

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

SUPPORT FOR H. RES. 1021

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSS CARNAHAN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, as Chairman of the House Foreign Affairs Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight, I wanted to support the House Resolution which expresses condolences to and solidarity with the people of Haiti in the aftermath of the devastating earthquake of January 12th, 2010.

I would like to praise the work of Meds and Food for Kids (MFK), an internationally renowned non-profit program, based in St. Louis. MFK was designated by the U.S. Agency for International Development as an official distributor of food to the malnourished people of Haiti.

It is also important to recognize and leverage the work of international organizations such as the United Nations and the World Food Program. This earthquake, which destroyed the U.N. Headquarters, has caused the greatest single loss of life in U.N. history. The U.N. Security Council voted on January 19 to send 3,500 more peacekeepers to Haiti.

President Obama announced \$100 million in additional assistance to help Haiti during this time of crisis. I want to help ensure that taxpayer resources, as well as donations given through private charities, are spent efficiently, transparently, and effectively, and are used to help those Haitians most in need.

Rebuilding efforts will take years. It is important that once this story slips from the front pages of newspapers that the international community, including the United States, is still there to lend a lending hand.

IN MEMORY OF H.G. DULANEY

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. HALL of Texas. Madam Speaker, last year the fourth district of Texas and our Nation lost a distinguished gentleman and historian from Ector, Texas. H.G. Dulaney passed away on July 4th, 2009 at the age of 91. The great H.G., a legendary presence aide in his own right, was a longtime aide to the late Speaker of the House Sam Rayburn and served for many years as Director of the Sam Rayburn Library in Bonham.

H.G. Dulaney, son of Horace Greeley and Lucy Dulaney, was born in Fannin County on May 11, 1918 and lived there all of his life, except for a few years in Washington working for Speaker Rayburn. He graduated from Ector High School and attended Draughon's Business College in Dallas. He married Rita Redman on September 9, 1941 in Colbert,

Oklahoma, and they had two children, Loretta and Mike. H.G. served in the Army Air Force from 1942–1945 during WWII, spending 18 months in the India-Burma theater. Following his release from the service he returned to Fannin County where he briefly worked for Bonham Abstract Company and the Farmers Home Administration Department of Agriculture.

In 1951, 33-year-old H.G. Dulaney was persuaded by a local attorney, Buster Cole, to go to Washington to work for Speaker Rayburn. H.G. enjoyed telling the story of his first trip to Washington, D.C. with his shoes squeaking with every step he took and his many remembrances of "Mr. Sam," probably the most powerful man who ever led the U.S. House of Representatives. H.G. spent several years as a Congressional Aide to Speaker Rayburn, taking dictation and writing letters, among many other tasks. Mr. Sam ultimately became like a father to him.

In 1956, Mr. Sam appointed H.G. to take care of his personal business at the library. While the library construction was being completed, H.G. studied at the Library of Congress and the National Archives to prepare himself for his new job. He took special courses in accounting and library science at Southeastern University in Washington, D.C., and after he took over as Library Director in 1957, he continued his studies at East Texas State University.

H.G. Dulaney is a name that is synonymous with the Sam Rayburn Library. He was actively involved in preparations for the Library from its inception through construction and opening in 1957, and served as the Director of the Library until 2002, including its transfer into The University of Texas at Austin in 1990. Following his retirement, he was the Director Emeritus and Consultant at The Sam Rayburn Library. During his years at the Rayburn Library he served as Co-Editor of "Impressions of Mr. Sam—A Cartoon Profile" (1987) and "Speak, Mr. Speaker" (1978) and was the Editor of the Sam Rayburn Newsletter (1957–2002). Throughout more than half a century of operation, H.G. nurtured the Library and shared his wealth of knowledge and insights about Speaker Rayburn with visitors and students from all over the country.

H.G. was a member of Ector United Methodist Church, Ector Masonic Lodge, Dodd City Lions Club, The Texas Historical Commission, and the Fannin County Historical Commission. He also served a number of years on the Ector Carson Cemetery Board and The Public Housing Authority Board. In 1980, H.G. received the Good Government Award from the Zeta Gamma chapter of Pi Sigma Alpha, the Political Science National Honor Society, and he was also named Bonham Citizen of the Year in 1997, among many other awards he received over his lifetime. In September 2002, in honor of his official retirement from the Sam Rayburn Library and Museum, the Fannin County Commissioner's Court and the City of Bonham signed a proclamation declaring H.G. Dulaney Day. In addition, the main exhibit gal-

lery of the Rayburn Museum was renamed in his honor, commemorated with the permanent installation of his portrait. In 2005, H.G. was doubly honored by the Friends of Sam Rayburn. He was given the Inaugural Public Service Award and the award was named in his honor—the H.G. Dulaney Friends of Sam Rayburn Award for Public Service. The same year, the Sam Rayburn Foundation established a scholarship in his name.

H.G. is survived by a son, Mike, and his wife Marla Dulaney and five grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his parents, Horace Greeley and Lucy Dulaney, his wife Rita Redman Dulaney and daughter, Loretta Dulaney Chapman.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in memory and in honor of this great American and historian who dedicated his life to preserving the history of this institution. He will be truly missed.

HONORING AND REMEMBERING
MONIQUE PEGUES OF FORT
WORTH

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Monique Pegues, who departed this life Friday, January 22, 2010.

Ms. Pegues was a devoted Christian, wife, daughter, mother, sister and friend who left an indelible mark on each person in which she came in contact. She led an accomplished life that was exhibited to others through her love of God, family and career.

Ms. Pegues was an active member of First St John Baptist Church and a 1994 honors graduate of my alma mater, the University of North Texas at Denton. As a respected colleague, she was chosen by her peers to represent them as President to the DFW Chapter of the Women's Transportation Seminar (WTS) and as Chairperson to the North Central Texas Regional Certification Agency (NCTRCA). Ms. Pegues was also a member of several other organizations, such as Leadership Fort Worth and Toastmasters International. She also volunteered with Meals on Wheels, Big Brothers/Big Sisters and the Salvation Army. In strong recognition of her many accomplishments, Ms. Pegues was recognized in 2009 as part of Mass Transit's exclusive national list of "Top 40, Under 40".

Emboldened with a can-do spirit, professional demeanor and reserved confidence, Ms. Pegues quickly assimilated through the ranks of the Fort Worth Transportation Authority (The "T") to become the organization's Director of Governmental Relations. In this capacity, she developed effective long-lasting relationships with key elected officials and staffers here on "The Hill" in Washington, DC and in the Capitol in Austin, and was instrumental

• 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.

as a change-agent as evidenced through her highly-navigated role as liaison to various local, state, and federal governing jurisdictions.

Ms. Pegues was a compassionate person with a never-ceasing love for the Fort Worth community in which she grew up and then chose to give back to by becoming a public administrator. Yet for all her public accomplishments, her private persona as a devoted wife to Calvin, and mother to three young sons Cortlin, Colin and Carrington, who together were her focal point and source of pride, served as the most important and dedicated role in which she attributed her joy, admiration and love.

Madam Speaker, today I rise and join the Fort Worth community in honoring the exemplary life, legacy and achievements of Monique Pegues as an affirmation to the many contributions she bestowed upon all who knew her.

JACOB R. WILSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jacob R. Wilson. Jacob is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jacob has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jacob has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jacob has earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say. Jacob has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Jacob led 20 scouts in the construction of a new 4x8 sign for Weston Christian Church, at the corner of Washington and Spring Streets in Weston, Missouri.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jacob R. Wilson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF THE MEXICAN AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION OF LOS ANGELES COUNTY (MABA) ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Mexican American Bar Association of Los Angeles County (MABA) on the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. Headquartered in the South Park community of Downtown Los Angeles in the 34th Congressional District, I am proud to represent this non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the careers of Latinos in the legal profession and empowering Latino communities.

Over the years, I have had the privilege of working with MABA members in various ways to assist Latino families in my congressional district. MABA members have had profound impacts on our community, including in advocating for immigrant rights, providing legal counsel at my annual citizenship workshops, and generously providing pro bono consultation to the residents of the City of Commerce whose homes were damaged by the derailment of a Union Pacific train.

In 2005, I was particularly touched to become the organization's first-ever recipient of the Edward R. Roybal Public Service Award. Named in honor of my late father, the annual award recognizes individuals for their extraordinary public service to the Latino community. On behalf of my father and the Roybal family, I remain deeply grateful to MABA for honoring my father's legacy of public service in this very special way.

I am sure my father would be very proud that this year's Edward R. Roybal Public Service Award will go to Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa for his outstanding contributions to our city. MABA's other outstanding honorees at this year's February 6 anniversary gala at the Biltmore Hotel in Downtown Los Angeles are: Thomas Saenz; Herman Sillas; Eddie "Piolin" Sotelo; Mario Trujillo; Carlos Moyado; and The Law Firm of Moreno, Becerra and Casillas. They are all to be commended for their steadfast advocacy on behalf of Latino families.

In celebrating MABA's 50th Anniversary, it is appropriate to take a look back to this fine organization's humble beginnings. The organization's roots actually trace back to 1956 when Manuel Martinez was sworn in as an attorney in Los Angeles. Although there were few Mexican American attorneys at the time, Manuel Martinez quickly realized that attorneys of Mexican descent needed a support group to help guide their careers and ultimately succeed in the legal profession. Three years later, in 1959, he joined with another local attorney named Antonio Bueno to form the Mexican Lawyers' Club, which met regularly at El Farolito Restaurant in East Los Angeles.

In 1971, the Mexican Lawyers' Club evolved into the Mexican American Bar Association. Today, MABA of Los Angeles County boasts more than 800 members from various ethnic, racial and political backgrounds. Through the years, MABA of Los Angeles County is credited with helping numerous generations of attorneys develop their careers while staying true to its core mission of empowering and giving back to the Latino community. Considered the voice and heart of the Latino legal community, MABA members have ascended to the highest levels of the legal community: in private practice, non-profit, and governmental positions, including three appointments to the California State Supreme Court.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of MABA of Los Angeles County's 50th Anniversary, I ask my colleagues to please join me in celebrating the growth and outstanding achievements of this distinguished and influential organization and in congratulating all of its members for making this visionary bar association the success that it is today.

IN HONOR OF THE FEDERATION OF ITALIAN AMERICAN ORGANIZATIONS OF QUEENS

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, it is my great pleasure to pay tribute to the Federation of Italian American Organizations of Queens for its tremendous contributions to the civic, social and cultural life of our nation's greatest city. This month the Federation is installing its slate of 2010 officers at a ceremony presided over by State Senator George Onorato at the Istria Sport Club in Astoria.

The Federation of Italian American Organization of Queens was founded in 1971 to represent and unify the diverse Italian American community in Queens. Currently the Federation is comprised of thirty-four member groups, which each serve the community in a unique and substantial manner. By providing an umbrella organization for these dozens of institutions, the Federation has enhanced the ability of all its member organizations to accomplish their goals and advance their interests.

The Federation not only offers assistance to its member organizations, it directly offers a variety of services to individuals of all nationalities. It assists senior citizens with health, housing and insurance issues. Youths are served through the Federation's Drug Awareness Run and Soccer programs. It helps meet the wider community's diverse needs through the Federation's voter registration drives, as well as by offering classes in Defensive Driving and English as a Second Language.

I am pleased to join you in honoring the men and women the Federation of Italian American Organizations of Queens is installing as its new officers. I congratulate the Federation's President Joseph DiPietro, First Vice President Joseph Gaeta, Second Vice President Caterina Curatoio, Third Vice President Jerry Iannece, Treasurer Gino Macari, Assistant Treasurer Angelo Capone, Public Relations officer Maria Fosco, Recording Secretary Vincenza Russo, Assistant Recording Secretary Sandro Iannece, Correspondence Secretary John Ciafone, Parliamentarian Carlo Bucich, Historian Joseph Chiarappa, and Sergeant at Arms Anthony Barrata. Under their leadership, this important organization will surely continue to be a valuable resource to the community.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my distinguished colleagues join me in saluting the great work of the Federation of Italian American Organizations of Queens, and in recognizing the extraordinary men and women of the Federation and their contributions to the quality of life in New York City.

HONORING MR. FRED AJOOTIAN OF LANCASTER COUNTY, VIRGINIA

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. WITTMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Fred Ajoitian. Fred

Ajootian was a proud Lancaster County resident and a strong supporter of the Virginia Department of Game and Wildlife, and he honored this nation through a lifetime of service to the community. Fred was a devoted husband to his beloved wife, Marguerite, and a dedicated father to their two children, Aileen and Caroline.

Fred began his life of service in the United States Navy during World War II on the USS SIERRA off the coast of Shanghai, China. His passion for the Navy endured and he chose a career in shipbuilding where he continued his life's interest. As an avid outdoorsman, Fred also served on the Wetlands Board in Lancaster County where he volunteered his time for many years.

Fred also was active after his retirement from shipbuilding, continuing his service through volunteering his time at the Rappahannock Pistol and Rifle Club. He also managed the Ocran Boat shop in White Stone, Virginia.

Fred Ajootian will be greatly missed by all who knew him. He touched many people's lives and the work that he did for his community will never be forgotten. My thoughts and prayers are with his family and friends.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PARMA COMMUNITY GENERAL HOSPITAL'S ELDER DAY CENTER

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Parma Community General Hospital's ElderCenter, as it celebrates twenty years of providing a haven of recreation, socialization, medical care and exercise for adults with mild to moderate impairments.

Recognizing the need for adult day services, Parma Hospital, an independent, community hospital located in the heart of Parma, Ohio, created the ElderCenter. It provides resources and comfort for adults transitioning through mental and physical challenges of impairment, illness and aging. The ElderCenter also provides an incalculable source of support, peace of mind and respite for caregivers, most of whom are family members.

The programs and services of the ElderCenter are designed to accommodate adults of all ages and diagnoses. ElderCenter offers regular medical checks, nutritious meals and snacks, opportunities for socialization and physical and mental stimulation. The services and support provided by ElderCenter allows clients to remain in their homes for many years. In 2006, the ElderCenter Day Program was honored with the "Service to Seniors Award" by the Western Reserve Area Agency on Aging. In addition, the Day Program has sparked the interest of researchers at Case Western Reserve University, whose initial findings revealed that ElderCenter participants are fifty percent less likely to be readmitted to the hospital than those who did not participate. These results show that the true power of wellbeing is in direct relationship to the partnership between home and community.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor of the founders, staff, volun-

teers, participants and families of Parma Community General Hospital's ElderCenter, as they celebrate twenty years of providing meaningful activities, programs, and quality health care services for adults throughout our community.

RECOGNIZING THE HEROISM OF RANDALL "RANDY" NORMAN OF HOLLEY, NEW YORK

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me in recognizing Mr. Randall "Randy" Norman of Holley, New York, for his selfless actions on February 14, 2009.

On that day, while Randy was on his way to work, he saw Mary Silliman being attacked outside of Lakeside Hospital in Brockport, New York. While trying to help Silliman, Randy was shot and killed.

Randy chose to protect others with little regard for his own safety. Had Randy not taken the actions he did, the community could have been subject to further terror.

Randy has posthumously received The Stand Up Guy award for his heroic efforts to prevent bodily harm to a woman. He has also earned praise from many members of the community including Sergeant Mark Cuzzupoli who offered these kind words: "I would definitely characterize him as a hero. As a person who tried to make a difference."

Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me today in recognizing Randy Norman's selfless actions last February. We can all learn a lot from Randy's selflessness on that February day last year.

HOMELAND SECURITY ACT OF 2002 AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, as a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2611, which will amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize the Securing the Cities Initiative of the Department of Homeland Security. This legislation will implement a unified strategy and provide the technology for defending New York City, Long Island and surrounding areas against radiological and nuclear threats.

I would like to acknowledge Speaker PELOSI and Chairman THOMPSON for their leadership in bringing this important bill to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleague Congressman KING, who authored this important legislation.

H.R. 2611 amends the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize appropriations to the Director of the Domestic Nuclear Detection Office of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) for the Securing the Cities Initiative. The Initiative uses next generation radiation detection technology to detect the transport of

nuclear and radiological material in urban areas by terrorists or other unauthorized individuals. As the representative of one of the largest ports in the nation, Long Beach, I so pleased to support this initiative.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I support this bill because it is another step to making our cities and ports as safe as we possibly can. The Securing the Cities Initiative is a critical national capability to detect the dangerous introduction of nuclear and radiological material.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2611.

CELEBRATING 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF SONG TRIBUTE TO DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1010, "Celebrating the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the 30th anniversary of the Stevie Wonder song tribute to Dr. King, "Happy Birthday," introduced by my distinguished colleague from Michigan, Representative CONYERS. The first Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. federal holiday was officially observed on January 20, 1986, and was celebrated with a concert headlined by Stevie Wonder, who has, in the years since, continued his commitment to promoting peace and equality, for which he has been recognized with a Lifetime Achievement Award from the National Civil Rights Museum in Memphis, Tennessee.

Stevie Wonder encouraged the establishment of a federal holiday in recognition of Dr. King on his album sleeve for "Hotter Than July" by expressing that, "I and a growing number of people believe that it is time for our country to adopt legislation that will make January 15, Martin Luther King's birthday, a national holiday, both in recognition of what he achieved and as a reminder of the distance which still has to be traveled." The tribute song "Happy Birthday," became a rallying cry that led to 6,000,000 signatures supporting a federal holiday in honor of civil rights leader Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Legislation designating the third Monday of January as a federal holiday in observance of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. occurred on November 3, 1983, was signed into law. This campaign secured a federal holiday in honor of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., which lasted for fifteen years, with the 1980 Stevie Wonder song that solidified the campaign's success.

The life and work of Dr. King, to advance justice, equality, and peace for an entire human race ended prematurely when he was assassinated in Memphis, Tennessee, on April 4, 1968, while he was challenging the wages and treatment of Memphis sanitation workers. Four days after the assassination of Dr. King, on April 8, 1968, Representative JOHN CONYERS, Jr. introduced legislation to recognize civil rights leader Dr. King with a federal holiday coinciding with his birthday on January 15, 1929.

Stevie Wonder dedicated his album sleeve for "Hotter Than July," an album released on

September 29, 1980, and upon which "Happy Birthday" is recorded, to Dr. King, with an inscription that read, "Martin Luther King, Jr. showed us, non-violently, a better way of life, a way of mutual respect, helping us to avoid much bitter confrontation and inevitable bloodshed." On January 17, 2000, for the first time, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Day was officially observed in all fifty states.

Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was a dreamer. His dreams were a tool through which he was able to lift his mind beyond the reality of his segregated society, and into a realm where it was possible that white and black, red and brown, and all others live and work alongside each other and prosper. But Martin Luther King, Jr. was not just an idle daydreamer. He shared his visions through speeches that motivated others to join in his nonviolent effort to lift themselves from poverty and isolation by creating a new America where equal justice and institutions were facts of life.

It appears that too many of our nation's young people have forgotten how to dream. They have forgotten what Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. taught us, when he started his journey towards equality—with peace in his heart and the dream of equality in his eyes.

Today, children and young people often ask: "What is a dream?" or "How can it change my life?" We must once again introduce our young people to the life of Dr. King and his enduring dream. His vision is still so pertinent today, our lives continue to be shaped by his efforts.

A young Martin managed to find a dream, one that he pieced together from his readings—in the Bible, and literature, and just about any other book he could get his hands on. And not only did those books help him educate himself, but they also allowed him to work through the destructive and traumatic experiences of blatant discrimination, and the discriminatory abuse inflicted on himself, his family, and his people.

The life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. was properly captured in Dr. King's most famed speech, "I Have A Dream," on August 28, 1963, when he said, "I have a dream that one day this nation will rise up and live out the true meaning of its creed: 'We hold these truths to be self-evident, that all men are created equal.'" The legacy of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. is continued today, as evidenced by the work of organizations like the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, which is currently led by Dr. King's daughter, Bernice King, and was at one time led by Dr. King's son, Martin Luther King, III. In addition to organizations, the legacy of Dr. King continues on today with people in the United States and throughout the world, with individual acts of compassion, courage, and peace.

This legislation will benefit the well-being of the public as it celebrates the life and work of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. during the 30th anniversary of the Stevie Wonder tribute song to Dr. King. It recognizes the legacy left by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. with commitments to freedom, equality, and justice, as exhibited by Stevie Wonder and so many others; and finally, encourages the people of the United States to commemorate the legacy of Dr. King by renewing pledges to advance those principles and actions that are consistent with Dr. King's belief that "all men are created equal."

As such, I strongly support this legislation and urge my colleagues to join me and do the same.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY COLEMAN GILMER'S 105TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to the special life of Mary Coleman Gilmer of Montgomery, Alabama.

Mrs. Gilmer was born on January 24, 1905 in Conecuh County, Alabama. In 1926, Mrs. Gilmer married Gaddie Gilmer, and in the 1940's she graduated from Alabama State Teacher's College High School Class.

Mrs. Gilmer and her husband Gaddie adopted two daughters, Cubie Rae Chambliss and Jacqueline Lorraine Larry from two of her nieces. Both daughters graduated from Alabama State University. Mrs. Gilmer now has five grandchildren.

Mrs. Gilmer has spent her life actively working in the church and has been the Minister of music at several churches in Alabama. She also worked for the Atlanta Life Insurance Company for many years.

Today her friends and family will celebrate her birthday in Montgomery. I would like to join her family and friends in wishing Mrs. Mary Coleman Gilmer a very Happy 105th Birthday.

HONORING MR. ROB CALLAHAN

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the good work of a dedicated public servant in Missouri's Eighth Congressional District. Mr. Rob Callahan has made a wonderful commitment to the residents of southern Missouri who have served our country in uniform. Once a year, Mr. Callahan leads a trip for veterans who would like to visit Washington, DC called the Southeast Missouri Honor Tour.

While they are here, the veterans of American military service can see the monuments erected to honor them. They are able to visit the memorials that stand in testament to the Americans who served alongside them, and Mr. Callahan ensures that they are able to visit Capitol Hill. The planning and logistics of these trips are not simple but Mr. Callahan does an exemplary job not only of ensuring the trip is worthwhile, but also of finding sources of support from the community so the veterans (most of whom are on fixed incomes) can afford the considerable expense of the trip.

Mr. Callahan is a 20-year veteran of the U.S. Air Force, and he understands the pride of service felt by every veteran who is able to visit our Nation's capital. It is a wonderful way to say thank you to the Americans in Southern Missouri who have served our country, de-

fended our freedoms, and made sacrifices for our liberties.

I am very proud that Mr. Callahan will receive the Citizen of the Year award in Poplar Bluff, Missouri. He has earned this recognition several times over, and I commend Mr. Callahan and his excellent work to the U.S. House of Representatives.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RAJESH VYAS

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. WHITFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a member of our Foreign Service and a great American. Dr. Rajesh Vyas is a former resident of Kentucky's First Congressional district and currently serves as our nation's Regional Medical Officer at the U.S. Embassy in Manila. Recently, Dr. Vyas celebrated his twentieth year of practicing medicine.

Prior to starting with the State Department, Dr. Vyas practiced medicine for two years at Logan Memorial Hospital and lived in Russellville, Kentucky, both in my Congressional district. Dr. Vyas also served our nation's veterans at the Department of Veterans Affairs for a number of years.

After joining the Foreign Service, Dr. Vyas was posted to Pakistan and served at our Islamabad Embassy. From there he was dispatched to his current position in Manila. He has responsibility for overseeing the medical services provided at a number of our diplomatic missions throughout Asia. In other words, Dr. Vyas serves and protects the men and women who represent our country at our Embassies and Consulates throughout the world.

Ironically, when a Foreign Service officer recently became very ill in Manila, this same Dr. Vyas who had practiced medicine in my Congressional district in Kentucky took steps that saved his life, and that officer was a former member of my own staff. Dr. Vyas accurately assessed the situation, determined what the individual needed and then developed a plan that took into account the limits of local health care to get the American officer the care and treatment he needed. Without the doctor's situational and cultural awareness, this American diplomat might have lost his life.

Dr. Vyas has spent twenty years practicing medicine and a significant number of those years serving and protecting our veterans and our diplomats overseas. I know his wife and two sons are tremendously proud of him and I am, too. I ask the House to join me in saluting this fine American who protects those who have served us in our armed forces and the men and women of our diplomatic corps who are serving us at this very moment overseas.

HONORING DAVID A. FORD

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, a community prospers and thrives on the contributions of its citizens to the common good. David A. Ford

has been active in all aspects of the community life of Mount Vernon for all of his adult life, serving as Commissioner of the Water Department since 1977 and in innumerable positions in the volunteer and political sectors. There are few aspects of life in Mount Vernon that he has not touched and made better.

While his life was community involvement, his passion was politics. From 1969 to 1996, he was Chairman of the Mount Vernon Democratic City Committee. He is Chairman of the Black Democrats of Westchester County and a member of the Council of Black Elected Democrats of New York State. He is also a New York State Committeeperson for the 84th Assembly District. More personally, and to my joy, he serves as my Special Assistant.

He has also served as President of the Lions Club of Mount Vernon and President of the Mount Vernon YMCA. He is a Life Member of the 369 Veteran's Association, and a Life Member of the Mount Vernon NAACP. He is Chairman of the Board of Mount Vernon Neighborhood Health Center and a member of the National Association of Health Care Providers.

And under his leadership the Board of Water Supply has continued a longstanding tradition of excellence.

He is a veteran of WWII. He is married to the former Eula (Daisy) Gadson and is the proud father of five children (David Jr., Renee, Garey, Michael, and Karen). He has five grandchildren: Rachel, Shaarod, Nardara, Jerel and David Christopher) and one great-grandchild, Amira.

David is retiring and I wish him all the very best that retirement has to offer. This is Mount Vernon's loss for he has contributed to his community for longer and better than we are ever likely to see again. On a personal note I am happy to say that he will still be advising me, which means he will still be helping me to help the people of Mount Vernon.

A TRIBUTE TO HOLY FAMILY
CHURCH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the centennial anniversary of Holy Family Church of South Pasadena, California.

In 1906, land was purchased for the construction of a Catholic church and Bishop Thomas J. Conaty assigned Reverend Richard J. Cotter, D.D. the task of establishing a new parish in South Pasadena located at El Centro Street and Fremont Avenue. On May 10, 1910, seventy-five families gathered with Father Cotter for worship in a small cottage at the El Centro/Fremont location and called themselves Holy Family Parish.

By the following August, a temporary "bungalow church" was built to house the growing congregation until funds could be raised for a more permanent building. On November 24, 1923, the property at Fremont Avenue and Rollin Street, where the church stands today, was acquired for construction of a new church. Designed by architect Emmett G. Martin, this beautiful house of worship, recognized as one of the finest examples of Spanish Renaissance Baroque architecture in Southern Cali-

fornia, held its first Masses on Easter Sunday in 1928, with the formal dedication by Bishop Cantwell following two weeks later.

Over the decades, many additions and acquisitions were made. The parish elementary school opened in 1937, and properties were acquired for a parish office, parish hall and buildings for religious education. Two mahogany side altars, a magnificent mural and stained glass windows were added in the 1950s and 1960s. In 1977, the Oak St. House was acquired for the religious education program, and in 1984, the Ramona St. House was purchased, followed by the acquisition of two adjacent residential properties. By 1994, more space was needed, and the Vision Project to build a new ministerial campus was created. The challenge was to tear down, remodel or relocate everything but the church. The groundbreaking ceremonies took place in June 1997, and the completion of the Vision Project was in 2000.

Over the course of one hundred years, the leadership of Holy Family Church has included the Right Reverend Michael J. Galvin from 1922–1923, Reverend James B. Morris from 1926–1954, the Right Reverend Leo Joseph Murphy from 1954–1971, Reverend Monsignor Thomas McGovern from 1968–1984 and Reverend Monsignor Clement J. Connolly from 1984 to the present.

Since its inception, Holy Family Church has provided spiritual guidance and tangible support to the greater South Pasadena community. Some of the church's many programs include the Giving Bank, which provides direct relief to people in the Los Angeles area facing hunger, Detention Ministry, which reaches out to incarcerated youth at Juvenile Hall, Infant Care Outreach Program, which serves low-income women and families in need, Pastoral Care: Ministry to the Elderly and Sick and sponsorship of Boy Scout Troop 333. Church parishioners are involved with Dolores Mission in East Los Angeles, serving on their school advisory board and tutoring in the after-school program.

I consider it a great privilege to recognize Holy Family Church upon its one-hundredth anniversary, and I ask all Members to join me in congratulating the congregation for their one hundred years of service to the community.

HONORING COLLEEN DIPIRRO FOR
HER DEDICATED SERVICE AS
PRESIDENT AND CEO OF THE
AMHERST, NEW YORK CHAMBER
OF COMMERCE

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask that this body join me in congratulating Colleen DiPirro of Williamsville, New York for her 28 years of dedicated service to the Amherst Chamber of Commerce.

When Colleen began her involvement with the Amherst Chamber of Commerce, she was the only staff member. Membership in the organization was at 180 and the Chamber's budget was \$24,000 per year.

Shortly after Colleen assumed leadership of the Chamber, it was named one of the ten largest in all of New York State.

Today, the Amherst Chamber of Commerce counts more than 2,300 local businesses as members and operates under a budget in excess of \$2 million. Colleen's outstanding leadership is directly responsible for this incredible growth over the last 28 years.

Colleen is an outstanding asset to the Western New York business community and I wish to extend my deepest appreciation for the outstanding work she has done over the last 28 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask that this body please join me in recognizing the many wonderful contributions Colleen has made to the Amherst community, and wish her much continued success in the months and years ahead.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 11 on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended—H.R. 3538—the Idaho Wilderness Resources Protection Act, had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING JOHN SHIELDS

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, for a Democracy to succeed, the people have to be an active part of the political process. John Shields, who is retiring as the Mayor of Nyack, joined the political process, albeit later in life than most people.

He was born in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania and grew up as something of an Army brat, traveling from place to place. After high school he tried summer stock. He moved to New York City in 1965 where he sold caviar and worked in a drug rehabilitation center. He went to City College of New York, graduating in 1972, and for the next 30 years taught in New York City schools.

He moved to Nyack in 1976 and in 1994 he ran for the Nyack Village Board and was elected Trustee. There followed two more terms as Trustee and four terms as Mayor and now he is retiring from elective office.

John is primarily an activist, and got into politics as an extension of his activism. In 2004 he sued New York State for the right for same sex couples to marry. He noted that as Mayor, he could legally marry heterosexual couples while the state denied him that equal right for himself. And while he may have lost the suit he has not quit the battle.

He still lives in Nyack, is still involved in the community, serving on the Board of Directors of Head Start of Rockland. He has not decided what to do next, but I wish him all the best that life has to offer in this next stage of his life.

HONORING THE SPIRIT OF THE
WHEELIN' TEAM 457

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the members of Wheelin' Team 457, based in North Branch, Michigan. Wheelin' Team 457 is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization that was founded in 2003 by current President Ray K. Brown. The primary mission of the group is to assist the physically challenged with outdoor and indoor sports and other recreational activities. The team also engages in an extraordinary community relations campaign to educate the public on disability issues.

In addition to providing a wonderful service to the State of Michigan and the country, Wheelin' Team 457 has been very successful in competitive wheelchair sports. The team is undefeated and has posted a remarkable overall record of 13 wins and zero losses. I think it is fair to say that no matter the sport it is extremely difficult to maintain perfection over an extended time period.

This accomplishment, and the increased popularity of Wheelin' Team 457, has allowed members to expand beyond the sports world and assist people with other activities like fishing, hunting, billiards and archery just to name a few. I want to congratulate Wheelin' Team 457 on reaching this notable achievement and applaud you all for your hard work and dedication to be the best.

Furthermore, I want to commend team for the work they do to help citizens with physical challenges to get their lives "moving" once again. As human beings, we sometimes can fall victim to our own self-sorrow. But Wheelin' Team 457 has made it a priority to help those living with physical disabilities stay motivated. I know this is a constant and a tremendous challenge, but I believe the members of Wheelin' Team 457 are ready to face any obstacle head-on, fulfilling their mission each and every day!

I offer Wheelin' Team 457 my best wishes for 2010! As the Team states on its Web site, "When it comes to adapting, we have many ways to make the task of participation a reality. There is nothing more rewarding than to see someone take part in an activity that they thought was out of their ability."

I echo these words and I urge Wheelin' Team 457 to continue to roll on!

HONORING MAURICE GROSSMAN

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. GRIJALVA. Madam Speaker, it is my pleasure to rise today to honor Maurice Grossman, one of Tucson's true treasures, who passed away January 21st at the age of 82.

Maurice was beloved by many who knew him, not just for his art but for his dedication to human rights and the Democratic Party.

A retired art professor from the University of Arizona, Maurice Grossman spent his life as a ceramic artist, activist and a leader in the Les-

bian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender community.

Maurice served in the Navy during World War II, before attending Wayne State University in Detroit. After attending and teaching at other universities, he traveled to Japan as a Fulbright scholar, then finally to Tucson to teach.

The founder of the University of Arizona's ceramics program in 1955, Maurice received several prestigious awards during his career, including a National Endowment for the Arts grant in 1986 and the UA's Creative Teaching Award. Maurice's commitment to supporting other artists was unflagging and genuine. He would invariably turn up at openings and contribute his works to galleries, both big and small.

Always the activist, Maurice single-handedly took it upon himself to register people to vote. He felt that it was his duty to make sure that everyone, regardless of background, had a voice. When he retired in 1989, he became more involved in the effort to help fight discrimination against the LGBT community.

Maurice was quoted in a 2004 article as saying, "It's not just about equal rights for us. It's about equal rights for everyone. Do we want to take a step forward or a step back?"

Maurice never stepped back. He was an extraordinary man and a true individual. His role as an activist for equality and human rights will not soon be forgotten.

I was privileged to know Maurice personally. Always enthusiastic, I could count on not only his support but his passion. His dedication to the community was never-ending.

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

RECOGNIZING THE RELIEF EFFORTS OF DILLARD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL FOR THE PEOPLE OF HAITI

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the students and staff of Dillard Elementary School in Ft. Lauderdale, Florida, for their dedication to helping the people of Haiti in the wake of the 7.0 earthquake of January 12, 2010. Not enough sorrow can be expressed for the people of Haiti and all those affected by this tragic event.

Every day, more information filters in from Port-au-Prince and surrounding areas that begins to shed light on the extent of the catastrophe in Haiti. This earthquake was a horror of epic proportions. It is estimated that over 200,000 Haitians, including hundreds of people from countries around the world, have died. In the aftermath of disaster, there have been numerous aftershocks reaching magnitudes of up to 6.1, and more unrest is expected. For years, Haitians have lived in misery beyond human understanding. Long after the final aftershock, the thousands of Haitians left homeless, injured, and starving will have to rebuild their country from the ground up. It is our moral duty as members of our global community to provide aid to Haiti in its time of great need.

This cry for help has been answered by the students and staff of Dillard Elementary School. They are committed to raising \$5,000 for the people of Haiti through community fundraisers and have already begun a coin drive with great enthusiasm. This is our nation at its finest hour. Seeing communities all across the nation rally around this noble cause is a reminder of the human compassion and dignity that we all share.

My office is proud to support Dillard Elementary School in its efforts, as are many of my constituents and businesses in Florida's 23rd district, including Paradise Bank, The Westside Gazette, and Palm Harbor Prep.

Madam Speaker, the students and staff of Dillard Elementary School are role models for us all. I hope that we will follow their example and dig deep to help the people of Haiti in one of its darkest hours.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE INAUGURAL GRADUATING CLASS OF THE VERDUGO POWER ACADEMY

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the first graduating class of the Verdugo Power Academy—a partnership between Glendale Community College, The Verdugo Workforce Investment Board and Glendale Water and Power.

The organizations have joined together to establish a new training program for people interested in working in the power industry. The program will address the projected shortage of utility workers in the power utility industry and the challenges in recruiting and retention, and will create a local source to produce qualified job candidates.

This project is funded through a Verdugo Workforce Investment Board grant from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act that has been awarded to Glendale Community College—a prime example of last year's stimulus bill producing a better trained workforce and new jobs.

The first class of students completed their challenging 16-week program and graduated on January 15, 2010. These new graduates now have the opportunity to pursue a well-paying career with a utility.

I offer my congratulations to the graduates and wish them well in their future endeavors. I also offer my thanks and congratulations to the faculty, staff and community leaders who developed the instructional curriculum and provided the facilities, materials, instructional support and technical expertise that made the program a tremendous success.

HONORING DR. BRUCE
BELLINGHAM

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the passing of a great educator and true champion for the arts in eastern Connecticut. Dr. Bruce Bellingham of Coventry,

esteemed professor, consummate musician and beloved husband, passed away on January 3, 2010.

A native of Hamilton, Ontario, Dr. Bellingham was deeply dedicated to allowing people of all ages to understand and appreciate music in that same manner that he did. He was a member of the American Federation of Musicians, the Viola da Gamba Society of Great Britain, an associate member of Early Music America, and President of the Viola da Gamba Society of America. He joined the University of Connecticut faculty in 1974 and was a Professor Emeritus of Music History in UConn's School of Fine Arts.

His passion for the music and culture of the past was matched only by his contributions to the present. In 1976, Dr. Bellingham directed the Storrs Collegium Musicum, where music of the late Middle Ages, Renaissance and Baroque periods was performed on original or masterfully recreated instruments of the era. Around this same time, he founded and conducted the Willimantic Orchestra. In 1983, he celebrated the 150th anniversary of Willimantic's incorporation by bringing local talent together to perform Burton Leavitt's operetta *The Frogs of Windham*.

Dr. Bellingham was also a passionate volunteer who used his great knowledge of culture and history to meaningfully engage members of his community. He was a long-time patron of the Jorgenson Center for the Performing Arts and founding member of its CoStars volunteer organization. He actively participated in youth outreach programs at Jorgenson and taught at UConn's Center for Learning in Retirement as well as the Adult Learning Program in West Hartford. Dr. Bellingham and his wife, Deborah Walsh Bellingham, were recipients of the School of Fine Arts Outstanding Volunteer Award in 2009 for their support and service.

Dr. Bellingham will be dearly missed by his students, fellow educators, and the artistic community of eastern Connecticut. The depth of affection for Bruce was visibly on display January 10, 2010 at his memorial service at von der Mehden Recital Hall on the University of Connecticut campus that filled to capacity. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss and honoring the life of Bruce Bellingham.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL"
BROWN FOR ACHIEVING HONORARY STATUS IN THE BATAVIA
(NY) ROTARY CLUB

HON. CHRISTOPHER JOHN LEE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. LEE of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask that the House join me in recognizing Mr. William "Bill" Brown of Batavia, New York on achieving Honorary status in the Batavia Rotary Club.

Bill has been recognized to receive this award by distinguishing himself through "meritorious service in the furtherance of Rotary ideals."

Bill first joined the Batavia Rotary Club in January of 1960, and he served as the organization's president from 1974 to 1975. He was one of the first Batavia Rotary Club members

to be awarded a Paul Harris Fellow for his generous donation to those less fortunate.

Additionally, Bill was chairman of Rotary Radio Days for 35 years and was a popular participant in the annual Rotary Comedy Show.

Bill has always stood by his commitment and dedication to "service above self."

Madam Speaker, I ask that this House join me in recognizing Bill for his commitment to the Batavia Rotary Club and achieving Honorary status in the organization.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NATIONAL URBAN FELLOWS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. NADLER of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the National Urban Fellows on the occasion of its 40th anniversary.

The National Urban Fellows has recruited and developed mid-career men and women of color in pursuit of equity and social justice since 1970. National Urban Fellows is the only program in the country where individuals receive both an advanced degree and essential leadership experience. The 14-month, full-time graduate degree program comprises two semesters of academic course work and a nine-month mentorship assignment. The program culminates with a Master of Public Administration Degree (MPA) from Bernard M. Baruch College, School of Public Affairs, of the City University of New York. After graduation Alumni work in public service, government and nonprofit leadership. For 40 years National Urban Fellows has developed leaders who identify issues, shape solutions and form policy.

Today, 40 years later, National Urban Fellows has graduated well over 1,100 men and women of color who hold policy-making positions as mayors, city and county managers, commissioners and officers of major nonprofit and philanthropic organizations in urban areas across the country.

The National Urban Fellows program's 40 years of distinguished work is commendable and fully deserving of the recognition. Please join me in congratulating this esteemed organization.

ACCELERATION OF INCOME TAX BENEFITS FOR CHARITABLE CASH CONTRIBUTIONS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker. I rise in support of H.R. 4462—a bill that will accelerate the income tax benefits for charitable cash contributions for the relief of victims of the earthquake in Haiti.

As you know, on Tuesday, January 12th, a massive, 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck Haiti near the capital of Port-au-Prince. There is still no official estimate of death or destruc-

tion, the damage to buildings is extensive and the number of injured or dead is estimated to be in the hundreds, even thousands.

Several eyewitnesses reported heavy damage and bodies in the streets of the capital, Port-au-Prince, where concrete-block homes line steep hillsides.

Haiti sits on a large fault that has caused catastrophic quakes in the past, but this one was described as among the most powerful to hit the region within the last 200 years. With many poor residents living in tin-roof shacks that sit precariously on steep ravines and with much of the construction in Port-au-Prince and elsewhere in the country of questionable quality, the expectation was that the quake caused major damage to buildings and significant loss of life.

The dimensions of the disaster are still unfolding, but Haiti's Prime Minister Jean-Max Bellerive told CNN that he believes there are well over 100,000 dead, and leading senator Youri Latortue estimated the number at possibly as high as 500,000, according to the Associated Press.

America is responding, and will continue to respond with immediate humanitarian assistance to help the people of this struggling island nation rebuild their livelihoods. I send my condolences to the people and government of Haiti as they grieve once again in the aftermath of a natural disaster. As Haiti's neighbor, it is the United States' responsibility to help Haiti recover, and build the capacity to mitigate against future disasters.

American and her allies have already initiated a comprehensive, interagency response to the earthquake. The State Department, Department of Defense, Department of Homeland Security, Coast Guard, USAID—all worked overnight to ensure that critical resources are positioned to support the response and recovery effort, including efforts to find and assist American citizens in Haiti.

U.S. Southern Command will deploy a team of 30 people to Haiti to support U.S. relief efforts in the aftermath of yesterday's devastating earthquake. The team includes U.S. military engineers, operational planners, and a command and control group and communication specialists, will arrive in Haiti today on two C-130 Hercules aircraft. The team will work with U.S. Embassy personnel as well as Haitian, United Nations and international officials to assess the situation and facilitate follow on U.S. military support.

Our friends in the international community must also be commended for their efforts. The United Nations is releasing \$10 million from its emergency funds. The European Commission has approved C3 million (\$4.37 million) with more funds likely. Countless other nations from Germany, to China, to Israel to Mexico have also pledged support. I commend each of these nations for coming to a nation in dire need of assistance.

Many of my constituents ask what they can do to help, or how they can find their loved ones. Those who are interested in helping immediately can text 'HAITI' to '90999' and a donation of \$10 will be made automatically to the Red Cross for relief efforts. The donation will be charged to your cell phone bill.

The outpouring of support and funding from the American people was both instant and sustained. According to the Washington Post, the text messaging effort raised \$5 million in its first day, breaking the previous one-day

record of about \$450,000. Text-message donations continue to play a larger-than-expected role in the push for earthquake relief in Haiti. As of late Sunday, the American Red Cross said that it had collected pledges of about \$103 million, including \$22 million through the text donation program. Another organization, Partners in Health, raised \$25 million in the five days following the Jan. 12 earthquake in Haiti. This is equal to what it budgeted for Haiti in all of 2009. Overall, U.S. charities raised more than \$150 million in the four days after the quake, according to the Chronicle of Philanthropy, which based its tally on proceeds reported by the nation's 22 largest charities. That total surpasses the \$108 million raised in the four days following Hurricane Katrina in 2005 and the \$30 million raised in the three days following the tsunami in Asia in 2004.

Financially, 2009 was not an easy year for many Americans. Although thousands of jobs were created and we are back on the road to economic recovery, Americans lived on tighter budgets than usual. This legislation will allow those Americans who have generously donated money to Haiti to receive their tax break this year instead of next year.

Once again, I am devastated by the immeasurable tragedy that occurred in Haiti. Along with my colleagues, I hope to visit Haiti in the near future to meet with their leaders and see what the United States can do to rebuild the shattered livelihoods.

In January of 2005, Congress enacted this type of relief for individuals that made charitable contributions to victims of the Indian Ocean tsunami that occurred in late December of 2004. That bill (H.R. 241 in the 109th Congress) passed the House of Representatives without objection and subsequently passed the Senate by unanimous consent. I hope that this legislation, like our response to the 2004 tsunami, will encourage Americans to contribute more money to Haiti. As Haiti starts on its long recovery, every dollar is critically important. Once again, I am proud to represent such a compassionate and generous nation.

A TRIBUTE TO DANIEL STEWART
BERKEY

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life and work of Daniel Stewart Berkey who passed away at the age of 68 on October 19, 2009. Daniel is survived by his beloved wife, Ann Richardson Berkey, his daughter Elizabeth Wellington Berkey, and his son, William Cabot Berkey. Other surviving relatives include his brother-in-law, Thomas Latham Richardson of Sarasota, Florida, his brother, Richard Scott Berkey, Jr., of Vienna, Virginia and several aunts, nieces and nephews.

Daniel Berkey was born on June 25, 1941, in New Brunswick, New Jersey. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Lehigh University in 1963, then entered the United States Army where he earned the rank of Captain. He served his country with distinction in Vietnam and was awarded the Bronze Star and the Army Commendation Medal.

Upon his return to the United States, Daniel entered the Wharton School of the University of Pennsylvania and earned an MBA in 1970. He worked for Lipton Tea and at the U.S. Department of the Interior in Washington, D.C., where he met his wife, Ann Cabot Richardson. They were married in 1975 and moved to Houston. In 1977, the couple moved to San Francisco where Dan launched a successful financial services consulting company, Berkey Associates. His wife Ann serves as Senior Vice President for Corporate Public Affairs at McKesson Corporation.

Daniel loved to camp, hike, and ski, and with his wife spent many happy family vacations in state and national parks.

Dan survived two battles with non-Hodgkins Lymphoma, and received a bone marrow transplant in 2003. He fought courageously for 18 months before finally succumbing to the relentless disease after the cancer returned.

Madam Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join me in honoring Daniel Stewart Berkey. He was a great and good man who gave generously to his beloved family, his community and his country. He will be missed by every person who had the good fortune to know him, and may this tribute bring comfort to his family who were the greatest source of pride to him.

BOBBY D. ARIAS

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. BERMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Bobby D. Arias on the occasion of his 60th Birthday. Bobby is being honored by his many colleagues, family and friends for his dedicated career as President of the Communities in Schools of Greater Los Angeles/San Fernando Valley.

As a lifelong resident of Southern California, Bobby began his career as an Executive Director of USC's Learning Center and the Director of Athletics at Loyola Marymount University (LMU) in Los Angeles. While at LMU, Bobby was instrumental in bringing the 1984 Olympic Weightlifting Competition to that institution, in addition to negotiating contracts for the Lakers/Clippers and the NBA Summer Pro-League to practice at LMU facilities.

I know first hand of Bobby's commitment to our community. Since 2004 Bobby has volunteered to be the Master of Ceremonies at the annual San Fernando Valley Veterans Day Parade. Additionally, Bobby has committed himself to improving the minds, spirits, and bodies of children throughout Southern California as the Southwest Regional Director for our nation's largest Drop out Prevention Program, Communities In Schools, Inc. He developed public and private partnerships between the community and its schools, brokering in-need resources to at-risk youth and their families. In 1996, he also served as the Chairman for the Executive Committee for Arnold Schwarzenegger's inner City Games, an Olympic style sporting/academic event for 100,000 at-risk youth throughout the Los Angeles County.

As a result of his professional achievements, Bobby has received numerous awards including the prestigious "Man of the Year"

award for youth empowerment from MCI and Hispanic Magazine, and the "California All Star Dad's" Award by the California Department of Social Services.

Madam Speaker and distinguished colleagues, I ask you to join me in wishing Bobby Arias a happy birthday and best wishes for continued success.

IN HONOR OF LANCE CORPORAL
JEREMY M. KANE

HON. JOHN H. ADLER

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. ADLER of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart and deep sense of gratitude to honor the life of a brave young man from Cherry Hill, New Jersey. Lance Corporal Jeremy M. Kane, 22 years old, was killed in Afghanistan on January 23, 2010 when a suicide bomber attacked his unit in the Helmand Province. Jeremy joined the Marines with his entire life before him. He chose to risk everything to fight for the values Americans hold close to our hearts, in a land halfway around the world. Today, I join Jeremy's family, his friends, and the entire Cherry Hill community in mourning his death. While we struggle to bear our sorrow over his death, we can also take pride in the example he set, bravely fighting to make the world a safer place. It is this courage and strength of character that people will remember when they think of Jeremy.

After graduating from Cherry Hill High School East in 2006, Jeremy attended Rutgers University to study criminal justice. He joined the Marine Corps on September 11, 2006, during his freshman year at Rutgers University and served as a reservist. His father, Bruce, had served as a major in the Army and passed away in June 2008 while Jeremy was undergoing Marine Corps training. His mother, Melinda, said Jeremy believed it was "his duty to serve his country." Jeremy also leaves behind his two brothers, Benjamin and Daniel.

In recognition of this selfless individual and brave patriot who gave his life to protect this nation, I ask that the House of Representatives and all Americans join me to honor the legacy of Lance Corporal Jeremy M. Kane.

IN HONOR OF CARL TUBBESING,
DEPUTY EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
OF THE NATIONAL CONFERENCE
OF STATE LEGISLATURES

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Carl Tubbesing, Deputy Executive Director of the National Conference of State Legislatures, NCSL, upon his retirement after 35 years of distinguished service to the organization.

Through his tireless efforts promoting state's rights and federalism during his tenure at the NCSL, Carl Tubbesing has earned the admiration and affection of his many colleagues across the country. Legislatures cannot run effectively without professional, high-quality staff

and resources. NCSL provides these resources, producing numerous publications, conducting research, and assisting lawmakers in crafting legislation.

Prior to joining NCSL in 1975, Carl Tubbesing taught Government and Public Affairs at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville. After joining NCSL shortly after the organization's inception, he worked in the Denver office as Assistant Director of State Services working to meet the needs of state legislatures and their staffs nationwide. From there, he advanced to Director of State Federal relations where he was instrumental in the passage of the Child Care Development Block Grant, providing federal funding to states to assist low income families with child care burdens. Carl was also a valuable partner as NCSL strove to enact the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act of 1995 (UMRA). This legislation aimed to curb the practice of imposing unfunded mandates on state and local governments.

In 2000, as I assumed the role of NCSL President, Carl Tubbesing was instrumental in the adoption of the Farm Bill, including a major expansion of the Food Stamp program and a restoration of food stamp benefits to legal immigrants. Over the past ten years he has continued his admirable work on behalf of state legislatures, including providing temporary fiscal relief to states and territories in 2003, and more recently providing technical assistance to states as they implemented provisions under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA).

Carl Tubbesing has always been an incredible leader, and a valuable resource to myself and other lawmakers and we are sad to say goodbye. He is a man of outstanding character and we will remain grateful for his unwavering dedication and exceptional insight.

I want to personally wish Carl continued success and my best wishes upon his retirement.

INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 19, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 725, the Indian Arts and Crafts Amendments Act of 2009, which will safeguard an industry critical to the Native American economy and small businesses.

First, I would like to acknowledge Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader HOYER, and Chairman RAHALL for their leadership in bringing this important bill to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleague Congressman PASTOR, the author of this legislation, who worked so hard to help such an underserved community protect their economic livelihood.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 725, the Indian Arts and Crafts Amendments Act of 2009 amends the Indian Arts and Crafts Act of 1990 to authorize any federal law enforcement officer to conduct an investigation of an offense involving the sale of any good that is misrepresented as an Indian produced good or product. H.R. 725

authorizes the Indian Arts and Crafts Board to refer offenses to any federal law enforcement officer for investigation. In addition, this bill proposes new penalties for goods offered or displayed for sale or sold for less than \$1,000 at a \$25,000 fine, a 1-year imprisonment, or both.

In California, the State I represent, there are over one hundred Native American tribes, many of varying levels of economic success. Misrepresentation of products is one of the biggest problems facing the Native American art industry and market. Not only does the industry have to compete with the larger market, but Native Americans must compete with those who copy and counterfeit their work. Income from a single artist is often the sole source of support for their family, as well as being a source of strength and pride that reinforces cultures and traditions within communities. Therefore, as a long time friend and supporter of the Native American community, I am so pleased to champion a bill such as H.R. 725, which protects the unique economic opportunities of this community.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, I support this bill because it protects an important industry in the areas and populations that needs assistance. The communities benefiting from H.R. 725 represent some of the most traditionally disadvantaged, isolated, and underserved populations in America. I am proud to work with my colleagues to ensure that Native Americans receive full protection of their most viable industry.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 725.

CONDEMNING VIOLENT
SUPPRESSION IN GUINEA

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in support of House Resolution 1013. This resolution condemns the violent suppression of legitimate political dissent and gross human rights abuses in the Republic of Guinea. Over the past year the Republic of Guinea has experienced a complete loss of its human rights and democratic values that we cherish so dearly as Americans, and it is important that we not only condemn some of the horrific actions of the Guinean government, but also provide assistance for the reinstatement of democratically elected leaders and for the recovery of Guinea and its people. After the death of long-time President Lansana Conte in late 2008, Moussa Dadis Camara, a captain in the Guinean Army illegitimately took over the Guinean presidency in a bloodless coup.

This action was taken unilaterally by Camara without prior consultation or petition from the Guinean people. These undemocratic actions taken by the military junta and Captain Camera are shocking and unacceptable. Shortly after taking power, Captain Camara declared his intentions of instituting free and fair democratic elections under outside pressures from the international community. Over the past several months, however, Captain Camara has consistently delayed and postponed elections.

The situation intensified last September as Guinean security forces opened fire on a group of thousands of peaceful protestors wounding thousands and killing about 150 people. I condemn in the strongest terms this atrocious violence taken against peacefully protesting unarmed civilians.

My heart goes out to the friends, families and loved ones of the victims in this brutal attack. This cruel and unwarranted attack against unarmed and peaceful demonstrators is an attack against humanity as well as the democratic principles we stand for in the U.S. I especially condemn the actions taken by certain members of the security forces and their commanders who brutally raped, molested and killed women and children on the streets of Conakry during the violent confrontation. These are human rights violations of the worst kind and I vehemently oppose both the government of Guinea in addition to the troops and complacent officers who allowed these actions to take place.

I stand behind the people of Guinea in deploping these unjust and undemocratic actions and support a full transition of the country's leadership through future democratic elections. Since the beginning of Camara's illegitimate presidency over a year ago, the economic, social and political situation in Guinea has continually declined until this past December when a former aide to Camara, Lt. Aboubakar Diakite, attempted to assassinate the president and take over the country. After being shot in the head by Diakite, President Camara was evacuated to Senegal for treatment and then to Morocco for surgery.

The tense and unstable political situation in Guinea must be reconciled between opposing forces with a full and complete return to democratic rule through free and fair elections. We must also provide the people of Guinea with the tools and potential for future growth that would change this troubled nation. The United States can assist Guinea in returning to good governance by increasing transparent and accountable trade with Guinea, by providing further humanitarian assistance contingent on government reform in Guinea, and by providing election monitors to the people of Guinea in future elections.

I also call on the international community as a whole to conduct their trade and governmental interaction with the Republic of Guinea in a strategic manner that would take into account the conditions of the Guinean people and the disorder within the Guinean government. President Camara remains in exile, and is currently recovering in Ouagadougou, Burkina Faso after a failed assassination attempt on his life last December. Earlier this month both the president and the interim president reached an agreement which would institute a transitional government and hold presidential elections within the next six months. Though Camara and his interim president Gen. Sekouba Konate have appealed for peace and reconciliation and have urged their countrymen to put aside ethnic differences, there is still a vital need in the country for increased economic growth, improved standards of living for all people and a more transparent and just system of governance.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution. I also ask my colleagues for their continued support of the Guinean people and ask for their continued support of a complete return to democratic rule and respect for human rights in Guinea.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Wednesday, January 20, 2010, and Thursday, January 21, 2010.

On Wednesday, January 20, 2009, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote #9 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1017), "no" on rollcall vote #10 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3726), "aye" on rollcall vote #11 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 3538).

On Thursday, January 21, 2009, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote #12 (on passage of H.R. 3254), "aye" on rollcall vote #13 (on passage of H.R. 3342), "no" on rollcall vote #14 (on passage of H.R. 1065), "aye" on rollcall vote #15 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1021), "aye" on rollcall vote #16 (on motion to suspend the rules and concur in the Senate amendment to H.R. 730).

HONORING SEVEN AMERICANS
KILLED IN AFGHANISTAN ON DE-
CEMBER 30, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN A. BOEHNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. BOEHNER. Madam Speaker, on December 30, 2009, we were reminded of the dangers and challenges our intelligence community faces every day, working in anonymity to keep our country safe. We were reminded that they often operate under harsh conditions, leaving loved ones behind, and that their service will likely never be publicly recognized. Seven Americans died in service to their country and several others were severely wounded. If we can collectively take anything from this tragedy, I hope it is to re-commit ourselves to be mindful of the toll the our military, intelligence, and civilian personnel persevere under every day to keep this country safe and to do everything in our power to support their mission. I extend my personal condolences to the families, loved ones, friends, and colleagues of our fallen and wounded personnel.

A BAD PRESCRIPTION FOR
WISCONSIN

HON. F. JAMES SENSENBRENNER, JR.

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. SENSENBRENNER. Madam Speaker, as the new year begins, we are back to debating the seemingly old health care legislation. This bill would cost Wisconsinites and Wisconsin businesses. The legislation essentially puts the government in control of health

care)—an industry that comprises nearly one-sixth of our economy. And, as I've repeatedly heard at dozens of my Town Hall Meetings, Wisconsinites overwhelmingly oppose this legislation.

Until the Federal Government can effectively manage Medicare and Medicaid, it shouldn't be creating a new program. Additionally, there are 27,156 seniors in Wisconsin's Fifth Congressional District who use Medicare Advantage and who would likely see reduced benefits.

And in another bad move for my State, the Senate version proposes an additional \$2 billion annual tax for each of the next 10 years on medical device manufacturers. This would negatively affect good companies, such as GE Healthcare in Waukesha, Wisconsin, and hundreds of our small business suppliers. In addition to stifling innovation and hindering research and development, the added costs would hurt consumers, as anyone purchasing medical products, such as wheelchairs, or whose care includes the use of equipment, such as an MRI machine, would feel the pinch.

Making backroom deals to pass health care reform is a far cry from the transparency President Barack Obama promised. Every Wisconsinite will be affected by this legislation so they have a right to be in the know and to watch the debate unfold on C-SPAN. It's common sense that the people who elect us be included in the process.

Yes, health care needs to be reformed in our country. However, patching two pieces of horrible legislation together into one awful bill that would cost Wisconsinites more while lessening their care will not receive my support.

The bottom line is that this legislation is bad medicine that would make our health care system sicker.

BUILDING AN AFGHAN AIR FORCE

HON. CLIFF STEARNS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. STEARNS. Mr. Speaker, during the last week in December, I had the opportunity to travel to Afghanistan and see firsthand the situation on the ground. It goes without saying that I was most impressed with the hard work and courage displayed by our troops who are stationed over there. I am always in awe of our men women in the Armed Forces. Their bravery and professionalism is something that all Americans should be proud of.

One aspect of our mission there that does not receive much attention compared to other parts of the mission is the effort to build an Afghan air force. The work of the Combined Air Power Transition Force (CAPTF) Partnership and the Afghan National Army Air Corps (ANAAC) deserves to be commended. During our trip we had the opportunity to meet with and be briefed by CAPTF Commanding General, United States Air Force Brigadier General Michael Boera. General Boera and his people run an impressive operation.

The Combined Air Power Transition Force has a mission to set the conditions for a professional, fully independent and operationally capable Afghan air force that meets the security requirements of Afghanistan today and to-

morrow. Furthermore, the Afghan National Army Air Corps provides trained and ready airmen and soliders to execute critical tasks from the air in support of the Afghan National Army, and when directed by the Ministry of Defense, to support by air the civil authorities of Afghanistan at all levels.

CAPTF air advisors have oversight responsibilities for both the Ministry of Defense Afghan National Army Air Corps and the Ministry of Interior aviation assets used for Counter-narcotics and General Support. In short, their goal is to ensure that the Afghan people will be able to protect their own airspace.

As an embedded partnership, CAPTF operates along four lines of operation to accomplish their mission. The first line of operation is build the Afghan Air Corps aircraft capacity. Second, CAPTF works to build Afghan airmen's capacity and capability. The third step is to build ANAAC's infrastructure to support their force, and fourth, to perform operations in the current counterinsurgency effort.

Transcending all four of those lines of operation is CAPTF's effort for institutional development such as improving their command and control capability, improving their air base management capability, and building up their "Air University" educational capability so critical to the foundation to a professional force.

The Afghan Air Corps currently has 46 aircraft and close to 3,000 personnel building to about 150 aircraft and over 8,000 personnel by 2016. Their mission sets include Presidential and other types of airlift, battlefield mobility, to include medical evacuation and casualty evacuation, and close air support.

The primary airframes flown by the Air Corps are Mi-17 and Mi-35 helicopters and C-27s, which is the first modern western aircraft introduced to the Afghans. CAPTF hopes to introduce additional aircraft into the Afghan inventory as they continue to grow in capability.

The ANAAC's Air Corps headquarters is in Kabul and they currently have two Air Wings, one at Kabul and one at Kandahar. A third is being built at Shindand airfield out to the west that will also be the home of their Training Center where the CAPTF will partner with them initially to train their pilots.

The Afghans also have Air Detachments at critical locations around the country to support the Afghan ground forces. It's important to note, the Afghan airmen are in the fight now even as we help them build capacity and capability. It's like flying the airplane while building it.

Much work remains, but General Boera and all the hardworking people of the Combined Air Power Transition Force are certainly moving in the right direction. All Americans should be proud!

INTRODUCTION OF THE "ROYALTY
RELIEF FOR AMERICAN CON-
SUMERS ACT OF 2010"

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, yesterday the administration announced that President Obama will propose a three-year freeze on non-security discretionary

spending in his State of the Union address tomorrow as a way of addressing the federal deficit. However, as President Obama works to reduce the budget deficit and put our nation on a path of fiscal responsibility, oil companies are pushing us further into the red by continuing to drill for free on public land.

The "Royalty Relief for American Consumers Act of 2010" that I am introducing today with the gentleman from Maryland, Mr. VAN HOLLEN, would recover the more than \$50 billion that taxpayers currently stand to lose in foregone oil royalty payments as a result of defective leases issued by the Department of Interior between 1996 and 2000. The minerals below our public lands belong to the American people and no company should be allowed to exploit them for free. This legislation would protect American taxpayers and reduce our budget deficit by up to \$54 billion.

The legislation that we are introducing today would offer oil companies a simple choice: they can continue to drill for free on public lands but they will not be permitted to purchase new leases from the federal government. The language in the Royalty Relief for American Consumers Act has repeatedly passed the House of Representatives in 2006, 2007 and 2008. It is time that we start drilling for deficit dollars by reclaiming these lost royalty payments and ending the free ride that oil companies are currently enjoying on public land.

As President Obama steps up efforts to reduce the federal budget deficit, ensuring that oil companies are paying their fair share is a common sense way to help restore fiscal responsibility. We can no longer afford to allow oil companies to drill for free while taxpayers are left holding the bill. Enacting this legislation will put an end to this taxpayer rip off once and for all.

HONORING PASQUOTANK COUNTY
COMMISSIONER JIMMIE HARRIS

HON. G. K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the recent passing of Jimmie Harris, a great local civic leader in Pasquotank County, North Carolina.

A county commissioner and former volunteer fire department chief, Mr. Harris will long be remembered for his leadership on issues related to fire services, agriculture, education and the local hospital. He was passionate about doing everything he could to improve the community, and even those people with opposing viewpoints had great respect for him. This is an enormous loss, and there is a great deal of sadness throughout the community.

Mr. Harris was a retired farmer and served as Providence Volunteer Fire Department Chief for over 20 years. He was also a devoted member of Berea Baptist Church, and had served on many civic boards and organizations.

Along with his wife, Brenda Corbett Harris, Mr. Harris is survived by his mother, a daughter, a son, two sisters and three grandchildren. They gathered with friends, family and loved ones last week at the Berea Baptist Church Family Life Center for a memorial service.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues rise in recognition of Mr. Harris' passing and his lifetime of outstanding public service to his community. I also ask that we pass along our best wishes and prayers to his family, friends and loved ones during this difficult time.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO
HAITI

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise in reluctant opposition to this resolution. Certainly I am moved by the horrific destruction in Haiti and would without hesitation express condolences to those who have suffered and continue to suffer. As a medical doctor, I have through my career worked to alleviate the pain and suffering of others. Unfortunately, however, this resolution does not simply express our condolences, but rather it commits the U.S. government "to begin the reconstruction of Haiti" and affirms that "the recovery and long-term needs of Haiti will require a sustained commitment by the United States. . . ." I do not believe that a resolution expressing our deep regret and sorrow over this tragedy should be used to commit the United States to a "long-term" occupation of Haiti during which time the U.S. government will provide for the reconstruction of that country.

I am concerned over the possibility of an open-ended U.S. military occupation of Haiti and this legislation does nothing to alleviate my concerns. On the contrary, when this resolution refers to the need for a long-term U.S. plan for Haiti, I see a return to the failed attempts by the Clinton and Bush Administrations to establish Haiti as an American protectorate. Already we are seeing many argue that this kind of humanitarian mission is a perfect fit for the U.S. military. I do not agree.

Certainly I would support and encourage the efforts of the American people to help the people of Haiti at this tragic time. I believe that the American people are very generous on their own and fear that a U.S. government commitment to reconstruct Haiti may actually discourage private contributions. Mr. Speaker, already we see private U.S. citizens and corporations raising millions of dollars for relief and reconstruction of Haiti. I do not believe the U.S. government should get in the way of these laudable efforts. I do express my condolences but I unfortunately must urge my colleagues to vote against this resolution committing the United States government to rebuild Haiti.

EXPRESSING CONDOLENCES TO
HAITI

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 20, 2010

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my support to H. Res. 1021, which expresses condolences to and solidarity with the people of Haiti in the after-

math of the devastating earthquake of January 12, 2010.

I would like to thank my colleague, BARBARA LEE, chairwoman of the Congressional Black Caucus, for offering this legislation and express heartfelt condolences and sympathy for the people of Haiti in the wake of this horrific natural disaster.

On January 12, 2010, a 7.0 magnitude earthquake struck the country of Haiti. An estimated 3 million people have been directly affected by the disaster in Haiti, more than 1.5 million people left homeless, and severe damage has been sustained by roads, ports, hospitals, and homes.

The challenges in helping Haiti are immense, and the U.S. and partner countries have made important contributions to the recovery efforts. I commend the Obama administration for granting Temporary Protected Status for Haitian nationals in the United States, many of whom are unable to return home due to the destruction in Haiti.

I applaud the individuals, businesses and philanthropic organizations across the United States and throughout the international community who have responded to the crisis in Haiti with an outpouring of generosity and support.

It is clear that the people of Haiti are now facing a humanitarian crisis that is unimaginable and that will take years to recover from. I support a sustained commitment to people of Haiti and encourage innovative thinking in providing long-term assistance to the country.

I am committed to helping the Haitian people recover from this tragedy and to rebuild their homes, communities, and lives in the days, weeks and years to come.

Again, thank you to Rep. BARBARA LEE for introducing this resolution and urge all my colleagues to support H. Res. 1021.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MARVIN
L. GILLUM

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise to share with our colleagues the recent passing of Marvin L. Gillum. He died on January 21, 2010, at the age of 85.

Marvin had a long history of service to the city of Manassas, Virginia, and the greater Prince William County community. He served as mayor of Manassas for eight years from 1996 to 2004, and was also a former chairman of the Manassas School Board.

I submit for the RECORD an obituary for Marvin that ran in the Manassas News & Messenger on January 22:

MARVIN L. GILLUM

Marvin L. Gillum, age 85, died peacefully at his home Thursday, January 21, 2010. He was born on February 2, 1924 in his town, Manassas. He graduated from Osbourn High School in 1940 and continued his education at the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) where he earned a B.S. in chemistry and pre-med. He then received his D.D.S. from the Medical College of Virginia School of Dentistry. He worked as a dentist for forty years. His father, Dr. V.V. Gillum, established the family business in 1914 in Manassas where he served a number of patients who arrived by train from all over the area. Marvin served his country as a Captain in the U.S. Air Force

Dental Corps during the Korean War. After retiring from dentistry in 1987, Dr. Gillum chose a second career in investment brokerage. He served Scott & Stringfellow as an Executive Vice President, a Senior Vice President, and sat on the Board of Directors.

In 1947, he and his bride Mardi came to Manassas where they raised three daughters, Cindy, Debby and Melanie, who have given their parents six grandchildren and two grandchildren through marriage. Marvin and Mardi were blessed with 62 wonderful years of marriage. Apart from his devotion to his wife and family, Dr. Gillum's personal interests included tennis, bridge, piano and organ, reading, baseball, the Washington Redskins, and his alma mater VMI. His community activities read like a full chapter in "Who's Who in America," and include Mayor of Manassas for eight years (1996-2004); 15 years on the Manassas School Board with ten as chairman; former chairman of Prince William Health System Foundation; first chairman of the Manassas Historical Commission; a trustee of the Manassas Baptist Church and former deacon (where he had been a member since age five); former director of the City of Manassas Education Foundation; former board member of Historic Manassas, Inc; former commissioner of the Manassas Baseball League; former director of the Prince William Chapter of the American Red Cross; advisory board of the Prince William Campus of George Mason University; honorary chairman of the March of Dimes; former director of SERVE, Inc.; past president of the Manassas Rotary Club; Outstanding Alumni Graduate Award—Osborn High School Alumni Association; Vice Chairman and Board of Directors for Manassas Dance Company; former member of Manassas Kiwanis Club; and the Grand Marshal of the Greater Manassas Christmas Parade in 1994. He has also been an avid supporter of the local fine arts, backing such attractions as the new home for the Center for the Arts and the Loy E. Harris Pavilion. During his tenure as mayor, the city experienced a renaissance which included receiving the 2003 Great America Main Street Award and designation as one of "Washingtonian" magazine's top places to live in the Washington area. He truly loved his city and his lifelong endeavor was to enhance the quality of community life for all who lived here.

He was preceded in death by his parents Dr. V.V. and Lois Layman Gillum and his sister, Jocelyn Gillum Scott.

Survivors include his wife, Martha Droste Gillum; his three daughters, Cindy Gillum Coiner and husband Bill of Midlothian, Va., Debby Gillum Milligan and husband Dick of Manassas and Melanie Gillum Przybocki and husband Dave of Manassas. Grandchildren include: Caroline Milligan of Winchester, Va., Meredith Milligan of Manassas, Cara Clayton of Sarasota, Fla., Cory Clayton and wife Signe of Denmark, Rob Dufour of Newport News, Va., Mollie Przybocki of Manassas, Wil and Jenny Coiner of Midlothian and one brother-in-law, David Scott of Decatur, Ga.

The family will receive friends from 1 to 4 and 6 to 8 p.m. Friday, January 29, 2010 at Pierce Funeral Home, 9609 Center Street, Manassas. A Celebration of Life will be held at Grace E. Metz School, 9950 Wellington Road, Manassas at 1 p.m. Saturday, January 30, 2010. A private family interment will take place after the service at Stonewall Memory Gardens, Manassas.

Contributions may be made in his memory to his beloved Manassas Baptist Church, 8800 Sudley Road, Manassas, VA 20110 (Marvin always wanted a chime tower for all to hear) or to the George Mason University, Hylton Performing Arts Center, 10900 University Blvd. MS5D2, Manassas, VA 20110 (for all to

enjoy) in loving memory of Marvin L. Gillum. Condolences may be sent to www.piercefh.com.

IN MEMORY OF REBECCA H. CAPUZZI, BELOVED MOTHER AND GRANDMOTHER

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Rebecca H. Capuzzi, of Philadelphia who passed away on December 20, 2009 at Jefferson Hospital after a brief illness.

Born on April 22, 1922 in Philadelphia, she was the daughter of the late David Hoffman and Mary (Singer) Hoffman. Mrs. Capuzzi is survived by her two daughters, Donna and Judy, her son-in-law, Bernard, and her treasured grandson, Brandon. She was the devoted wife of the late John Capuzzi, a well known art restorer in Philadelphia. Mrs. Capuzzi's appreciation for the arts was evident to all those lucky enough to know her. She encouraged her beloved grandson, Brandon, to learn about the importance of the arts and often brought him to cultural institutions and performances. She will be interred at West Laurel Hill Cemetery, Mausoleum of Peace, with her husband.

Madam Speaker, Rebecca Capuzzi's commitment to her family should not go unrecognized. I express my deepest condolences to her family for their loss and pay tribute to the memory of this astounding individual.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. W. TODD AKIN

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. AKIN. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 10 on motion to suspend the rules and pass, as amended—H.R. 3726—to establish the Castle Nugent National Historic Site on the island of St. Croix, U.S. Virgin Islands, as a unit of the National Park System.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HONORING MELVIN BARBER

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Melvin Barber. A successful businessman, an avid traveler, and a beloved member of my extended family, Mr. Barber had an exceptional ability to make friends wherever he went. Mr. Barber passed away on Monday, January 11, 2010, at the age of 87.

Melvin Barber was a native of Weatherford, Oklahoma, where he was born to Alfred Barber and Eva West in 1922. Mr. Barber remained in Oklahoma throughout his youth, growing up in the nearby towns of Drummond

and Enid. Upon graduation from Booker T. Washington High School, Mr. Barber matriculated at Langston University in Langston, Oklahoma. Mr. Barber's college education was interrupted by the onset of the Second World War; he was drafted in 1942 and began a term of service which lasted for the duration of the war.

After receiving an honorable discharge from the U.S. Army in 1946, Mr. Barber moved to Washington, D.C., where he enrolled at Howard University. While at Howard, Mr. Barber became a Brother of Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Inc. For over 50 years Mr. Barber was a committed member of the fraternity, striving to embody their motto of "Achievement in Every Human Endeavour."

Once Mr. Barber had completed his degree at Howard, he moved to Cincinnati, Ohio, in pursuit of career opportunities. In Cincinnati, Mr. Barber found a position as a Medical Research Associate in the Institute of Environmental Health at the University of Cincinnati Medical Center. Mr. Barber dedicated himself to this position, staying at the Institute for over 30 years.

In addition to being an accomplished researcher, Mr. Barber was a successful businessman and a cherished member of his community. For many years, Mr. Barber owned and operated Highland Computer Systems. He was also an active member of Allen Temple AME Church of Cincinnati, extending his ministry to the community by acting as a sponsor and mentor for many disadvantaged youth throughout the Cincinnati area.

In 1996, Melvin moved from Ohio to Arizona, where he took up residence in the town of Peoria. In his retirement, Melvin indulged his passion for travel, visiting countries and making friends around the world. When not travelling, he followed sports, particularly the Phoenix Suns and the Arizona Diamondbacks, and created beautiful works of stained glass artwork.

Melvin left us on Monday, January 11, 2010. I will always remember the treasured moments we shared at family events, where he loved to play dominoes and cards with his sister, Gertrude; my mother, Mildred; my sisters, Beverly and Mildred; and my brothers in law, Martin and Calvin. He always enjoyed good food, and he was consistently engaged with current events. I recall in particular his excitement at the election of our first African American President, President "Obama," as he insisted on calling him. I will deeply miss his laugh, his kindness, his dedication to my 98-year old Aunt Juanita, and his tremendous love for life.

Today we salute, honor, and celebrate the life of a great human being, an outstanding member of his community, and a true renaissance man. May his soul rest in eternal peace.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent Thursday afternoon, January 21, on very urgent business. Had I been present for the five votes which occurred, I would have voted "aye" on

H.R. 3254, rollcall vote No. 12; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 3342, rollcall vote No. 13; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 1065, rollcall vote No. 14; I would have voted "aye" on H. Res. 1021, rollcall vote No. 15; I would have voted "aye" on H.R. 730, rollcall vote No. 16.

IN HONOR OF ANGEL ISLAND
IMMIGRATION STATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a mixture of sorrow and pride to honor the Angel Island Immigration Station on its 100th anniversary—sorrow because of the Station's history of unjust treatment of immigrants, especially those from China, and pride because we are now acknowledging and respecting the struggle and courage of these immigrants.

Located off the coast of Tiburon, California, in Angel Island State Park in San Francisco Bay, the Station is the site of the detention of 175,000 Chinese immigrants from 1910 to 1940. Because of the Chinese Exclusion Act, many of them were held for weeks, months or years in a prison-like barracks where life was difficult and humiliating.

The ghosts of these people speak to us through poetry written and etched into the walls of these barracks. The experiences reflected here remind us that it is essential to treat all people with dignity and respect. In today's debates about immigration policy, at a time when we have moved beyond the inhumanity of the Chinese Exclusion Act, these ghosts tell us to learn from our past and set a new course that reflects who we are as a nation.

And now, thanks to the Angel Island Immigration Station Foundation and its many supporters and partners, including the California State Parks and the National Park Service, the Immigration Station is being restored. It helps us understand this rich and complex history by hosting more than 50,000 people, including 30,000 schoolchildren, every year.

Angel Island itself was once inhabited by the native Miwoks and was discovered by Europeans in 1769. It has served for both cattle ranching and military uses, from the Civil War era Camp Reynolds to a base for Nike missiles in the 1950s and 1960s. In 1891, a quarantine station for immigrants was established and, on January 21, 1910, over 200 Chinese immigrants shipped from San Francisco marked the opening of the Angel Island Immigration Station. It was officially closed in 1946, and many of the barracks were razed when the Island became a State Park in 1957. Today, the Park's stunning views and abundant wildlife complement the historic structures.

As a mother and grandmother, I am grateful that the restored Angel Island Immigration Station will continue to keep the past alive for our young people. And as the Congresswoman representing this unique resource, I have had the privilege of participating in its rehabilitation by securing Federal funding for a bi-partisan effort that recognizes that we all have a stake in remembering that America is a nation of immigrants.

Madam Speaker, Angel Island Immigration Station today, on the occasion of its 100th anniversary, is both a reminder and a challenge. It reminds us that America hasn't always lived up to its highest ideals of freedom and equality. But it challenges us to live up to those ideals now and in the future. One of the poems from its walls poignantly serves to educate and inspire us:

In the quiet of night, I heard, faintly, the whistling of wind.

The forms and shadows saddened me; upon seeing the landscape, I composed a poem.

The floating clouds, the fog, darken the sky. The moon shines faintly as the insects chirp. Grief and bitterness entwined are heaven sent.

The sad person sits alone, leaning by a window.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TANNING
BED CANCER CONTROL ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation along with my friend and colleague from Pennsylvania, Representative Charlie Dent: the Tanning Bed Cancer Control Act.

In July 2009, the World Health Organization moved tanning beds into their highest cancer risk category, "carcinogenic to humans." This new classification places tanning beds alongside tobacco smoke, asbestos, and uranium as known cancer-causing agents. This science clearly tells us that regulatory safeguards must be put in place to protect the more than 1 million people who tan in tanning salons across the country each day. One American dies of melanoma almost every hour. We can no longer ignore the startling health effects of indoor tanning.

This bill empowers the FDA to examine two sides of tanning bed regulation. First, it requires a study be conducted to determine whether or not tanning beds are appropriately classified in accordance with the risks of their use. Right now, tanning beds are classified in the lowest risk category, class I. Other examples of class I devices are Band Aids and tongue depressors, devices that pose no risk to consumers at all. The bill also addresses performance standards—factors such as the strength of the UV rays emitted and the recommended amount of time a consumer should remain in the bed. These standards have not been amended since 1985. Finally, the legislation calls on the FDA to carry out its own findings published in a 2008 Report to Congress and edit the warning label requirements to clearly and more effectively inform consumers of the health risks associated with tanning bed use.

This legislation does not seek to tell the FDA what to do; rather, it empowers the FDA to use its own authority to ensure that tanning bed regulations reflect science. There is no longer any mystery to this issue: tanning beds emit UV rays. UV rays cause cancer. It's very simple and deceptively dangerous. We cannot afford to stand by and watch people suffer as a result of misinformation and poor regulation.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,303,736,486,568.45.

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

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,665,310,740,274.65 so far this Congress.

Today the Congressional Budget Office released their Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2010–2020. They estimate a deficit of \$1.3 trillion for fiscal year 2010. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

IN MEMORY OF KENNETH G.
PIPPIN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, on January 18, 2010, our country lost an American patriot and a community leader with the passing of Kenneth Pippin:

Kenneth G. Pippin, 83, of Glen Burnie, Maryland, passed away on January 18, 2010, at Baltimore Washington Medical Center surrounded by his family. Kenneth, son of the late Rufus Pippin and Frances Pauline Owens Casto, was born in Wilder, Virginia. He grew up in Welch, West Virginia, where he graduated from high school. Right before his 18th birthday, Kenneth went to Welch's US Army Recruiting Office and asked them to draft him because his grandmother would not let him volunteer. Ken served in the Army during World War II as a paratrooper in the 82nd Airborne Division, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment. During the invasion of Normandy, with paratroopers suffering the heaviest casualties, Kenneth bravely volunteered to be a part of the parachute regiment. He spent most of his service in Europe. Shortly after his discharge from the Army, Kenneth moved to Baltimore, Maryland, where he completed technical school.

He married his high school sweetheart, Thelma Beasley, in 1948, after a long courtship. They had four wonderful children: three sons, Kenny, Kevin, and Kerwin, and one daughter, Karen. Kenneth and Thelma lived in Glen Burnie, Maryland, for 53 years. Kenneth worked as a printer for Baltimore Business Forms for 34 years and later retired from the Baltimore-Annapolis Railroad Company. He was also a member of Glen Burnie Baptist Church, The American Association of Military Insignia, and VFW Post 160.

Kenneth loved life and appreciated everything he had. He enjoyed spending summer vacations at his wife's family farm in Hillsville, Virginia. In retirement, he and Thelma became snowbirds and flew south every winter to their son's home in Sarasota, Florida. He enjoyed hunting, reading—especially about military history—and collecting military insignias. His

greatest love was his family and his wife of 61 years.

I have known Kenneth's son, Ken, for many years, and am grateful for his longtime service to South Carolina. I sincerely appreciate his work as President of the Carolina Southern Railroad and Chairman of the South Carolina Association of Railroads.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX TO
PRODUCE MORE DOMESTIC EN-
ERGY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, one thing that most Americans can agree on is that we need to produce more energy at home. The more energy that we produce domestically, the less we need to rely on foreign sources of oil which often come from unstable parts of the world. Furthermore, domestic energy creates jobs right here at home, jobs that can help lead our nation out of the current recession. America's thirst for energy continues to grow and the more options we have to quench this thirst, the better off we will be. It is essential to look at all forms of domestic energy including domestic oil and natural gas, solar, renewable and the latest technology—waste to energy conversion. All options should be examined.

I recently had the opportunity to learn about a new and exciting technology that could help us produce more domestic energy from shale deposits, tar sands, waste tires, heavy oil, coal, municipal solids wastes and drill cuttings. A U.S. company, Global Resource Corporation is the developer of a microwave technology that converts waste into energy through a conversion process that essentially decomposes carbon materials into reusable high value fuels. An added benefit of this technology is that microwaves do not produce emissions, the process does not require water and all output can be reused.

It is vital to America that we support the development of new technologies like this one that will provide the energy and new jobs we

desperately need in order to grow. This company is evaluating the option to build a plant in the Second Congressional District of Texas. With its large number of refineries, deposits and other waste, as well as old tires that will be converted into usable energy, this process would solve two problems at once, disposal of waste and used tires, and producing clean domestic energy. I support projects such as this one and hope that our country will adopt even more common sense solutions to our growing energy demands, utilizing the domestic resources we have available and creating jobs.

HONORING WILLIAM "BILL"
CAVALA

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague, Mr. GARAMENDI, today to honor the exceptional life of Dr. Bill Cavala. Known throughout California politics as a brilliant democratic strategist and shrewd tactician, Bill Cavala was also renowned for his professionalism, teaching prowess and strong sense of loyalty. With his passing on December 26, 2009, we look to Bill Cavala's political legacy and the outstanding quality of his life's work.

Born William Lester Cavala, February 23, 1943 to Lester and Margaret Cavala, Bill was the oldest of three sons. He grew up in Sacramento and Oakland, exercising early political interest in the Junior Statesmen youth organization. He went on to earn bachelor's, master's and doctorate degrees in political science from the University of California, Berkeley. Bill's political studies never ceased as he amassed an encyclopedic and institutional knowledge of state legislative districts, California voter patterns, campaigning tactics and reapportionment. For a time, Bill Cavala worked at the university as a professor of political science, but for much of his 40-year political career he employed his passion for hands-on, field experience.

In 1971, Bill Cavala joined the staff of late Democratic Assemblyman Bob Crown, and

worked with the Select Committee on Criminal Justice. Later, while teaching at UC Berkeley, he continued to perform constituent work within the offices of Assembly members John Miller, Ken Meade and Bill Lockyer, his former classmate. In 1981, Bill Cavala joined the staff of California State Assembly Speaker Willie Brown, Jr. as Senior Aide, where he served for 14 years. Bill Cavala was three-time Director of the Speaker's Office of Majority Services and worked as deputy director under seven different directors. He served Minority Leader Richard Katz and other Speakers of the Assembly, including Cruz Bustamante, Antonio Villaraigosa, Robert Hertzberg and Herb Wesson, Jr.

Bill Cavala fulfilled a crucial, behind-the-scenes role as he played a part in important decisions regarding redistricting, election law and the state budget. Throughout his career, he kept in mind the counsel of his much-admired mentors the late Congressman Philip Burton, wife Sala, and brother, John. Through their influence, Bill gained a deep appreciation for the role of public service and his potential to make meaningful societal contributions via the political process.

Despite his hefty workload from the California State Legislature and his commitments at UC Berkeley, Bill Cavala had a role in every election cycle over a 40-year span. His deft and daring campaign approaches resulted in countless winning campaigns, most recently in the congressional elections of Representatives JOHN GARAMENDI and JACKIE SPEIER. Friends and colleagues on both sides of the aisle admired his singular focus and political passion. In addition to politics, Bill Cavala had a love for baseball, golf, fine wine, gourmet cooking, mentorship, travel and film.

Today, we mourn the loss of a political pioneer, respected strategist and campaign mastermind who was considered by many the driving force in California politics for the past 40 years. Bill Cavala was a dear friend and he will be deeply missed by an extended group of loved ones, friends and colleagues. I offer my sincerest condolences to Bill's family and to the many friends and associates whose lives he has touched over the years.