Football Coach Forest Evashevski. Coach Evashevski served as the head coach for the Iowa Hawkeyes from 1952–1960 and coached the Hawkeyes to two Rose Bowl victories—the only Rose Bowl victories in the team's history. Using his innovative wing-T offense, Coach Evashevski was able to compile a 52–27–4 record during his 9 years as Iowa's head coach. The team was also selected as the 1959 National Champions by the Football Writers Association of America.

After concluding his coaching career in 1960, Coach Evashevski accepted the position of Iowa's Athletic Director. He held this post until 1970. Coach Evashevski's no-nonsense work ethic and innovative play calling garnered him the National College Football Coach of the Year from 1956 through 1958 and again in 1960. He was accepted into the National Football Foundation College Football Hall of Fame in 2000.

Forest Evashevski passed away on October 30, 2009. The years of service as the Head Football Coach for the University of Iowa will not be forgotten by the "Hawkeye Nation."

HONORING ROBERT "BOB" WILLIAMS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor Mr. Robert "Bob" Williams, a long-time resident of The Woodlands, Texas, and a dear friend. The Woodlands was lucky enough to gain Mr. Williams as a resident when he moved from Chicago after being director of the Chicago YMCA for 25 years. It wasn't long after Mr. Williams came to The Woodlands, that he helped establish the first YMCA.

Among Mr. Williams' firsts in The Woodlands are that he was a founding member of the Woodlands Community Presbyterian Church and one of the original Hometown Heroes of The Woodlands—he was awarded this honor because of his commitment to the community. Mr. Williams is an Eagle Scout, World War II veteran, and lifelong Kiwanis Club member.

Mr. Williams has been very active in the Kiwanis Club in The Woodlands from the beginning. He founded The Woodlands' first Kiwanis Club and has served the club and the community for 53 years as a highly distinguished member. Mr. Williams has directed The Woodlands' Kiwanis Prayer Breakfast for 18 years. He also helped charter the Kiwanis Key Clubs in four Woodlands High Schools to teach our young students how important it is to serve your community. His life was a direct example for those students because they saw him serving others tirelessly—and well past retirement.

Mr. Williams has a heart for youth and spent his life encouraging them—through Kiwanis Key Clubs, Special Olympics, and the YMCA. He is a great role model, mentor and undoubtedly has impacted countless lives, young and old.

At age 85, he traveled to Haiti to represent Kiwanis International to work on Iodine Deficiency. And on his 90th birthday, he even held a food drive for Interfaith of The Woodlands,

turning his birthday celebration into a time to help others—now this is a man who never stops serving others and is an example to us all.

As you can see, he has committed endless hours to teaching our youth, even after the age of 90. He recently celebrated his 91 birthday and after a lifetime of community service he is finally taking some time to slow down.

The Woodlands truly benefited from his relocation to our community, and as he gets ready to move, we regret that we will lose a great community servant and true friend.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize Mr. Williams and his countless contributions to the people of The Woodlands. I urge you to join me in recognizing Bob Williams for his many years of service, even after the age of 90.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 858, H. Res. 868, I was not present because the vote was called unexpectedly when myself and other Republican members were attending the House Call rally. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on No. 858.

HONORING THE TEXAS MARINES MEDAL OF HONOR MONUMENT IN THE WOODLANDS, TEXAS

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Texas Marines Medal of Honor Monument in The Woodlands, Texas. Marines Thomas R. Early, Burt Cabanas, Jim O'Connor and Bill Leigh were instrumental in bringing the monument to The Woodlands. It is truly inspirational to know that this monument is now in existence due to the determination of these local Marines who brainstormed this one of a kind monument as a fitting tribute to all Texas Marines.

The monument was dedicated on May 25, 2007, at Town Green Park to pay tribute to seventeen Texans awarded the Medal of Honor, the highest military decoration awarded by the United States government. It stands to pay reverence to these men including five Marines from World War II, four Marines and one Navy Corpsman from the Korean War, and seven Marines from the Vietnam War.

One can hardly pass the Texas Marines Medal of Honor Monument without feeling an overwhelming sense of appreciation for the sacrifice of these brave patriots as you stand before the monument and read the seventeen names engraved in gold.

The Marines honored are as follows:

SSGT William James Bordelon, 22, San Antonio; PFC Charles Howard Ron, 21, Claude; 1st LT Jack Lummus, 29, Ennis; SGT William George Harrell, 22, Rio Grande City; 1st LT William Deane Hawkins, 29, El Paso; 1st LT Frank Nicias Mitchell, 29, Indian Gap; SGT

Ambrosio Guillen, 23, El Paso; PFC Whitt Lloyd Moreland, 21, Waco; 2nd LT George Herman O'Brien, Jr., 26, Fort Worth; Hospitalman John Edward Kilmer, 21, Houston; PFC Alfred Mac Wilson, 21, Abilene; LCPL Thomas Elbert Creek, 18, Amarillo; SGT Alfredo (Freddy) Gonzalez, 21, Edinburg; LCPL Richard Allen Anderson, 21, Houston; PFC Oscar Palmer Austin, 21, Nacogdoches; 2nd LT Terrence Collinson Graves, 22, Corpus Christi; LCPL Miguel Keith, 18, San Antonio

On top of this monument stands a sculpture of the Marine Corps official emblem—the eagle, globe and anchor. The eagle with spread wings resting on top of the world reminds us what our Marines do for us—they protect us at all costs.

I hope that as families use Town Green Park in the future, they look upon the monument with pride and honor these brave soldiers by reflecting on all those serving in our Armed Forces. Parents will impress upon their children the great honor bestowed on these great individuals from the Lone Star State and tell them how admirable it is that these men have sacrificed much to allow us all to freely walk, worship and live in America.

Madam Speaker, it is an honor to recognize the Texas Marines Medal of Honor Monument in the U.S. House of Representatives. I urge you to join me in remembering these seventeen Texans who received the Medal of Honor as well as all of our Marines and other servicemen and servicewomen for the sacrifices they have made for the people of the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. YARMUTH. Madam Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded vote for rollcall 848. Had I been present I would have voted “yes” for this measure.

Bill H.R. 3639, Sutton of Ohio Amendment No. 4, On Agreeing to the Amendment, rollcall No. 848, “yes.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on November 5, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 864. Had I been present I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 864: “aye”—Expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Family Literacy Day.

CONGRATULATING LIEUTENANT GENERAL TERRY L. GABRESKI ON OCCASION OF HER RETIREMENT

HON. STEVE AUSTRIA

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. AUSTRIA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Lieutenant General Terry L. Gabreski, for her outstanding service to our Nation on the occasion of her retirement.

On behalf of the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District, I am honored to congratulate Lieutenant General Gabreski upon her retirement as Vice Commander of the Air Force Material Command at Wright Patterson Air Force Base.

Her dedicated service to the citizens of our Nation and our area is both admirable and commendable. Gabreski received her commission in 1974 upon her graduation from officer training school. Since that time, she has served as director of maintenance for the deputy chief of staff for installations and logistics at Headquarters, U.S. Air Force.

Over the course of her distinguished career, she has also directed two aircraft maintenance units, served as a squadron maintenance supervisor in three units, commanded three maintenance squadrons and a logistics group, and twice served as a major air command director of logistics. Lieutenant General Gabreski will be retiring effective January 1, 2010.

For her many years of service to our Nation, I join the people of Ohio's Seventh Congressional District in extending our best wishes upon her retirement and wish her ongoing success in all future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO JANICE WILSON

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and colleague in public service, Janice Wilson of Fraser, Michigan, as she retires after 26 years of devoted and talented service on the City Council. I deeply enjoy working with Jan as she is a warm and passionate advocate for many important causes.

Jan Wilson earned a bachelor's degree from Ball State University and received a master's degree from Wayne State University, where she later went on to become an instructor. In 1958, Jan Wilson began working on behalf of children with disabilities and their families at the Macomb Intermediate School District and she continued in this capacity until 2000.

In 1962, Jan and her husband Bob moved to the City of Fraser, where they have become an important part of this wonderful community. She has served her community in many capacities including as a member of the Recreation Commission and the Zoning Board of Appeals. She was elected to the Fraser City Council in 1983, and during her tenure, served 4 terms as Mayor Pro-tem.

Advocacy and devotion to helping people are the cornerstones of Jan Wilson's career.

She is involved in many local organizations, never hesitating to take on another responsibility or to wear another hat if she thought it would help. She is a founding member of the Macomb County Child Abuse and Neglect Information Council. She was asked to serve on the Community Mental Health Board, the advisory boards of the Community Assessment Referral Education (CARE) Agency and the Retired Senior Volunteer Program. She is also the past president of the Fraser Goodfellows.

Protecting the environment is one Jan Wilson's many civic passions. Governor Jennifer Granholm appointed her to Michigan's Air Pollution Control Commission and she also served on the Southeast Michigan Council of Government's (SEMCOG) Council on Environmental Quality. Governor Granholm also appointed her to the Michigan Commission on Services to the Aging. All of Jan Wilson's achievements have been recognized over the years as she has been recognized as the WWJ Citizen of the Week, the Handicapped Professional Woman of the Year, and Volunteer of the Year.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedicated public service of Jan Wilson and her numerous achievements on behalf of children, families and her community. I am so pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to her achievements, thanking her for years of talented service and for being such a good friend to so many of us. I am confident she will continue to play an important role in the community where she is highly thought of, in addition to enjoying a bit of retirement with her husband and their four grandchildren.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, consistent with the Republican Leadership's policy on earmarks, I submit this statement.

Requesting Member: Congressman BILL SHUSTER (PA-9)

Bill Number: H.R. 2997—Department of the Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, FY 2010

Interior, Environment, and Related Agencies Projects

Project Name: Flight 93 National Memorial
Account: National Park Service, Construction

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: National Park Service

Address of Requesting Entity: 109 West Main Street, Suite 104, Somerset, PA 15501

Description of Request/Justification of Federal Funding: \$725,000 for Flight 93 National Memorial

It is my understanding that funding for this project would be used for infrastructure costs at the Flight 93 National Memorial in Somerset County, Pennsylvania.

This project is a valuable use of taxpayer funds because the Flight 93 National Memorial honors the men and women who gave their lives in the first counterattack of the Global War on Terror to defend the Nation's Capitol on September 11, 2001.

SALUTING JANA FRY OF WILLIAMS HIGH SCHOOL OF PLANO

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to recognize Jana Fry for winning the Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award 2008–2009. She teaches at Williams High School in Plano, where she lives. Jana stands head and shoulders above her peers for her role as an outstanding humanities teacher making a difference in the lives of young Texans.

The Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Awards recognize 11 exemplary K–12 humanities teachers. Humanities Texas, formerly the Texas Council for the Humanities, is the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. Humanities Texas conducts and supports public programs in history, literature, philosophy, and other humanities disciplines. These programs strengthen Texas communities and ultimately help sustain representative democracy by cultivating informed, educated citizens.

During her 20 years of teaching, Jana has won many accolades and awards for her service both in and out of the classroom. She has taught sixth through tenth grades with classes ranging from sheltered/at-risk to gifted and talented and anything in between. She summarizes her teaching philosophy as such: Students should always be participants in their learning process, engaged in that process, reflecting and evaluating of that process and emotionally attached to their learning. Teachers are the facilitators of learning who orchestrate varied learning experiences that attempt to meet each student where they are and then challenge them further.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Jana for her selfless contributions to make Texas and America a better place by pouring into our young people. Please join me in congratulating Jana on a magnificent achievement and wishing her all the best with her future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, due to illness, I was unable to be present in the Capitol for votes on Thursday, November 5, 2009. However, had I been present I would have voted “yea” on:

1. Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule for H.R. 2868—Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2009;

2. H. Res. 885—Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 2868—Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Act of 2009;

3. H. Res. 868—Honoring and recognizing the service and achievements of current and former female members of the Armed Forces;

4. Senate Amendments to H.R. 3548—Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2009;

5. H. Con. Res. 139—Congratulating the first graduating class of the United States Air

Force Academy on their 50th graduation anniversary and recognizing their contributions to the Nation;

6. H.R. 1849—World War I Memorial and Centennial Act of 2009;

7. H.R. 3276—American Medical Isotopes Production Act of 2009;

8. H. Res. 878—Expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Family Literacy Day;

And I would have voted “aye” on H. Res. 880—Recognizing the efforts of career and technical colleges to educate and train workers for positions in high-demand industries.

HONORING THE MARIN WOMEN'S COMMISSION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to recognize the Marin Women's Commission for their tireless efforts to help Marin County's women and girls achieve parity. Congratulations to the Marin Women's Commission as it celebrates this milestone of more than three decades of service to Marin County.

Through its leadership, the Marin Women's Commission has raised awareness of the importance and prominence of issues facing women and girls in Marin County and beyond. As a result of their devoted efforts, the needs of women of all ages are being studied, heard, communicated and addressed.

The Marin Women's Commission was created in April 1974 in response to an investigation under the Kennedy Administration that revealed that a staggering number of laws, regulations and traditions actively discriminated against women. Notably, the Marin Women's Commission is the second County Commission established in the State of California in 1974.

In 2003–2004, the Marin Women's Commission established a strategic vision to address four target categories as they relate to women: equity, policy, leadership and access to resources.

The commission works with local government to develop more effective ways to address salary inequity concerns, supports CEDAW and other international violence against women legislation, facilitates annual “Women Leading Community Change” summits and develops needs assessments for women and girls. The 1983 Women's Needs Assessment helped establish the Family and Children's Law Center.

The 17 Marin Women's Commissioners represent all five Marin County Districts, and the Commission also boasts strong, strategic partnerships. Such partnerships, with Dominican University, the Marin Chapter of National Organization for Women, the YWCA, the American Association of University Women, and Marin General Hospital's Breast Cancer Center, laid the foundation for an abused women's shelter, which later became Marin Abused Women's Services, the creation of the Marin Women's Hall of Fame, and other programs.

In the years since its inception, more than 300 commissioners have been appointed. The enthusiasm and passion exhibited by these

experienced leaders is largely responsible for the Commissions' ability to leverage meaningful change.

Madam Speaker, over the course of 35 years, the Marin Women's Commission, through its strategic partnerships, dedicated advocacy and comprehensive research, has made indelible change. Congratulations on three decades of leadership toward enhancing the quality of life for all Marin County women and girls.

INTRODUCTION OF THE “HONEST OPPORTUNITY PROBATION WITH ENFORCEMENT (HOPE) INITIATIVE ACT OF 2009”

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the “Honest Opportunity Probation with Enforcement (HOPE) Initiative Act of 2009” with my colleague Representative TED POE of Texas. This bipartisan legislation would build upon an innovative and promising approach to reduce drug use and crime.

Offenders convicted of many drug, low-level property, and public-order offenses are rarely given straight jail time; in most jurisdictions they are placed on probation. Rather than consistently sanctioning probation violations—illegal drug use, missing probation appointments, treatment and drug tests—too often these actions are ignored. When punishment for repeated violations is finally meted out, it tends to come in the form of lengthy and costly terms of incarceration.

In 2004, Judge Steven Alm of Hawaii launched a pilot program to reduce probation violations by offenders at high risk of recidivism. This intensified supervision program, called Hawaii's Opportunity Probation with Enforcement, HOPE, uses the threat of short jail stays as an incentive for compliance. Defendants are clearly warned that if they violate the rules, they go to jail. Participants receive swift and immediate sanctions for each violation, such as testing dirty for drugs or missing appointments with a probation officer.

For example, under the Hawaii program, random drug testing occurs at least once a week for the first 2 months of supervision. If probationers test positive, they are arrested immediately. If they fail to appear for the test or violate other terms of probation, warrants for their arrest are issued immediately. Once arrested or apprehended, a probation modification hearing is held 2 days later, and violators typically receive a short jail term. Sanctions typically start at a few days of jail time, served on weekends for employed probationers, for the first violation and increased thereafter, eventually escalating to periods of months. Offenders who cannot comply are required to attend high-quality, out-patient or residential treatment. Those who can comply are rewarded with less frequent testing and monitoring.

Preliminary evaluations show that HOPE probationers have significantly improved outcomes compared with probationers assigned to probation-as-usual in terms of drug use, missed probation appointments, new arrests, and probation revocations. The HOPE program has been cited by figures across the political spectrum and has been featured in

scholarly articles as well as the Wall Street Journal, Forbes, the Los Angeles Times, and other periodicals.

The "Honest Opportunity Probation with Enforcement, HOPE, Initiative Act of 2009" would create a competitive grant demonstration program to award grants to state and local courts to establish probation programs to reduce drug use, crime, and recidivism by requiring swift, predictable, and graduated sanctions for noncompliance with the conditions of probation; \$25 million is authorized for up to 20 pilot sites. Stringent grantee requirements will ensure that the pilots are designed and evaluated in an appropriate manner. The key facets of each pilot program include the following:

Monitoring selected probationers for rules violations, particularly using regular and rapid-result drug tests.

Responding to violations of such rules with immediate arrest and swift and certain modification of the conditions of probation, including imposition of short jail stays, which may gradually become longer with each additional violation.

Partnering with an independent program advisor and evaluator and conduct a comparison of the outcomes between program participants and similarly-situated probationers not in the program, e.g. positive drug test rates, probation and substance abuse treatment appearance rates, probation term modifications, revocations, arrests, etc.

Calculating the amount of cost savings resulting from the reduced incarceration rates achieved through the program and determining how much can be reinvested for expansion of the program.

I urge my colleagues to support this innovative effort to address drug use and crime by cosponsoring this important legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF RONALD ALIANO

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the extraordinary life of Ronald Aliano of Norwich, Connecticut, who passed away on October 31, 2009.

Ron was an optimist who saw no barriers to achievement and believed that with hard work, anything was possible. He loved the city of Norwich, and pursued his vision to revitalize the city by insisting on quality development and improvements. When Ron became a Norwich resident in 1972, he founded Professional Ambulance Service of Norwich, Inc., now known as American Ambulance Service, Inc., which provided excellent patient care for the residents of eastern Connecticut.

Fourteen years later, Ron formed the American Wharf Development Corporation. This organization was responsible for the development of Hollyhock Island, a parcel of land at the head of the Thames River, which is now a world-class boating facility. In 1996, he formed the American Professional Education Services, which has become the largest American Heart Association training center in New England and a well-respected medical training center.

Ron could have chosen to live comfortably with the revenue he generated from those endeavors. Instead, he committed his life to charitable contributions and civic involvement. Ron served in various capacities on the Norwich Community Development Corporation, Norwich Harbor Management Commission, Integrated Day Charter School Foundation, State of CT Harbor Management Association, Norwich Area Chamber of Commerce, and Eastern CT Chamber of Commerce. Additionally, Ron has been the recipient of numerous awards over the years including the 1988 Norwich Citizen of the Year, 1988 UCONN Alumni Distinguished Citizen, 2000 Connecticut Business Ethics Awards, and the 2001 Merit Award for Public Education Eastern Connecticut EMS Council. I am honored to pay tribute to Ronald Aliano, whose presence will always be felt in Norwich. His dedication to the community continues to be an inspiration to myself and the residents of eastern Connecticut. I offer my sympathy to his friends and family, and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and service of Ronald Aliano.

ON THE OCCASION OF LIEUTENANT COMMANDER PIA S. WOODLEY'S RETIREMENT FROM THE UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. KENDRICK B. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. MEEK of Florida. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize LCDR Pia Sermonia Woodley for her 20 years of service as a Medical Services Corps Officer as she retires on December 4. She has had a long and admirable career, worthy of distinction and worthy of our gratitude.

In the 20 years that Lieutenant Commander Woodley served as a Medical Services Officer, she deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, has been awarded numerous awards and citations, and served as the Special Assistant to the Director of Administration at the Naval Medical Center, Portsmouth.

LCDR Pia Sermonia Woodley is a native Floridian born in Miami to Otis L. (deceased) and Beatrice S. Boston. A product of the inner city of Miami, she graduated from Miami Central Senior High School in 1984. She then attended Florida A&M University in Tallahassee, Florida where she obtained her bachelors of science degree in Healthcare Management which in time led her to seek commissioning in the U.S. Navy. She earned her direct commission as a Medical Services Corps Officer in 1989.

She was first assigned to the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland. As a Division Officer in the Staff Education and Training Department, she worked as an Instructor, a job she thoroughly enjoyed. Her next tour of duty took her to the Far East at the Naval Hospital in Okinawa, Japan. There she performed duties as a Division Officer in Materiel Management and then in Manpower. Selected to attend graduate school, she earned a Masters of Science degree in Management from the Naval Postgraduate School in Monterey, California. She applied her graduate level skills to the Chief, Imaging and

Medical Support Equipment Branch at the Department of Defense Medical Standardization Board in Frederick, Maryland. Following these tours she returned to Florida and served as the Head of the Materials Management Department at Naval Hospital Jacksonville in Jacksonville, Florida. Afterwards, she completed a third tour of duty in Maryland as the Program Manager of the Medical Support Directorate at the Naval Medical Logistics Command in Frederick, Maryland.

While serving as the Special Assistant to the Director of Administration, she earned a mid-tour assignment as the Logistics Officer for the Surgeon General of the Multi-National Forces-Iraq in Baghdad, Iraq. She culminated her last year of service as the Assistant Department Head of the Human Resources Management Department.

Her personal decorations include the Joint Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Commendation Medal with two gold stars, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Joint Meritorious Unit Award, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Medal with Bronze Star, Iraqi Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, and the Overseas Service Ribbon.

Lieutenant Commander Woodley is honored to be the wife of Anthony Ray Woodley and the mother of Xavier Alan Woodley. She is the sister of Otis Alan Boston and Brandy Othea Sermon Boston and childhood friend of Sara Bellamy. And we thank her family for the strength and support they have provided here as she has provided the same for this Nation.

SUPPORTING AND ENCOURAGING GREATER SUPPORT FOR VET- ERANS DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 89, a resolution encouraging greater support for Veterans Day each year.

Today, I would like to take this opportunity to express my deep sense of gratitude to the millions of veterans living throughout the United States. Since before the founding of this nation, our veterans have been on the front lines defending our safety and our liberty. Their commitment to duty, honor, integrity, and self-sacrifice has not gone unnoticed, and I commend them for a lifetime of exemplary leadership on and off the battlefield.

Veterans' organizations are one great example of the commitment to service all of our men and women in uniform possess. These organizations help create volunteer opportunities for our nation's troops when they retire from the armed services. Some of these include donating millions of man hours to the medical facilities of the Veterans Administration, sponsoring Boy Scouts of America troops all around the country, and awarding millions of dollars for college scholarships. These incredible volunteers give back to the very communities that they have already sacrificed so much for throughout their careers.

Mr. Speaker, the veterans who have passed away before this Veterans Day must also be

recognized and graciously thanked for their service. Our Nation has experienced many wars in a short history, but we have remained safe at home and abroad because of the valiant effort of the members of our armed services. The freedoms and liberty we espouse as a democracy have and will continue to be under threat. However, our veterans and active duty men and women are a testament to the preservation of justice and our form of government.

The families of those who serve our country on the front lines also deserve the admiration and appreciation of each and every citizen. These family members often watch their loved ones travel to faraway lands in support of a cause and an ideal so much greater than any one individual. The support given to our service men and women by their loved ones is irreplaceable, as it is the foundation for the bravery inherent in those who labor steadfastly in the defense of liberty.

Let us also make certain that we remember those individuals who are in harm's way today in Iraq and Afghanistan. Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom are successful because of the members of our armed services who are day in and day out giving their best to keep America safe at home and abroad. They have also sacrificed to secure liberty and democracy for other nations and peoples who desire to be freed from political oppression. Furthermore, let us not forget those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice, and let us say a gracious thank you to them for their willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice for liberty.

I believe that the brave men and women who sacrifice for our present freedoms deserve our fullest support. Our Nation's service men and women represent the best our country has to offer, and they must be treated with the respect and honor they deserve. As we ask these courageous soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines—and their families—to do more and more, it's only right we continue doing all we can for them. Recognizing Veterans Day in 2009 is just one small reminder of the superior job our troops perform for America at home and abroad, and it is my hope that we will continue to do all we can and more for the members of our Armed Forces.

TRIBUTE TO LEONARD HAGGERTY

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true American hero, an exemplary human being, find yet another wonderful example of the "Greatest Generation" and the story of our Nation. The life of Leonard Haggerty is filled with heroic moments, major milestones, compelling stories and noteworthy achievements. Leonard Haggerty was a friend and colleague in public service and I am honored to pay tribute to him on the floor of the U.S. House of Representatives.

Leonard Haggerty was born June 23, 1920, in Quebec, Canada. As a young man with two children and another on the way, Leonard Haggerty was called into the service of his country during World War II. Throughout his

life, Leonard was modestly quiet about his military accomplishments during World War II. When presented with a resolution of accomplishment upon his retirement in December 2008 at the age of 88, Leonard's co-workers on the county board were in awe to learn of his distinguished military career. Leonard Haggerty earned two Battle Stars in the European Theater as an Army infantryman; participated in intense fighting during the Battle of the Bulge; served with a detachment that liberated Dachau; and spent time as a personal bodyguard for General George S. Patton.

Leonard Haggerty began his long and successful career in public service in 1958, when he was appointed village commissioner of Roseville. Once Roseville became a city later that same year, he became a councilman. He served in that capacity until 1975, when he was elected mayor, a position he held until his retirement in 1981. In 1998, Mr. Haggerty came out of retirement in Florida and returned to Michigan to represent District 21 on the Macomb County Board of Commissioners, where he served until last year.

Leonard Haggerty was the heart and soul of the city of Roseville. He served his community with such active devotion and became a mentor to numerous individuals who followed in his footsteps. So many have come forward to highlight the impact Leonard had on their lives over the years, remembering his service, his graciousness to everyone around him and crediting him with getting them involved in public service or civic activity.

Leonard Haggerty was joyful, and anyone that has ever met him would comment about his smile, his dapper dress, and his truly kind and caring nature. He could tell a story and truly enjoyed the playful moments that made up his persona. For example, in 2003, he famously came to the assistance of an elderly constituent who called him saying that she was snowed in. Leonard, who described himself at the time as "83½ years old," arrived alone with a snow shovel in hand and cleared the 82-year-old woman's sidewalk and driveway, including a 2-foot snow drift, in about an hour. In 2004, Leonard made national news when he faced a Republican challenger in the fall election who was 92 years old. Leonard, jokingly ran on the slogan, "Vote for the kid."

These stories and so many other warm and inspirational memories were captured by family members, friends and the Homily of Father Michael Donovan.

Leonard Haggerty was the beloved husband of Jan, whom each and every one of us also calls a dear friend. Leonard and Jan were true partners in every sense of the word through their family, their community and their careers in public service. Leonard was the loving father of Patricia (Joseph) Boris, Shirlee (Robert) Kipp, James (Kathy) Haggerty, Kelly (Roger) Gaines and the late Michael Haggerty and grandfather of eight grandchildren and 11 great-grandchildren.

The awards have been numerous over the course of Leonard's career and in recent years his colleagues have joined together to enshrine his name on major achievements like the Leonard Haggerty Beautification Awards.

It will be his personal charisma and the way in which he took time to make those around him feel good that will be remembered by most. He will serve in the personal Hall of Fame of so many of us. For this institution of Congress, it is important to recognize the

achievements of a true American hero that fought for his country, served his community and made Roseville, Macomb County, the State of Michigan and the world a better place.

I am honored to have walked with Leonard during part of his incredible journey, and I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to the truly remarkable life of Leonard Haggerty.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3548, the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009. There are currently millions of workers who are looking for a job, but through no fault of their own are unable to find employment. This bill would extend emergency unemployment for an additional 20 weeks in high unemployment States like Massachusetts. In Massachusetts alone, the National Employment Law Center estimates that 39,530 workers would be exhausting their benefits if not for the additional assistance created by this bill. I cosponsored this extension, and have been a strong supporter of extended unemployment compensation during economic recessions so that those most directly affected by these difficult times are not left to fend for themselves.

I also support extending the temporary homebuyer tax credit, which will help more Americans purchase homes. Congress first passed this provision in July 2008 by creating a refundable tax credit for first-time homebuyers. The credit served as an interest-free loan. In February, Congress extended the duration of the credit and also waived the repayment requirement. I supported the homebuyer tax credit on both occasions.

H.R. 3548 includes a provision to extend the homebuyer tax credit for 5 additional months and to raise the income cap so more families are eligible. In addition, the measure would provide a \$6,500 tax credit for current homeowners buying a new residence who consecutively live in their home for 5 years. I am a proud supporter of this reasonable extension of the homebuyer tax credit.

I urge my colleagues to pass this bill quickly and clear it for the President.

A TRIBUTE TO JUDGE JOSEPH WAPNER

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Judge Joseph Wapner on the occasion of his 90th birthday. Judge Wapner is being honored by his many colleagues, family, and friends in celebration of his outstanding accomplishments, both in his distinguished legal and television career and his tireless dedication to public service.

Judge Wapner is a lifelong resident of southern California. After graduating from Hollywood High School, he earned his bachelors degree from the University of Southern California and his law degree from USC Law School. He served in World War II and was awarded the Purple Heart and Bronze Star for his tremendously courageous acts in that conflict.

After being appointed by Governor Pat Brown to the LA Municipal Court where he served for 2 years, he was elevated to the Los Angeles Superior Court, where he served until his retirement. During those years, Judge Wapner starred in the nationally syndicated program, "The People's Court" which made him a bona fide celebrity. Judge Wapner has also recently appeared as a judge in a "Major League Baseball on Fox" pregame People's Court parody segment called "The Player's Court." He has starred, as well, in a number of influential political spots.

Judge Wapner also is the author of two well-received significant books, *A View from the Bench* and *Judge Wapner's Guide to Small Claims Court*. The latter tome is widely used as a helpful tool to navigate the intricacies of our legal system.

With an impressive list of civic organizations in which he takes an active interest, Judge Wapner is a highly respected member of the community. He is a member of the Board of Trustees of Alternative Living for the Aging, and serves as honorary chairman of the National Jewish Hospice. He is also the recipient of numerous honors and awards, including the Golden Glow Award from Senior Health and Peer Counseling and the Maimonides Award from the Legal Services Division of the Jewish Welfare Fund.

Judge Wapner and his wife, Mickey, have been longtime supporters of the Brandeis-Bardin Institute, and the construction of the Moelle Library and tennis and basketball courts at the institute stand as symbols of their generosity and leadership.

I ask my colleagues to join me in extending birthday greetings to my dear friend, Judge Joseph Wapner and in paying tribute to his dedication and outstanding contributions to our society.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL CHUPA

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Michael Chupa, an educator, public servant, community leader, businessman, avid hunter and proud family man in Michigan, who passed away on October 5, 2009.

Mr. Chupa was born December 31, 1943, in the city of Detroit. He graduated from Lawrence Technological University and was a grade school teacher at Immaculate Conception. He owned and operated the North American Adjustment Bureau providing property damage adjustment, appraisal and estimation service for southeast Michigan. A leader within the Ukrainian American community he worked

to create the St. Josaphat Parish in 1961 where he served as church council president. St. Josaphat continues to be a strong center of activity for the Ukrainian American community in southeast Michigan.

Mr. Chupa served on the Warren City Council for 16 years. His colleagues describe him as "fair and good-hearted" and even those who may have disagreed with him on a certain policy issue describe him as a "gentleman." Mr. Chupa cared about his community; he always made it a priority to help people and to advocate on behalf of local charities. I appreciated his friendship and always enjoyed working with him and attending alongside him numerous community events.

Mike Chupa was a proud and supportive parent. He and his wife Margaret have four children (Michael, Joseph, Jennifer and Jannen) who continue the tradition of involvement in their church and community.

I am pleased to rise today and pay tribute to the lifetime of service of Michael Chupa, and ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing his achievements. I extend my condolences to his wife and family and join with the entire community in celebrating his life.

REINTRODUCING THE BRAVE ACT

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to reintroduce the Benefit Rating Acceleration for Veterans Entitlements Act of 2009 or BRAVE Act. The BRAVE Act will cut through unnecessary red tape so that our most disabled veterans receive the benefits they deserve. It would make a common sense change to allow veterans receiving a rating of total disability from the Veterans Administration to also receive Social Security disability benefits without going through a separate and duplicative medical evaluation process, a process that can take years to navigate.

In early 2007, when I was first elected to Congress, a veteran-constituent contacted my staff to obtain assistance with his application for social security disability benefits. This veteran had already received a 100 percent disability rating from the Veterans Administration but had been waiting for more than a year to be approved for benefits at the Social Security Administration.

The Social Security Act states that disability means the "inability to engage in any substantial gainful activity by reason of any medically determinable physical or mental impairment." By regulation, the Veterans Administration defines total or 100 percent disability as "any impairment of mind or body which is sufficient to render it impossible for the average person to follow a substantially gainful occupation." Despite the fact that these definitions are virtually the same, many veterans including my constituent endure two complicated and time consuming processes to prove the same condition.

The Commission on Veteran's Disability Benefit found that only 61 percent of those granted Individual Unemployability and 54 per-

cent of those rated totally disabled by the Veterans Administration are receiving Social Security Disability Insurance. The Commission further explained that "it is apparent that either these veterans do not know to apply for SSDI or are being denied the insurance." The Veterans Disability Benefits Commission concluded that "increased outreach should be made and better coordination between VA and Social Security should result in increased mutual acceptance of decisions."

It is for these reasons that I first introduced the BRAVE Act, with broad bipartisan support, in the 110th Congress. The legislation was supported by a range of veteran service organizations including the American Legion, the Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America, and the Paralyzed Veterans of America. The bill is all the more important at a time when we face significant increases in Social Security applications as a result of the aging baby boomer generation and as veterans of the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan come home.

Madam Speaker, our Nation's veterans don't deserve a bureaucratic runaround when they return home. I hope my colleagues will join me in support of the BRAVE Act.

RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL TRUCK DRIVER APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. RAHALL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the service, dedication, and sacrifices of America's professional truck drivers who serve our Nation daily by delivering the clothes we wear, the food we eat, and yes, even the medical prescriptions upon which many of us must rely.

This week, November 1-7, is designated National Truck Driver Appreciation Week and is set aside to honor the 3.5 million professional truck drivers in the United States. One out of every fifteen people across this country is employed in the trucking industry, which is one of our Nation's largest employers.

Truckers serve as the backbone of their industry, which is responsible for a large portion of the total U.S. freight tonnage. Estimates suggest that a majority of communities rely solely on the trucking industry for their goods and commodities. In turn, our economy not only relies, but thrives, on the good work of these men and women.

America's truck drivers work to help keep our highways safe. They follow stringent safety regulations, attend frequent training programs, and help educate the motoring public to make sharing the roadways with tractor-trailers safer.

Finally, Madam Speaker, America's truck drivers sacrifice precious time from their families, all the while, they deliver for ours. This week we pause to say thank you to them and to their families.

I salute these fine individuals along with their understanding families for their commitment to America's future stability, increased prosperity, and for delivering life's essentials safely and securely.

COMMEMORATING VETERANS DAY

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Veterans Day and applaud the commitment and work of this Congress and President Obama to meet the needs of America's 23.4 million military veterans. Nearly 400,000 veterans call the great state of Minnesota home and we are proud of them, our friends and neighbors. As a Member of Congress and the daughter of a World War II veteran, I believe I have a duty to honor the men and women who have so courageously served our country by investing in expanding educational opportunities, health care services, and access to good jobs for our nation's veterans.

Increasingly, I have become particularly concerned about the mental health issues, such as post traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) and traumatic brain injury (TBI), that afflict our warriors who are now home from Iraq and Afghanistan. PTSD and TBI have claimed too many lives and caused too much hardship among the families of veterans. According to the Department of Veterans Affairs, service members responding to mental health questions when they return from Iraq and Afghanistan show that about 19 percent of service members from Iraq have a mental health problem, while about 11 percent from Afghanistan have a mental health problem. Too often the unseen wounds suffered by veterans, as a result of PTSD and TBI, remain untreated until a crisis or tragedy occurs for the veteran or their loved ones. Illnesses related to substance abuse, suicide prevention, and homelessness prevention for our veterans are often directly related to psychological trauma. I believe it is critical to support the expanded efforts by the Department of Defense and the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure our soldiers understand clearly that mental health services and help are available if, and when, they need them.

On this Veterans Day, I am very proud to live in a country that so values its veterans. My commitment and my prayers are with the millions of veterans and their families who owe a tremendous debt of gratitude.

HONORING SONOMA TREASURE
ARTIST OF THE YEAR LIN LIPETZ**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**

CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Representative LYNN WOOLSEY, to honor Lin Lipetz, the Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year. Selected by the city's Cultural and Fine Arts Commission, Ms. Lipetz was chosen for her talents as a teacher and an artist as well as for her contributions to the community.

With an MFA from the University of Washington in ceramics, painting and textiles, a bachelor's degree in art from the University of Washington, and a bachelor's degree from San Jose State University in interior architec-

ture, Lipetz has the academic credentials to back up her long experience as an artist. With drawings and beautifully colorful and joyous paintings ranging from abstract to landscape, she has exhibited frequently, both as a solo artist and with groups.

Her work is in numerous collections, and she has also won honors and grants including Friends of the Crafts in Seattle, Washington; National Endowments for the Arts High School Art Instruction in Missoula, Montana; and the Art Across the Valley Tour through the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art.

Her contributions to the City of Sonoma enrich the lives of its residents and add to the vibrancy of its arts community. She teaches painting and intuitive drawing at the Sonoma Community Center, is active with the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art and served as a commissioner on the Cultural Fine and Arts Commission.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to celebrate Lin Lipetz's selection as Sonoma Treasure Artist of the year. We join the Sonoma community in our appreciation of her talents and her contributions.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of the House passed version of the Conference Report 111-316, to accompany H.R. 2996.

Requesting Member: Congressman J. GRESHAM BARRETT

Bill Number: H.R. 2996

Provision: Division A, EPA, STAG Water and Wastewater Infrastructure Project

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Laurens Commission of Public Works

Address of Requesting Entity: 212 Church Street, Laurens, SC 29630

Description of Request: The purpose of this appropriation is to provide \$300,000 to be used for the design and construction of a half million gallon water storage tank, and associated water distribution system upgrades. The construction will also include approximately 10 miles of 12 inch water main and a booster pump station. This water distribution system upgrade will provide additional potable, industrial and fire water supply to the surrounding areas. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

TRIBUTE TO AN ALASKAN PIONEER
AND FATHER OF MODERN-DAY ANCHORAGE**HON. DON YOUNG**

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an Alaskan Pioneer and father of modern-day Anchorage. Former long-term Anchorage Mayor George Murray Sul-

livan, 87, died September 23, 2009, surrounded by his family. A lifelong Alaskan, Sullivan was born on March 31, 1922, raised in Valdez, Alaska, where his father Harvey was the U.S. District Marshal and mother Viola was the first woman mayor in Alaska.

Sullivan's life and leadership spanned the territorial days of Alaska through statehood. In the 1920s, the Sullivans lived in Valdez, a busy town in the first two decades of the 20th century that supported a bowling alley, several breweries, a dam and hydroelectric plant, the seat of the Territory of Alaska's Third Judicial District, a public library, hospital, and public school system. George had a wonderful life as a kid in Valdez, playing many sports, engaging in school activities, and helping at the family store.

During World War II, Anchorage's population exploded from around 8,000 to more than 43,000. In July, 1944, George was drafted into the U.S. Army for two years and was stationed at Adak in the Aleutian Islands. He married the love of his life, Margaret Eagan Sullivan, on December 30, 1947, and moved to Nenana. George was the U.S. deputy marshal and Margaret was the U.S. commissioner. Aply, George would catch the criminals and Margaret would try them. In 1955, he was elected to the Fairbanks City Council. George took a job in management with Consolidated Freightways and in 1959 moved the family to Anchorage, where he lived for the next 50 years. From 1964 to 1965, George served in the Alaska Legislature, after being appointed by Governor Bill Egan to fill a vacancy, and soon after was elected to the Anchorage City Council. In 1967, he ran a successful race to become Anchorage mayor, a position he would hold for 15 years. In 1975, voters approved the unification of Anchorage's city and borough governments and elected George its mayor. The creation of the Municipality of Anchorage was an incredible undertaking. As mayor, George successfully merged the duplicative departments, boards, and utilities into one government.

Statehood in 1958 brought change but it was the oil boom that provided the resources for Anchorage to blossom into a modern day city. George and his administration had a vision of what Anchorage could become and were entrusted to direct the streaming State oil revenues toward improving and enhancing the city's quality of life for its residents. George helped secure State funding for the construction of the Egan Civic and Convention Center, Loussac Library, the Alaska Center for the Performing Arts, and the Sullivan Sports Arena. This moved Anchorage into being a modern and vibrant community.

George finished as Mayor of Anchorage in 1982. For the past many years since, George has remained active in the community and state boards up until his illness in 2008. Through the years he was active on the Enstar board, AWWU, state PERS board, Anchorage Senior Center Endowment, TOTE Advisory Board, Military Advisory Board, Anchorage Wellness Court Alumni Group, Alaska Heart Association, Boys and Girls Clubs, and many more. He was always willing to lend a helping hand to make Anchorage a little better for those less fortunate or in need. He had a strong faith in the Roman Catholic Church and often assisted at Mass and in the church's organizations. He was a member of the Elks Club, the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and the Pioneers of Alaska.

George had an incredible love for the community and worked on many projects to enhance the quality of life for all who called Anchorage home. He was a true public servant and visionary who strived to make Anchorage a better community for future generations while he was mayor and during his retirement.

George was a great Alaskan. George was my friend.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PAUL W. HODES

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. HODES. Madam Speaker, due to unforeseen circumstances, I missed one vote in a series of votes on Thursday, November 5, 2009. I would have voted "yea" on the following vote: H.R. 878, a resolution expressing support for the goals and ideals of National Family Literacy Day.

HONORING JOE LARSON FOR 30 YEARS OF SERVING WASHINGTON COUNTY VETERANS

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Joe Larson of Washington County, for the more than 30 years he has served in the Washington County Veterans Service Office. As a veterans service officer over 3 decades, Joe has surely touched the lives of thousands of returning service men and women. It's a calling that requires perseverance, diligence and passion.

As a veteran and Purple Heart recipient himself, Joe was uniquely qualified for this position. The instant bond among veterans was nurtured by Joe's experience and dedication to both his job and his fellow vets. For over 30 years, it has been his duty to file paperwork, make follow up calls and contact agencies on behalf of Minnesota's veterans. But for 30 years, Joe's calling was much higher. He was an advocate, a listener and a friend to so many veterans readjusting to life at home. His concern was genuine and his passion was unparalleled.

And so I rise today, Madam Speaker, to give thanks to and honor Joe for the difference he has made to veterans scattered throughout Minnesota. And as he looks forward to his retirement, he can move forward knowing his was a job well done. He will be very truly missed by coworkers and veterans alike.

NANCY PILVER BREAST CANCER HEROINE AWARD

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Margarita

"Maggie" Gardner of Hartford, Connecticut, to whom I was honored to present the Nancy Pilver Breast Cancer Heroine Award.

Each year, I present the Nancy Pilver Breast Cancer Heroine Award to a resident of Connecticut's First Congressional District who has displayed extraordinary dedication to the issue of breast cancer through education, prevention, treatment, and awareness. The award is named in honor of Nancy Pilver, formerly of Manchester, Connecticut, and the first recipient of the award.

In 2006, Maggie contacted my office to request assistance with her Social Security Disability Claim. Her dire needs required that her claim be expedited. Thankfully, Social Security was receptive to our request and as a result, Maggie was able to win her fight against breast cancer and carry on her life without difficult financial ramifications.

Maggie's successful fight against breast cancer has inspired her to help others battling various types of cancer. Maggie started the Gardner House, a non-profit organization with the goal of providing a one-stop center for cancer patients to receive guidance and assistance in their fight against the disease. Its mission statement is "to assist the cancer patient and their family to return to a normal, healthy and productive life in their community." Included among the Gardner House's many objectives are referrals to state and local agencies, medication expenses and general financial assistance, housing assistance, transportation to medical appointments, and counseling and emotional support groups.

Perhaps one of the Gardner House's most successful stories involved Elizabeth Hurd, Maggie's first referral. Elizabeth underwent a severe struggle with uterine cancer, and eventually overcame the disease.

During her fight she was unable to schedule a disability hearing, resulting in the loss of her apartment and rental assistance, and most of her belongings. After being placed in contact with Maggie, and through the assistance of the Gardner House and my office, she was able to schedule a disability hearing. Elizabeth, grateful for the help she received, aptly calls Maggie "her angel."

We in Connecticut's First Congressional District are extremely grateful for Maggie's extensive efforts, and she is very deserving of this year's Nancy Pilver Breast Cancer Heroine Award.

CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER LYONS REMEMBERED FOR SERVICE TO COUNTRY

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize U.S. Army CWO Niall D. Lyons for his bravery and heroism while serving to protect our country's freedoms.

Chief Warrant Officer Lyons deployed from the B Company, 3rd Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment at Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia to Afghanistan. On October 26th, 2009, Chief Warrant Officer Lyons gave the ultimate sacrifice for his country along with six special operations soldiers and three

agents from the Drug Enforcement Administration when their MH-47 helicopter crashed in Badghis province in western Afghanistan. The crash happened when the soldiers and federal agents lifted off in the helicopter after an operation to disrupt arms smuggling and drug trafficking in the Darreh-ye Bum Village in Qadis District.

Being a native of Spokane, Washington, Chief Warrant Officer Lyons was an avid Seattle Seahawks football fan. He also loved the great outdoors. He enjoyed water skiing and fishing. But most of all, he loved spending time with his son, John.

Today, his family, friends, and country must say their final goodbye to Chief Warrant Officer Lyons. Although the journey will be tough for his family and friends, we know that Chief Warrant Officer Lyons will always be looking from above watching over those he loved most.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Chief Warrant Officer Lyons for fearlessly sacrificing his own life in order to protect our freedoms from the evils of terrorism. I invite my colleagues to join me in a moment of silence for Chief Warrant Officer Lyons as well as all of the men and women who lost their lives in the recent helicopter crash while serving in Afghanistan.

TRIBUTE TO FORT MYERS MAYOR JIM HUMPHREY

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. MACK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor one of southwest Florida's hardest-working public servants, Fort Myers Mayor Jim Humphrey, who is retiring after an exceptional career.

I've known Jim for a number of years now. He's been a great friend of the Mack Family, and he was one of my earliest supporters when I first decided to run for Congress. Jim's civility and demeanor have earned him the nickname "Gentleman Jim," and I can't think of a more fitting description for a great public servant, family man, and friend.

Jim has been a strong force for the people of southwest Florida. His enthusiasm and passion for serving the community is inspiring. Jim's the type of elected official that all of us strive to be: accessible, dedicated and effective.

But perhaps the most important job Jim has ever held is that of a father and grandfather. He is so proud of his daughters and beams when he speaks about his grandchildren. Jim's family bring him his greatest joy, and this joy shines through in everything he does.

Jim has worked tirelessly to make southwest Florida a great place to live, work and visit. Under his leadership, the city of Fort Myers was designated as the Healthiest City in the Southeast in 2003 and a Preserve America Community in 2004, among other accolades. In addition, Jim has worked to obtain vital funding to preserve our community's unique treasures, such as the Edison & Ford Winter Estates and the Langford-Kingston Home.

Of course, Jim's public service does not end with his stint in the Mayor's Office. Jim has

held countless positions on numerous civic and charitable organizations throughout southwest Florida. He's the type of person who believes in giving back to his community tenfold and has done just that. From his service as the first full-time Lee County Attorney, to his time as a city judge in Fort Myers, Jim will have left a lasting mark on southwest Florida.

Madam Speaker, the city of Fort Myers, and indeed all of southwest Florida, are better off today because of Jim's service. It is truly an honor and a privilege to represent Jim in the U.S. House of Representatives, and I wish Jim, his wife Nancy, and their beloved family all the best.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, this morning our national debt was \$11,990,561,444,829.48. We have added \$11,607,722,003.58 to the national debt since just yesterday.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

The means the national debt has increased by \$1,352,135,698,535.68 so far this year.

According to the non-partisan Congressional Budget Office, the forecast deficit for this year is \$1.6 trillion. That means that so far this year, we borrowed and spent an average \$4.4 billion a day more than we have collected, passing that debt and its interest payments to our children and all future Americans.

JOHN FISHEL

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, we are honored to pay tribute to our friend, John R. Fishel on the occasion of his retirement from the Jewish Federation, and honor him for his decades of invaluable service to our community.

John has spent decades of his life at work with non-profit organizations and charitable groups. He has earned high esteem and respect for his diligence and hard work as well as his many achievements and contributions to these causes.

During his time with the Jewish Federation, his attentive management style, vision, and dedication resulted in many innovative projects which transformed the organization. He created the Tel Aviv/Los Angeles partnership, a new way to nurture a close relationship with Israel and bring the people of these two cities together. In recent years, he launched efforts to engage young Jewish professionals in The New Leaders Project, a civic leadership training program for young adults. Under his leadership, many valuable programs were developed, such as KOREH L.A., a literacy program and Fed Up With Hunger, a community-wide movement to end hunger in Los Angeles.

His effective leadership was especially evident following the Northridge earthquake and the 1999 shooting at the North Valley Jewish Community Center. His work to encourage increased support for Israel was on display during the second Intifada and Israel's war with Hezbollah. His resilience in these times of trouble was a calming source of inspiration to the community.

Prior to his service at the Federation, he worked tirelessly as the top professional executive at the Allied Jewish Community Services (the local Jewish Federation) in Montreal, Canada, at the Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS) and the Council Migration Services in Philadelphia, as planning associate at the Federation of Jewish Agencies of Greater Philadelphia, and as a resource developer for the Ohio State Department of Health.

Mr. Fishel graduated with a Bachelors degree in anthropology and a master of social welfare administration and policy from the University of Michigan. He and his wife, Karen, have one daughter, Jessica. They live in Cheviot Hills.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, we ask you to join me in saluting John R. Fishel for his impressive career and dedication to the community and The Jewish Federation, and to congratulate him on the occasion of his retirement.

THE DEATH OF JOHN O'QUINN,
PROMINENT HOUSTON ATTORNEY,
PHILANTHROPIST, AND
FRIEND

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I request that the House of Representatives take a moment to remember a fellow American and friend of mine, John O'Quinn, of Houston, Texas. Mr. O'Quinn died last Thursday, October 29, 2009 in a tragic car accident that also claimed the life of his longtime assistant, Johnny Lee Cutliff.

By all standards, Mr. O'Quinn was an extremely successful lawyer in Houston society, but to those of us who knew him well, John was a dedicated professional, a generous benefactor, and a loyal friend.

Publicly, John has been recognized as an icon and was named one of the "100 Legal Legends of the Law" by the Texas Lawyer. He was recognized by the National Law Journal and the Harvard Law Review as one of the "Best Lawyers in America." Mr. O'Quinn received four of the largest verdicts in Texas legal history, having won more than \$20 billion for his clients throughout his career, including a \$17.3 billion tobacco settlement for the State of Texas. He was an honors graduate of the University of Houston Law Center, served as a Regent for the University of Houston, and trustee of the University of Houston Law School Foundation.

The man behind these impressive achievements was also fiercely loyal to the town that raised him and brought him to statewide and national prominence. John was a philanthropist and gave generously to assist the University of Houston, which named a law library and stadium after him; the Children's Assess-

ment Center; the Women's Center; Baylor College of Medicine; the End Hunger Network; St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital; the South Texas College of Law Advocacy Center and many more organizations and causes of equal importance.

Mr. O'Quinn was a passionate car collector. Before his passing, he planned to open a public museum to display and share his love of cars and the histories accompanying each.

There are few Houstonians who have not been affected by Mr. O'Quinn's work, either through his role as attorney, benefactor or philanthropist. Mr. O'Quinn will be remembered as a dedicated legal professional, generous philanthropist, and dear friend. It will be hard to imagine Houston without one of its most dynamic personalities and legal giants. Mr. O'Quinn will be greatly missed.

HONORING SONOMA TREASURE
ARTIST OF THE YEAR LIN LIPETZ

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Representative MIKE THOMPSON, to honor Lin Lipetz, the Sonoma Treasure Artist of the Year. Selected by the city's Cultural and Fine Arts Commission, Ms. Lipetz was chosen for her talents as a teacher and an artist as well as for her contributions to the community.

With an MFA from the University of Washington in ceramics, painting and textiles, a bachelor's degree in art from the University of Washington, and a bachelor's degree from San Jose State University in interior architecture, Lipetz has the academic credentials to back up her long experience as an artist. With drawings and beautifully colorful and joyous paintings ranging from abstract to landscape, she has exhibited frequently, both as a solo artist and with groups.

Her work is in numerous collections, and she has also won honors and grants including Friends of the Crafts in Seattle, Washington; National Endowments for the Arts High School Art Instruction in Missoula, Montana; and the Art Across the Valley Tour through the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art.

Her contributions to the City of Sonoma enrich the lives of its residents and add to the vibrancy of its arts community. She teaches painting and intuitive drawing at the Sonoma Community Center, is active with the Sonoma Valley Museum of Art and served as a commissioner on the Cultural and Fine Arts Commission.

Madam Speaker, it is a pleasure to celebrate Lin Lipetz's selection as Sonoma Treasure Artist of the year. We join the Sonoma community in our appreciation of her talents and her contributions.

SALUTING JOHN HAMILTON FOR 29
YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I'd like to recognize a model patriot

who has really made a difference in the young, rising leadership of our armed forces, Mr. John Hamilton. Next week Mr. Hamilton will officially step down from the Third Congressional District Academy Candidate Selection Board after 29 years of service and volunteering his time, effort and talent to three different Members of Congress: former Congressman Steve Bartlett, former Congressman Jim Collins and me.

In this advisory capacity, John offered his wisdom and expertise to help identify and recommend hundreds of students from the Third Congressional District for nomination to a prestigious service academy, including one who went on to become a Rhodes Scholar.

The Third District of Texas is home to some of the best and the brightest young people. As a Member of Congress it is always an honor to recommend fine students to our nation's service academies. These students join the premiere military force of the world and become leaders of men and women in uniform. John Hamilton played an instrumental role in helping Third District young adults achieve their dream of military service.

My friend, John, was perfectly situated to play the role of advisor for the Third Congressional District Academy Candidate Selection Board. He graduated in 1968 from the prestigious United States Naval Academy with a B.S. in Engineering/Management.

He knows firsthand the rigors, discipline, and inner strength needed to thrive, not just survive, at a service academy. I know his experience in Annapolis helped him make many decisions.

John also graduated from SMU School of Law in 1976. He is a Lifetime Chapter Member of the North Texas Chapter of the U.S. Naval Academy Alumni Association and a member of the State Bar of Texas. Since 1994 he has served as President of Hamilton & Hartsfield, P.C., a law firm specializing in general corporate law, mergers and acquisitions, and business transactions. He is a shining example of a well-rounded patriot eager to give back to his country and his community. I am thankful for his service and I will miss his valued opinions and leadership.

Godspeed, John Hamilton. God bless you and God bless America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRAD ELLSWORTH

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. ELLSWORTH. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, November 5, 2009, I missed rollcall vote No. 857. Had I been present for rollcall vote No. 857, on agreeing to H. Res. 885, I would have voted "aye."

CHEMICAL FACILITY ANTI-TERRORISM ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. HARE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2868, the Chemical and Water Security Act.

As the bill stands now, I cannot vote in favor of this legislation. A provision in the bill to require Inherently Safer Technology, IST, in chemical facilities would likely create costly mandates for local farm suppliers and jeopardize the availability of widely-used fertilizer and pesticides. This language could inadvertently have the effect of causing my district to lose much needed jobs. While I support the intention of this legislation, to safeguard our chemical and drinking water facilities from terrorist attack, the current language would severely impact the ability of farmers to produce food and would adversely impact farmers all across my district.

It is my hope that as this legislation progresses that the concerns of the agricultural community will be addressed and I can vote for the final product.

A TRIBUTE TO OUR ESTEEMED VETERANS AND FOUR LOCAL WASPS IN ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THEIR CONGRESSIONAL GOLD MEDAL AWARDS

HON. DANIEL E. LUNGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. DANIEL E. LUNGREN of California. Madam Speaker, nearly 70 years ago a group of extraordinary young women answered the call of duty and accepted a mission that no generation had before them. Just over 1,100 women eagerly left the grounded existence of home and family, climbed into the cockpits of military aircraft and set about to do their part in the good fight of World War II. By 1943 they had come to be known as WASPs: Women Airforce Service Pilots. They had the verve of Amelia Earhart, the poise of their upbringing and a dutiful patriotic spirit to get them through. Some 38 perished during their 2-year tenure while fulfilling a variety of missions: testing aircraft and ferrying planes from coast to coast among them. Today we honor the service of four of these WASPs who reside in the Third Congressional District of California: Dorothy C. Goot and Captola Johnson, both of Fair Oaks; Barbara H. Kennedy and Doris K. Ohm, both of Sacramento. We thank you for your service. On Veterans Day, as we pay special tribute to men and women in the military, we especially thank you for your example and sacrifice. Women sustain the Armed Forces of these United States more today than at any other time in history. We thank you. We salute you all.

HEALTHY KIDS ACT

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the "Healthy Kids Act," legislation that will focus the resources of the federal government on ending the epidemic of obesity that threatens a generation of America's children.

Over the past three decades, the rate of childhood obesity has risen to crisis propor-

tions. Current data from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention show that rates of obesity have more than doubled for children aged 2 to 11 years and more than tripled for adolescents aged 12 to 19 years. According to the CDC, 32 percent of children are overweight, 16 percent are obese, and 11 percent are extremely obese. In some racial and ethnic groups, in low-income populations, and among recent immigrants, the rates of obesity among children and youth are alarmingly high.

The health consequences for these children are very serious. They are at much greater risk of developing diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, asthma, and other diseases than their non-obese peers. Many children are subjected to ridicule and bullying that damage their emotional well-being. Beyond the tragic consequences for the children themselves are the effects on the American economy. Obese children are at risk of growing into obese adults who do not participate fully in the workforce because of employment discrimination, lost productivity due to illness and disability, and premature death. If the childhood obesity epidemic continues at its current rate, conditions related to type 2 diabetes, such as blindness, coronary artery disease, stroke, and kidney failure may become common conditions of middle age. Health care costs for this population are likely to rise to an extent we are only now beginning to appreciate.

Many factors contribute to the childhood obesity epidemic. Many children's diets are too high in fats and carbohydrates and do not include enough fruits and vegetables. At the same time, our children are less active than they were a generation ago. More time front of the television means that kids are exposed to over 20,000 commercials a year, very few of which are encouraging them to exercise and eat right. Residential communities often do not have safe sidewalks or recreation areas to draw children off the couch and outside to run and play. Underfunded schools have cut back on physical education programs and are resorting to revenues from vending machines full of junk food to supplement public funding.

The Healthy Kids Act will provide critical Federal leadership to address this crisis by establishing an Office of Childhood Overweight and Obesity Prevention and treatment within the Department of Health and Human Services. The Director of this office will be the Federal Government's champion on this issue. The Director is charged with evaluating the effectiveness of existing Federal policies, programs, and research efforts and identifying future needs; implementing Federal support measures for State, tribal, and territorial programs; and carrying out a comprehensive, long-term, national campaign to prevent weight gain and obesity among our children and youth. The Director will also have an important role in promoting and supporting school wellness policies that monitor students' body mass index, provide parents with information on health and nutrition, and implement age-appropriate physical activity programs.

In carrying out these responsibilities, the Director will consider the unique needs of racially and ethnically diverse groups and high-risk populations, including low-income populations and communities. The Director will also take advantage of the expertise of the Secretaries of the Departments of Agriculture, Education, Defense, Interior, Housing and Urban

Development, and Transportation, as well as the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Chairmen of the Federal Trade Commission and the Federal Communications Commission.

To make sure that our young people receive a consistent message that encourages them to adopt healthful eating patterns and helps them understand their nutritional needs, the Director will work with the Secretary of Agriculture to identify three categories of foods and beverages—Tier 1 foods and beverages, which are healthful for children and adolescents and the consumption of which is encouraged; Tier 2 foods and beverages, which do not exceed levels of total, saturated, and trans fat, sugars, and sodium that are acceptable in a healthful diet for children and adolescents; and Tier 3 foods and beverages, which do not contribute to a healthful diet for children and adolescents and the consumption of which is discouraged. These categories will form the basis for regulations to be issued by the Secretary of Agriculture updating the current standards for foods and beverages available to schoolchildren outside the federally supported school meal programs. This approach to the problem of competitive foods would allow schools to retain the revenue stream from sales of competitive foods by offering healthful options, and would send the message that certain foods should be enjoyed as treats, not as part of the daily diet.

The same three categories of foods and beverages would form the basis for guidelines issued by the Director in consultation with the Chairman of the Federal Trade Commission to control the marketing, advertising, or promoting of foods and beverages to children and adolescents. Children's preferences for foods that lack sweet and salty tastes are learned and require repeated positive experiences, especially to accept fruits, vegetables, and other nutrient-rich foods later in life. There is evidence that parental ability to guide children's consumption of food and beverages has been compromised by an environment that exposes children to an array of advertising and marketing messages for junk food, many directed at children too young to understand the selling purpose of advertising. Most children ages 8 years and under do not effectively comprehend the persuasive intent of marketing messages, and most children ages 4 years and under cannot consistently discriminate between television advertising and programming. In short, a child is not possessed of the full capacity for individual choice that is the presupposition of First Amendment guarantees. The knowledge that parental control or guidance cannot always be provided and society's transcendent interest in protecting the welfare of children justify reasonable regulation of the sale of material to them. A provision in current federal law prohibiting the Chairman from issuing such regulations is repealed.

The bill also makes clear that counseling and treatment services for overweight and obese children are eligible for reimbursement under the Medicaid and SCHIP programs.

Madam Speaker, we can, and we simply must, make addressing childhood obesity a national priority. Not only must we help the children who are already affected, we must not fail to protect another generation. Health is more than the absence of physical or mental illness—it is also the extent to which children

and youth have the capacity to reach their full potential. Childhood obesity is a public health crisis that will not be solved without the full support of the Federal Government. I urge my colleagues to support the Healthy Kids Act.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM LEROY HOLDEN

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a trailblazing high school coach, athletics director and a great humanitarian. William Leroy Holden is being honored on November 14, 2009, for his tremendous 38-year career at North Mecklenburg High School in Huntersville, North Carolina. I want to commend him on his contributions to athletics and the students he coached and mentored over the years.

Leroy Holden first came to North Mecklenburg High School in 1971. He had spent 2 years at East Mecklenburg High School, but left to take a job in insurance to better support his growing family. However, his love of coaching drew him back, and he chose to take a pay cut to follow his heart and took a position at North Mecklenburg High School.

Over the next 28 years, he would serve as head coach of the baseball, softball and tennis teams. He also served as an assistant football and track coach. But where Coach Holden really made his mark was as the men's basketball coach from 1974–1999, compiling an impressive record of 464 wins and 267 losses. His teams made it to the playoffs 12 times during his career. In the 1986–87 season, the Viking men's basketball team went undefeated, winning 30 games before losing in the state championship.

His success at North Mecklenburg High School led to invitations to coach other young people. He served as an instructor at the International Basketball Clinic in London, England in 1993, coached the West All-Stars Coach in 1986, and the East-West All-Star Game in North Carolina. He served as a coach at the NBPA High School Basketball Camp at Princeton University from 1995–1999; and as a basketball camp instructor at the University of North Carolina-Chapel Hill from 1983–1999.

His success on the basketball court and in other athletic arenas made Leroy Holden the perfect choice to lead athletics at North Mecklenburg High School. In 1985, Coach Holden was promoted to athletics director at the school to which he had dedicated his career. He still maintained his coaching duties until 1999 in addition to overseeing all athletics at the growing high school.

Leroy Holden went to college on a football scholarship and earned a bachelor's degree in 1967 from Western Carolina in Cullowhee, North Carolina. He pursued an advanced degree at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, earning a masters in education in 1978. Immediately upon earning that degree, he earned a masters in physical education from Winthrop University in Rock Hill, South Carolina. Coach Holden also became a certified athletic administrator through the State Coaches Conferences in Greensboro, North Carolina in 2000.

Coach Holden is an active member of the Sportsman Club of Charlotte, where he has served as the president, program vice president, secretary and treasurer. In 1999, the organization named him the Sportsman of the Year. He is also the past president of the ME-CA Conference. He has served on both the Sectional Basketball Committee and as director of the Sectional Basketball Tournament. Coach Holden has also been a member of the Charlotte Sports Commission since 1998. He is the recipient of numerous awards including the 2008 Lifetime Achievement Award from the North Carolina Athletic Directors' Association, the 2001 Charlotte Observer Athletic Director of the Year, and the Conference Basketball Coach of the Year seven times between 1977 and 1994.

There is one of Coach Holden's accomplishments that will not appear in the record books, yet I believe it deserves recognition. Coach Holden came to North Mecklenburg High School shortly after the school had fully integrated. He truly was colorblind in his approach to athletics and had great success with his African-American athletes. He was the first coach at the school to secure college scholarships for black athletes, as he always believed that every talented student deserved the opportunity he had to go to school on an athletic scholarship. He worked hard toward that goal enabling many students to go to college that otherwise could not have afforded it. During his extensive career, he secured approximately 200 college scholarships for minority athletes and several of those students went on to become professionals. Many others followed in his footsteps and went on to become high school and college coaches. That is a tremendous record for any high school coach, and it says a lot about the kind of man Coach Holden is.

Coach Holden is married to the former Ginny Severs of Charlotte. They were high school sweethearts and have just celebrated 44 years of marriage. The couple has three children and three grandchildren. His passion for athletics and for inspiring young people has enriched the lives of countless student athletes.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in applauding the tremendous career of Coach William Leroy Holden of North Mecklenburg High School. His dedication to his profession and his students is unparalleled.

UNEMPLOYMENT COMPENSATION EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 5, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Worker, Homeownership, and Business Assistance Act of 2009, H.R. 3548. This emergency extension of unemployment benefits for states with high rates of unemployment is important for my home state of New Jersey and I urge this body to pass this legislation and the President to sign it expeditiously.

With over 15 million Americans currently out of work it is essential that this body take action to preserve jobs by helping companies

that are struggling in these uncertain economic times. More and more companies are falling into the position where their losses exceed their income. Businesses are being forced to close their doors, lay off employees and cut operating costs.

As American employers continue to struggle to stay afloat in the worst economic crisis since the 1930s, Congress must fully utilize the tax code to provide timely and targeted relief for American entrepreneurs. Current tax law allows “net operating loss carrybacks” to help companies recoup their losses by offsetting taxable income from the two previous tax years. In the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act Congress extended the period that small businesses could write off their net operating losses for 2008 and 2009 from two years to five years; enacting H.R. 3548 will extend to this all companies that have suffered losses during this recession.

Extending the net operating loss provision will help businesses free up funds and prevent further job loss, which is critical for our economic security. This bill will provide essential tax relief that gives owners and entrepreneurs better means to make payroll and invest in new equipment, put people back to work, and create new jobs when they can.

IN HONOR OF THE 54TH COAST
ARMY ARTILLERY REGIMENT

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, November 6, 2009

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the soldiers who served during World War II in the United States Army's 54th Coast Artillery Regiment. The 54th was an all-black regiment that shared the mission of guarding California's Central Coast from enemy attack. It was the U.S. Army's only all-black, heavy artillery unit during World War II.

The 54th was part of the network of forces that protected the entrance to San Francisco Harbor and the Golden Gate Bridge and the millions of tons of cargo and munitions coming out of the port. This network included coastal fortifications, underwater minefields, anti-aircraft guns, radars, searchlights, patrol aircraft, and observation posts up and down the coast of California. Several such posts were located in my District, including one near the lighthouse in the city of Santa Cruz.

No enemy was ever seen, and in 1944 the Army began to phase out its California coast watch. Batteries of the 54th were deployed to

other battlefronts, including Peru. After the fall of Germany in 1945, the 54th was restructured and sent to the Philippines to prepare to invade Japan, but Japan surrendered before that happened.

Armed initially with old guns and wearing uniforms left over from World War I, the men of the 54th served with pride and dedication. Two members of the Santa Cruz unit still live on the Central Coast. Russell R. Dawson returned to Santa Cruz after his discharge in 1946 and became the first black postal worker in that city, a job he held for 33 years. William Edward Jackson Sr., who lives in nearby Menlo Park, is a past president of that city's chapter of the NAACP.

On this Veteran's Day these two men will represent the 54th Coast Artillery Regiment at the dedication of a memorial plaque erected on the site of their former post at Lighthouse Field. This project was spearheaded by the Santa Cruz Women's Club who, after Dawson spoke to their group about his experiences, decided to memorialize this special piece of Santa Cruz and American history. Madam Speaker, I know the whole House joins me in thanking the 54th Coast Army Artillery Regiment for their honorable and dedicated service to our nation.