EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING MR. ROBERT GEORGE

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Robert George. Mr. George served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Dunkirk City Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. George served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. George is one of those people and that is why, Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to him today.

2009 GREAT COMEBACKS RECIPIENT FOR THE WEST REGION

HON. ROB BISHOP

OF UTAH

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Utah. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sylvia Prothro Hebert of Park City. Sylvia has been selected as a 2009 Great Comebacks Recipient for the West Region. This program honors annually a group of individuals who are living with intestinal diseases or recovering from ostomy surgery.

At age 9, Sylvia Prothro Hebert was diagnosed with Crohn's disease. At first Sylvia managed her symptoms with medication but flare-ups became a constant companion during college. Her weight dropped to 89 pounds, teeth loosened and hair fell out. At age 21, her intestines were punctured during a colonoscopy and she underwent ostomy surgery. ''I awoke with this 'thing' on my side and was in shock—I thought my life was over,'' says Sylvia.

Since her diagnosis, Sylvia has triumphed over her illness, soaring to new heights to fulfill her dream of becoming a flight attendant—and by her records—the first Delta flight attendant with an ileostomy!

Today, Sylvia, 42, lives in Park City, UT with her husband Paul and their children, Reese, 5, Garrett, 3½, Renee, 1½. In addition to skiing, Sylvia has completed two half-marathons and a triathlon. ''I feel healthier and happier than I've ever felt in my life,'' says Sylvia. ''Ostomy surgery gave me freedom to do things I wanted—it's great to be alive.''

I would like to congratulate Sylvia on her recent recognition as a 2009 Great Comebacks recipient.

IN HONOR OF DELAWARE'S MEDICAL RELIEF GROUPS

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with pride and admiration that I rise today to pay tribute to the Delaware medical groups that have traveled to Haiti over the past month to administer medical relief aid. To date, over five dozen individuals have gone to Haiti with Delaware's medical teams—including doctors and staff from Alexis I. duPont Hospital for Children, Bayhealth Medical Center, Christiana Care Health System, and St. Francis Healthcare Services—and a great many more have aided in preparing and assisting the teams with logistical planning and much needed medical supplies.

When news of Haiti's devastating earthquake reached members of Delaware's medical and disaster response community, plans of aid and assistance were immediately underway. Delaware medical professionals were on the ground, setting up emergency clinics and treating patients within ten days of the earthquake's occurrence, a remarkable feat considering the effect the earthquake had on travel into and out of the country.

These medical teams are comprised of truly dedicated individuals, individuals who are able to persevere despite the physically and mentally demanding nature of medical missions and the inevitable frustration and conflict that must attend a catastrophe such as this. Each day, all day, they see patients—administering aid and medications, performing desperately needed operations, and establishing local connections that will prove vital as relief work moves forward. They do this amidst logistical challenges and harsh conditions, contending with aftershocks, extreme weather, and a lack of shelter, supplies and running water. Their support, their efforts, and what they have been able to accomplish, including arranging for the transport and treatment of critical-need babies who require medical care not available to them in Haiti, are remarkable.

While I know there will be many more groups, organizations, and hospitals to thank going forward, I call attention today to the Delaware medical teams who have already responded with aid and resources in the wake of this major catastrophe. I wish to recognize these individuals for their quick response; they knew the importance of providing quality medical care and acted with great zeal. I wish to recognize them for their tireless dedication; they have worked day and night, performing surgeries back-to-back. Finally, I wish to recognize them for their continuing compassion; they have set aside, without reservation, their own lives in order to help others. Their commitment to the Haitian population has been tenacious.

The efforts of Delaware's medical and disaster response community are nothing short of inspirational. These men and women are not just medical professionals; they are heroes and role models. They have donated their time, their energy, and their hearts. Their efforts have been tireless, and I am humbled by that which they have already accomplished. I feel great pride in representing a state whose citizens are aware of and responsive to the needs and affairs of our global community. Catastrophes call for banding together. Delaware's medical community has answered that call and, I have no doubt, will continue to do so in the coming weeks and months.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAN HENRY'S ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF DENTISTRY

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Dan Henry, a Northwest Florida community leader. Dr. Henry has spent his life serving others, and I am proud to honor his dedication, passion, and service.

Adopted at the age of seven by Sam and Helen Henry, Dan was raised in Crestview, Florida. He met his wife, Melinda, as an undergraduate at Florida State, and then went on to earn his Doctor of Dental Surgery degree from the University of Maryland in 1975. His family moved to the Pensacola area in 1977 and have remained an active part of our community ever since. Dan has received countless awards for his work as a dentist, and served as President of the Florida Dental Association in 2006 and 2007.

While Dr. Henry's list of honors, awards, and achievements are impressive by any standard, his most important work happens while serving the underprivileged. For 23 years, Dr. Henry has led dental missions overseas in association with the Methodist Church. In founding, inspiring, and orchestrating these missions, Dr. Henry has faced daunting challenges. Many of the areas in which he performed missions are without electricity or basic necessities needed for dental hygiene. Dr. Henry created portable equipment and invented power systems that allow the dental teams to set up clinics overseas. The missions are able to provide dental care to some of the poorest areas of the world because of Dr. Henry's dedication and service. He has inspired a generation of volunteers to participate in similar overseas missions.

In addition to yearly missions overseas, Dr. Henry never forgets those in need throughout our local community. Dr. Henry leads a Dental Fair at Chumuckla United Methodist Church, providing free dental care for children, youth, and adults of the surrounding area. Hundreds of people are able to receive proper dental care because of the Healing Springs Dental Fair. Dr. Henry and the countless other volunteer dentists, dental assistants, and hygienists

who give their time and their services deserve special recognition for all they do to ensure any member of our community can receive proper dental care.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Dr. Dan Henry as a Northwest Florida leader and international inspiration. My wife Vicki and I wish Dan, his wife Melinda, and his children Matthew and Kelly, all the best for continued success.

CELEBRATING THE 49TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PEACE CORPS AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF SENATOR HARRIS WOFFORD

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, March 1 to 7 is Peace Corps Week, a time to officially celebrate one of the greatest ideas and most beloved international initiatives in our nation's history—49 years of hands-on good will by nearly 200,000 volunteers dispatched to 139 countries.

It is also an opportunity to pay tribute to my fellow Philadelphian Harris Wofford, the Father of National Service, who developed, nurtured and led the Peace Corps as it grew to reality from then-Senator John F. Kennedy's challenge to college students to serve in the cause of peace.

Harris Wofford has devoted his life and his creative energies to the civil society, civil rights and service to humanity. In addition to his seminal work in founding the Peace Corps, he served as Chief Executive Officer of the Corporation for National and Community Service—our domestic Peace Corps—which followed an all-too-brief and highly principled four years as United States Senator. He has continued his bipartisan advocacy for responsible and caring citizenship on behalf of America's Promise, Youth Service America, the Points of Light Foundation, and Experience Wave.

The 49th anniversary of the founding of the Peace Corps by President Kennedy on March 1, 1961, is a great cause for celebration. But it's also a time to recognize that the reason we are celebrating is that, for the past 49 years, every week has been Peace Corps Week—over 2,500 Peace Corps Weeks.

Today, more than 7,600 volunteers in 76 nations are carrying out the vision of President Kennedy, Senator Wofford and so many other great and little known Americans who have made the Peace Corps synonymous with American service and sharing, American teaching and know-how, American compassion and peace work. I congratulate all these fine young—and not so young—men and women for their selfless efforts.

The Peace Corps has been the experience building and jumping off point for many prominent Philadelphians—including one notable alumnus from my hometown, ''Hardball's'' Chris Matthews. Today, I want to commend a dazzling dozen current Peace Corps volunteers who have traveled from their homes in the Second Congressional District of Pennsylvania, in Philadelphia and Montgomery County, for two years of service abroad.

They are Kaye Bullemeier, Darline Dameus and Noel C. Kuck, now in Malawi; Lauren J. Mcilhenny and Benjamin J. Stollenberg, in Albania; Emily F. Haimowitz and Daniel R. Merin, Costa Rica; Cara A. George, Guatemala; Imani D. Hulty, Mozambique; Nancy Morisseau, Turkmenistan; Joo Weon J. Park, China; and Danielle Porreca, Jamaica.

I salute these men and women and join with all Americans in extending thanks to entire Peace Corps family, past, present and future. You do us proud.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, I regret that I was unavoidably absent on the afternoon of Thursday, February 25, 2010, and all day on Friday, February 26, 2010 due to a death in my family. Had I been present I would have voted accordingly: Rollcall No. 67, Concurring in Senate Amendments to H.R. 3961—I would have voted ''aye.'' Rollcall No. 68, H. Con. Res. 227, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Urban Crimes Awareness Week—I would have voted ''aye.'' Rollcall No. 69, H. Amdt. 573 (REYES of Texas) to H.R. 2701—I would have voted ''no.'' Rollcall No. 70, H. Amdt. 575 (HASTINGS of Florida) to H.R. 2701—I would have voted ''aye.'' Rollcall No. 71, H. Amdt. 584 (SCHAUER of Michigan) to H.R. 2701—I would have voted ''aye.'' Rollcall No. 72, Motion to Recommit with Instructions, H.R. 2701—I would have voted ''aye.'' Rollcall No. 73, H.R. 2701, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010—I would have voted ''no.'' Rollcall No. 74, H. Con. Res. 238, Recognizing the difficult challenges Black veterans faced when returning home after serving in the Armed Forces, their heroic military sacrifices, and their patriotism in fighting for equal rights and for the dignity of a people and a Nation—I would have voted ''aye.''

NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2009

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. HIRONO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to provide additional remarks on H.R. 2314, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act of 2009, a bill the House passed with a clear majority vote of 245–164 on February 23, 2010.

At the end of the 18th century, King Kamehameha I united the separate island chiefdoms under one Hawaiian monarchy, which was recognized by the United States. This unified Native Hawaiian self-rule continued through most of the 19th century, with Native Hawaiians ''constitut[ing] the overwhelming majority of the political community that participated in decisionmaking in the Kingdom,'' (Jon M. Van Dyke, Population, Voting, and Citizenship in the Kingdom of Hawai'i, 28 U. Haw. L. Rev. 81, 81 (2005)), and came to an end only when, in 1893, commercial interests overthrew the Hawaiian monarchy with the support of the U.S. government.

Even after the overthrow of the Hawaiian monarchy, Native Hawaiians have continued to maintain their separate identity as a single distinctly political community through cultural, social, and political institutions, and through efforts to develop programs to provide governmental services to native Hawaiians. For example, the Hawaiian Protective Association—a political organization with by-laws and a constitution that sought to maintain unity among Native Hawaiians, protect Native Hawaiian interests (including by lobbying the legislature), and promote the education, health, and economic development of Native Hawaiians—was ''organized [in 1914] . . . for the sole purpose of protecting the Hawaiian people and of conserving and promoting the best things of their tradition'' (Hearing on H.R. 13500 Before the Committee on Territories, 66th Cong., 3d Sess. 44 (Dec. 14, 1920) (Rev. Akaiko Akana)).

To this end, the Association established twelve standing committees, published a newspaper, and also developed the framework that became the Hawaiian Homes Commission Act (HHCA) in 1921. In 1918, Prince Jonah Kuhio Kalanianaole, a U.S. delegate to Congress, founded the Hawaiian Civic Clubs, the goal of which was to perpetuate the language, history, traditions, music, dances and other cultural traditions of Hawaii. The clubs' first project was to secure enactment of HHCA and the clubs remain in existence today.

Efforts to maintain a distinct political community have continued into the present day. Examples include the 1988 Native Hawaiian Sovereignty Conference; the Kau Inoa organization, which registers Native Hawaiians for a movement toward a Native Hawaiian governing entity; the efforts to protect the North Western Hawaiian Islands because of their cultural and traditional significance; the creation in the Hawaii State Constitution of the Office of Hawaiian Affairs, which serves as an entity to protect Native Hawaiian interests; and the development of traditional justice programs, including a traditional method of alternative dispute resolution, ''ho'oponopono,'' which has been endorsed by the Native Hawaiian Bar Association.

Moreover, as the findings of H.R. 2314 explain, the Native Hawaiian people have actively maintained native traditions and customary usages throughout the Native Hawaiian community and the Federal and State courts have continuously recognized the right of the Native Hawaiian people to engage in certain customary practices and usages on public lands.

For example, traditional Native Hawaiian fishing and water rights are protected by state law (Haw. Rev. Stat. § 174C–101(c) & (d) (2008) (stating that certain traditional and customary water rights ''shall not be abridged or denied,'' or ''diminished or extinguished,'' by provision of the State Water Code)]; id. § 187A–23 (1985) (providing for recognition of certain ''vested fishing rights'' linked to ''ancient regulations'').

Hawaii courts have also recognized and upheld traditional gathering and access rights, (See, e.g., Public Access Shoreline Hawaii v. Hawaii County Planning Comm'n, 903 P.2d 1246 (Haw. 1995); State v. Hanapi, 970 P.2d 485 (Haw. 1998); Kalipi v. Hawaiian Trust Co., 656 P.2d 745 (Haw. 1982)). Further, Native Hawaiian traditional practices are often permitted on federal parks land (See, e.g., 16

U.S.C. § 396d (KalokoHonokohau National Historical Park). These practices and legal protections further reinforce the Native Hawaiian community's continuing status as a distinctly native community.

Congress has recognized the distinct status of the Native Hawaiians by ''extend[ing] services to [them]'' on the basis of that status, recognizing that they are ''the native people of a prior-sovereign nation with whom the United States has a special political and legal relationship.'' (See, e.g., Brief of United States at 4–5 & nn.2–4, Rice v. Cayetano, 528 U.S. 495 (2000) (noting that Congress has ''established special Native Hawaiian programs in the areas of health care, education, employment, and loans,'' ''has enacted statutes to preserve Native Hawaiian culture, language, and historical sites, and ''by classifying Native Hawaiians as 'Native Americans' under numerous federal statutes, . . . has extended to Native Hawaiians many of 'the same rights and privileges accorded to American Indian, Alaska Native, Eskimo, and Aleut communities' '' and collecting examples of these congressional acts)).

Other specific examples of Congress' recognition of the distinct status of the Native Hawaiians include the Native American Language Act of 1990, which recognized and clarified the language rights of American Indians, Alaskan Natives, Native Hawaiians, and Pacific Islanders and explicitly allowed exceptions to teacher certification requirements for instruction in Native American languages; the Native Hawaiian Education Act of 1988 (Title IV of the Augustus F. Hawkins-Robert T. Stafford Elementary and Secondary School Improvement Amendments of 1988) which awarded $30 million annually in competitive education grants to programs benefitting native Hawaiian students; the Native Hawaiian Assessment Project of 1983; and special education programs specifically targeting Native Hawaiian students.

As the 1993 Apology Resolution and other recent federal statutes extending educational and health benefits to Native Hawaiians make clear, Congress has found that: (1) Native Hawaiians are ''a distinct and unique indigenous people with a historical continuity to the original inhabitants of the Hawaiian archipelago,'' 42 U.S.C. 11701(1); 20 U.S.C. 7902(1); (2) Native Hawaiians exercised sovereignty over the Hawaiian Islands, 20 U.S.C. 80q–14(11); (3) the overthrow of the Kingdom of Hawaii was ''illegal'' and deprived Native Hawaiians of their right to ''self-determination,'' 107 Stat. 1513; (4) the government installed after the overthrow ceded 1.8 million acres of land to the United States ''without the consent of or compensation to the Native Hawaiian people of Hawaii or their sovereign government,'' id. at 1512; (5) ''the indigenous Hawaiian people never directly relinquished their claims to their inherent sovereignty as a people or over their national lands to the United States,'' ibid.; and (6) ''the Native Hawaiian people are determined to preserve, develop and transmit to future generations their ancestral territory, and their cultural identity in accordance with their own spiritual and traditional beliefs, customs, practices, language, and social institutions,'' id. at 1512–1513.

Those findings demonstrate that indigenous Hawaiians, like numerous tribes in the continental United States, share historical and current bonds within their community. Also like tribes in the continental United States, Native Hawaiians, pursuant to Acts of Congress, have substantial lands set aside for their benefit: 200,000 acres of Homestead Act land on which there are thousands of leases to Native Hawaiians that furnish homes to tens of thousands of Hawaiians, and a 20 percent interest in the income generated by 1.2 million acres of public trust lands under the Admission Act.

The fact that the indigenous Hawaiian community does not presently have a central operating tribal government recognized by the U.S. Department of the Interior does not remove that community from the scope of Congress's Indian affairs power. Initially, the Constitution does not limit Congress's Indian affairs power to groups with a particular government structure. ''[S]ome bands of Indians, for example, had little or no tribal organization, while others were highly organized.'' (Fishing Vessel Ass'n, 443 U.S. at 664). Nor does the Constitution limit Congress's power to groups that continue to exercise all aspects of sovereignty. European ''discovery'' and the establishment of the United States necessarily diminished certain aspects of Indian sovereignty (Johnson, 21 U.S. (8 Wheat.) at 574; Cherokee Nation, 30 U.S. (5 Pet.) at 45). Thus, under the Constitution, ''[f]ederal regulation of Indian tribes . . . is governance of once-sovereign political communities'' (Antelope, 430 U.S. at 646).

Moreover, the United States' authority over Indian affairs does not emanate simply from the Commerce Clause's reference to ''Indian Tribes.'' Rather, the Constitution implicitly gives Congress power to manage Indian affairs more generally (Seber, 318 U.S. at 715; Sandoval, 231 U.S. at 45–46; Kagama, 118 U.S. at 383–384). That power does not disintegrate when an indigenous people loses its formal government structure. In the first place, the loss of a particular form of government is not tantamount to termination of all sovereignty or of the prospect that sovereignty might be given expression in the future through governmental or other structures. In the case of Native Hawaiians, a variety of Native Hawaiian organizations are active in a broad range of Native political, cultural, religious, legal, and land-related matters, and furnish vehicles for the expression of self-determination over important aspects of Hawaiian affairs, and thus confirms that Native Hawaiians constitute a present-day ''political'' community (Cf. 25 C.F.R. 83.7(c)).

Further, the Supreme Court has made clear that a central operating tribal government is not a predicate for legislation on behalf of indigenous people. For example, in John, 437 U.S. at 634, the Court upheld the power of Congress to provide for a group of Mississippi Choctaw Indians that did not have a federally recognized tribal government. The United States had entered into a treaty under which the Choctaw Indians would leave Mississippi by 1833. In the 1890s, however, the United States became aware that a group of Choctaws had not left Mississippi. Even though the United States did not regard that remaining group as members of a federally recognized tribe, it began to provide services and land to individual Choctaws in Mississippi.

In 1939, Congress declared that the lands that had been purchased for individual Choctaws would be held in trust for Choctaw Indians of one-half or more Indian blood, resident in Mississippi, and in 1944, Congress made those lands a reservation. Finally, in 1945, Mississippi Choctaws of one-half or more Indian blood adopted a constitution and bylaws, which were then approved by the appropriate federal officials.

Against that background, Mississippi argued that Congress lacked constitutional authority to establish federal criminal jurisdiction in the Choctaw Reservation (John, 437 U.S. at 652). The U.S. Supreme Court rejected that argument, explaining: ''[I]n view of the elaborate history of relations between the Mississippi Choctaws and the United States, we do not agree that Congress and the Executive Branch have less power to deal with the affairs of the Mississippi Choctaws than with the affairs of other Indian groups. Neither the fact that the Choctaws in Mississippi are merely a remnant of a larger group of Indians, long ago removed from Mississippi, nor the fact that federal supervision over them has not been continuous, destroys the federal power to deal with them.''

I would like to take this opportunity to provide clarification on the legislative intent of H.R. 2314, particularly for Sections 2, 3, 4, 5, 7, 8, and 9. My remarks for Sections 3 and 9 are supplementary to the remarks previously made by Congressman Abercrombie.

SEC. 2. FINDINGS

Section 2 sets forth Congressional findings that support this legislation. These findings, among other things, identify some of the key respects in which Congress has previously legislated for the benefit of the Native Hawaiian people—thereby recognizing them as a distinctly native community and thus within Congress's power to legislate in respect of Indian tribes—and discusses some of the past and current ways in which the Native Hawaiian peoples have preserved their culture, traditions, and identity as a distinctly native people, and given expression to their rights as native peoples to self-determination and self-governance.

SEC. 3. DEFINITIONS

Congressman Abercrombie, the bill's chief sponsor, has extensively discussed this section of the bill. To supplement his remarks, I would like to clarify that Kuleana lands are parcels of land granted to Native Hawaiian tenant farmers between 1850 and 1855. In 1848, in what is known as the Great Mahele, King Kamehameha III divided up land among the Kingdom, high-ranking chiefs, and the territorial government, ''subject to the rights of the native tenants (2 Rev. Laws Haw. 2152 (1925)).

The Kuleana Act of August 6, 1850, provided a process by which native tenants who had occupied and improved the land could apply to the Land Commission for a royal patent and obtain fee title to those parcels of land (Jon J. Chinen, The Great Mahele: Hawaii's Land Division at 29, 31 (1958)). Approximately 28,600 acres of land were awarded under the Kuleana Act (U.S. Departments of Interior and Justice, From Mauka to Makai: The River of Justice Must Flow Freely, at 24 (2000)).

Also, it should be noted that in its tribal acknowledgment process, the U.S. Department of the Interior has repeatedly relied on participation in community organizations as an important indicator of the existence of a distinct community. Community activities that the Department has cited in support of the existence

of a community include churches, organizations devoted to management of group cemeteries, the existence of organized social functions or collective economic activity, and organized participation in political activities and debate (Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, Acknowledgment Precedent Manual at 26–32 (2002)).

For example, in concluding that it was appropriate to acknowledge the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians as a sovereign Tribe, the Department cited, among other considerations, the Tribe's collective maintenance of a cemetery and associated traditional practices, and the existence of a Tribal organization that "conducts Choctaw language and history classes at the tribal center after school hours and during the summer" (Proposed Finding for Federal Acknowledgment of the Jena Band of Choctaw Indians, 59 Fed. Reg. 54,496 (Oct. 31, 1994); see also 60 Fed. Reg. 28,480 (May 31, 1995) (final acknowledgment)). Likewise, the ability of leaders to organize a community to address a particular issue has been cited as evidence of the existence of internal political organization, another criterion for acknowledgment. For example, the Acknowledgment Precedent Manual cites the ability of a Narragansett leader to organize opposition to the draining of a cedar swamp as evidence supporting acknowledgment of that group ((Branch of Acknowledgment and Research, Acknowledgment Precedent Manual at 40 (2002)).

SEC. 4. UNITED STATES POLICY AND PURPOSE

In Section 4, the United States reaffirms its political and legal relationship with the Native Hawaiian people, and the distinct nature of the Native Hawaiian community. Section 4 also explains that Congress is exercising its ability to enact legislation directed to Native Hawaiians, and reaffirms that Native Hawaiians have an inherent right to autonomy in their internal affairs and an inherent right to self-determination and self-governance.

In acting to promote Native Hawaiian autonomy and self-government, Congress is acting in accord with the United States' policy over the last several decades toward Indian tribes generally (See, e.g., Indian Self-Determination and Education Assistance Act of 1975, Pub. L. No. 93–638, 88 Stat. 2203 (codified as amended at 25 U.S.C. §§ 450–458bbb–2 (2007) (recognizing the obligation of the United States to advance Indian "self-determination by assuring maximum Indian participation in the direction of . . . Federal services to Indian communities so as to render such services more responsive to the needs and desires of those communities"); Indian Financing Act of 1974, as amended, 25 U.S.C. § 1451 (2007) (expressing Congress's policy ". . . to help develop and utilize Indian resources . . . to a point where the Indians will fully exercise responsibility and management of their own resources"). See also Executive Order 13175, 59 Fed. Reg. 22951 (Nov. 9, 2000) ("The United States recognizes the right of Indian tribes to self-government and supports tribal sovereignty and self-determination.")).

SEC. 5. UNITED STATES OFFICE FOR NATIVE HAWAIIAN RELATIONS

The United States Office for Native Hawaiian Relations, established by section 5, and the Native Hawaiian Interagency Working Group, established by section 6, are required to consult with the Native Hawaiian governing entity on federal programs or policies that may affect Native Hawaiian rights, resources, or lands. The nature and form of this consultation is expected to parallel the consultation process for Indian tribes, which is guided presently by the requirements of Executive Order 13175 and by the President's November 5, 2009 memorandum on the implementation of that Order. Executive Order 13175 requires that federal agencies have in place a process to allow meaningful input from tribes in the development of regulations and policies that have significant implications for tribes. The Hawaii Congressional Delegation anticipates that the consultation envisioned by this section will proceed in a similar manner.

SEC. 7. DESIGNATION OF DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE REPRESENTATIVE

This section provides for the U.S. Department of Justice to designate an official to assist the Office of Native Hawaiian Relations in carrying out its functions. The Department of Justice already has an office that performs a similar function with respect to the Department's relationship with Indian tribes, the Office of Tribal Justice. The Hawaii Congressional Delegation anticipates that the official designated under this section will carry out his or her functions in a similar manner.

SEC. 8. PROCESS FOR REORGANIZATION OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNING ENTITY AND REAFFIRMATION OF SPECIAL POLITICAL AND LEGAL RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES AND NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNING ENTITY.

Federal recognition of a Native Hawaiian governing entity does not occur immediately upon enactment of the bill. Only after the certification requirements described in section 8(c)(4) are met would the United States reaffirm its special political and legal relationship with the Native Hawaiian governing entity, and extend federal recognition to the Native Hawaiian governing entity. Sec. 8(c)(6).

Section 8 sets out the process for the reorganization of the single Native Hawaiian governing entity. As previously discussed, Congress has a long history of enacting such legislation under its Indian affairs power. The process in H.R. 2314 for recognizing a Native Hawaiian self-governing entity is analogous to the process established by prior tribal reorganization legislation, and also to the process by which the United States recognizes Indian tribes.

For example, H.R. 2314 would establish a "roll of Native Hawaiian constituents" that would define initial membership in the Native Hawaiian self-governing community based on lineal descent and continued connection to the Native Hawaiian community and Native Hawaiian lands. Prior tribal restoration acts have similarly relied on an initial roll in determining eligibility to participate in tribal reorganization elections (See, e.g., 25 U.S.C. § 711b(a) & (b)).

Current federal regulations similarly require newly recognized tribes to submit a "base roll" of members, and these rolls can be based in part on rolls prepared by the Department of the Interior for purposes of federal allotments (See 25 CFR §§ 83.7(e)(1)(i), 83.12(b); see also 25 U.S.C. § 476(a) ("Indian Reorganization Act of 1934") (providing that Indian Tribes "shall have the right to organize for its common welfare, and may adopt an appropriate constitution and bylaws, which shall become effective when ratified by a majority vote of the adult members of the tribe . . . at a special election authorized and called by the Secretary of the Interior under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe")).

Section 8 goes on to provide for verification of eligibility by a Commission established by the Secretary of the Interior, and an initial election for members of a Native Hawaiian Interim Governing Council through a series of meetings organized by the Commission in consultation with the Secretary. It also provides that the Council, after developing organic governing documents, shall submit them to the Secretary for certification. These procedures closely track the procedures set forth in previous reorganization legislation enacted with respect to Indian tribes (See, e.g., 25 U.S.C. § 711a et seq.).

In general, Section 8 calls for the federal government to play a relatively minor role in setting the rules for the election of officers of the Native Hawaiian governing entity. In particular, while the federally created Commission will call an initial meeting for persons on the roll, it is these roll members who will determine the criteria for candidates to serve on the Council, determine the structure of the Council, and elect its members. The degree of federal involvement contemplated by H.R. 2314 is thus consistent with the historical role Congress has played in assisting Indian tribes in reorganizing politically (See 25 U.S.C. § 476(a) (noting that special elections for ratifying tribal constitutions and bylaws may be "authorized and called by the Secretary of the Interior under such rules and regulations as he may prescribe"); 25 U.S.C. § 711a et seq).

SECTION 8(B). COMMISSION.

Section 8(b) provides for the creation of a Commission to oversee the preparation of a roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents. As specified in section 8(b)(2), the Commission is expected to be an expert body, with particular expertise in Native Hawaiian genealogy and culture. The Hawaii Congressional Delegation recognizes that the task of compiling a roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents is likely to be complex, and may require technical decisions as to which individuals have a sufficient connection to the Native Hawaiian community, based on the criteria set forth in this legislation.

Relevant types of determinations will include decisions as to which types of documentation are sufficient under section 8(c)(1)(C), and as to how the definition of "qualified Native Hawaiian constituent" that appears in section 3(12) will be interpreted and applied. The Commission, as the expert body with authority to compile the roll, is charged with resolving these questions. The Hawaii Congressional Delegation expects that courts and government agencies will accord significant deference to the Commission's expert decisions, and will allow the Commission to make eligibility decisions in the first instance. There is a provision in section 8(c) for an administrative appeal for any person whose name is excluded from the roll.

Moreover, the Hawaii Congressional Delegation emphasizes that the Commission is expected to complete a roll of qualified Native Hawaiian constituents without delay, in order to allow the organizing process set forth in section 8 to proceed on schedule. The Delegation anticipates that the Commission will establish appropriate deadlines, rules of procedure, and other requirements to allow the timetables set forth in this legislation to be met

while giving due consideration to the claims of those seeking to be included on the roll.

SEC. 8(C). PROCESS FOR REORGANIZATION OF NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNING ENTITY.

Sec. 8(c)(1) Roll: The sole purpose of the roll established by the Commission is to compile a list of those qualified Native Hawaiian constituents who can take part in the initial reorganization of a Native Hawaiian government.

Sec. 8(c)(1)(C)(III): Permits elderly Native Hawaiians and other qualified Native Hawaiian participants lacking birth certificates or other documentation due to birth on Hawaiian Home Lands or other similar circumstances to establish lineal descent by sworn affidavits from two or more qualified Native Hawaiian participants. This provision was included to address cases of hardship, and is not expected to be applied routinely. The Hawaii Congressional Delegation anticipates that the Commission will establish specific prerequisites allowing individuals to demonstrate that they are unable to obtain a birth certificate.

Sec. 8(c)(1)(I): Directs the Commission to publish the notice of the certification of the roll ''regardless of whether appeals are pending.'' This provision is meant to ensure that challenges to the roll do not delay organization of the Native Hawaiian governing entity. The Hawaii Congressional Delegation emphasizes the importance of the deadlines established by this legislation. Barring unusual circumstances, the existence of pending disputes as to the inclusion of particular individuals on the roll should not be allowed to delay the reorganization process set forth in this section.

SEC. 9. REAFFIRMATION OF DELEGATION OF FEDERAL AUTHORITY TO STATE OF HAWAII; GOVERNMENTAL AUTHORITY AND POWER; NEGOTIATIONS; CLAIMS

Congressman Abercrombie has also extensively discussed Section 9 of H.R. 2314. To supplement his remarks, I would like to add that ''Indian country'' is a term codified by federal statute (18 U.S.C. 1151). Although section 1151 defines ''Indian country'' for the purpose of delineating the scope of federal criminal jurisdiction over Indians, the Supreme Court has applied the definition to determine the scope of tribal territorial jurisdiction, as well (Alaska v. Native Village of Venetie, 522 U.S. 520, 527 (1998); DeCoteau v. District County, 420 U.S. 425, 427, n.2 (1975)).

Because section 1151 expressly refers to ''Indian country,'' ''Indian reservation[s],'' ''dependent Indian communities,'' and ''Indian allotments''—but never refers expressly to ''Native Hawaiians'' or to the ''Native Hawaiian governing entity''—the bill neither creates nor recognizes any ''Indian country'' within the State of Hawaii (See Sec. 10(c)(2)). The scope of the Native Hawaiian governing entity's jurisdiction could be changed by further legislation, including legislation enacted to implement an agreement negotiated under paragraphs (1) and (2) of section 9(c).

Likewise, the Secretary of Interior lacks statutory authority to take land into trust on behalf of the Native Hawaiian sovereign. Such authority will only exist if Congress specifically provides for it in future legislation. Nor would such territorial jurisdiction arise by another method, absent express Congressional direction.

There has been extensive litigation relating to land claims, claims for money damages, and other types of claims, dating back at least to 1910 (E.g., Hawaii v. OHA, 129 S. Ct. 1436 (2009); Han v. Department of Justice, 824 F. Supp. 1480, 1486 (D. Haw. 1993), affd, 45 F.3d 333 (9th Cir. 1995); Keaukaha-Panaewa Community Ass'n v. Hawaiian Homes Comm'n, 588 F.2d 1216, 1224 n. 7 (9th Cir. 1979); Naiwiona Kupuna O mokapu v. Dalton, 894 F. Supp. 1397 (D. Haw. 1995); Liliuokalani v. United States, 45 Ct. Cl. 418 (1910). See also Burgert v. Lokelani Bernice Pauahi Bishop Trust, 200 F.3d 661 (9th Cir. 2000); 'Ohana v. United States, 76 F.3d 280 (9th Cir. 1996); Price v. Akaka, 3 F.3d 1220 (9th Cir. 1995); Ulaleo v. Paty, 902 F.2d 1395 (9th Cir. 1990); Territory v. Kapiolani, 18 Haw. 640, 645–46 (1908); Territory v. Puahi, 18 Haw. 649 (1908); Bush v. Watson, 918 P.2d 1130 (Haw. 1996); Aged Hawaiians v. Hawaiian Homes Comm'n, 891 P.2d 279 (Haw. 1995); Bush v. Hawaiian Homes Comm'n, 870 P.2d 1272 (Haw. 1994); Pele Defense Fund v. Paty, 837 P.2d 1247 (Haw. 1992)).

The Hawaii Congressional Delegation envisions that issues concerning asserted historic or moral claims may be the subject of negotiations among the new Native Hawaiian governing entity, the State of Hawaii, and the United States, together with the other issues encompassed within the process set forth in section 9(c) of this Act, and that such negotiations will provide an appropriate forum in which to address these claims questions. H.R. 2314 will not limit claims by the Native Hawaiian governing entity that first arise after recognition of the Native Hawaiian governing entity.

In closing, I thank my colleagues for their votes in support of Native Hawaiians, who, like American Indians and Alaska Natives, have an inherent sovereignty based on their status as indigenous, aboriginal people. Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much).

TRIBUTE TO J. WILLIAM ''BILL'' TAYLOR

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a good friend, Cheraw, South Carolina's 2009 Citizen of the Year, Mr. J. William ''Bill'' Taylor. Mr. Taylor received the Cheraw Chamber of Commerce's award last November.

Bill Taylor was recognized with this distinguished honor for the tremendous work he has done for nearly 29 years as Cheraw's town administrator. He has served in the post under four mayors and numerous members of the town council. Another longtime personal friend, Howard Duvall, the former Cheraw Mayor who hired Bill in May 1981, presented the Citizen of the Year award to him.

Duvall characterized Bill's greatest strength as his management style. He has instilled loyalty and respect among his staff, which has resulted in low turnover and many department heads who have worked for him nearly 20 years. Among his other accomplishments are erecting the Dizzy Gillespie statue honoring the hometown jazz legend, and the development of the Carolina Centre Industrial Park, the Cheraw Community Center, Arrowhead Park, and the Theatre on the Green. Bill earned a Bachelor's degree from Clemson University and a Master's in Public Administration from the University of Georgia. He came back to South Carolina to work for the Upper Savannah Council of Governments. He later worked for the city of Lancaster before becoming Cheraw's town administrator.

He is very involved in the community serving as a former president of the Cheraw Rotary Club, former chairman of the South Carolina Cotton Trail Committee, and as a former board member for the Girls Scouts of Eastern South Carolina. He is a current board member for the South Carolina Advanced Technology Education Center and is a member of the Cheraw Economic Development Corporation, the Carolinas Centre Industrial Park Corporation, and the Chesterfield County Extension Advisory Council.

Bill is also a member of a number of professional organizations including the Alliance for Innovation and the Governor's Drought Response Committee. He serves as the southeastern regional vice president for the International City & County Management Association and is a former member of the organization's executive board. He is also a former state president of the South Carolina City and County Management Association and is a graduate of the South Carolina Executive Institute. Bill and his beloved wife, Mindy, have three children—Olivia, Katie, and Brandon.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill Taylor on his selection as Cheraw's 2009 Citizen of the Year. This honor is recognition of his long commitment of service to his community and its people. I believe that the highest compliment you can be paid for your work is to be recognized by your peers. This award shows that Bill Taylor's peers appreciate his nearly 29 years of dedication and service. I am pleased to add my voice to those in Cheraw in thanking Bill Taylor for his tremendous contributions.

RECOGNIZING WOLCOTT MILL METROPARK

HON. CANDICE S. MILLER

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mrs. MILLER of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize Wolcott Mill Metropark in Ray Township, Michigan. On December 8, 2009, Wolcott Mill was listed on the National Historic Places Register thanks to the hard work of volunteer Kathie Lucas of Armada and Supervising Interpreter Bill Thomas.

Wolcott Mill Metropark is a 2,380 acre park which includes a 250 acre working farm, an 18 hole golf course, 10 miles of equestrian trails, and is the home of ''Camp Rotary,'' a camping area for organized youth groups. In 1847 the namesake mill was built and continued operating as a grain grinder until 1967.

This machinery is still viewable and offers visitors an opportunity to see firsthand the importance of old mills and the antique farming equipment used.

I am proud to have Wolcott Mill Metropark in my congressional district and I congratulate the Huron-Clinton Metropolitan Authority on this historic occasion.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Wolcott Mill Metropark and congratulating them on this recognition.

HONORING ED GOTTHARDT

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the contributions of the late Ed Gotthardt, former Mayor of Seguin, Texas. Mayor Gotthardt served the community through his distinguished business career and great service as mayor for two terms in Seguin, Texas.

Mayor Gotthardt was born on January 1929 in Galle, Texas and passed away of natural causes February 2010 in New Braunfels, Texas. His accomplished lifetime as a businessman and mayor stemmed from his humble beginnings. His childhood was spent on a farm in Galle in a town between Seguin and San Marcos where he learned about produce. He received his education in the public schools of Guadalupe County, where he graduated from high school. At the age of twenty-one, the late Gotthardt was hired as a produce worker at a local grocery store. With a twelfth grade education, he rose through the ranks to store manager, unit director, to the corporate office as a buyer and then as Vice President of Produce Marketing. In the 1980s, he retired having lived during his career throughout the area in Seguin, San Antonio, and Corpus Christi. The late Gotthardt had a thirty-seven year career in the grocery business before serving two three-year terms as Mayor. After his retirement, he later served as President of the H-E-B grocery store retirees' organization.

In 1990, Gotthardt announced that he planned to run for mayor of Seguin. He had not previously held any position in public office, but his involvement with the community and commitment to the people of Seguin aided to his election. His re-election was without opposition, serving as mayor until 1996. During his time in office, Mayor Gotthardt contributed to the city by ensuring that the Sebastopol State Historical Park in Seguin was renovated and dedicated much of his work for those who served their country in the military. He worked on the Veterans Memorial at the Guadalupe County Courthouse extensively. The late Mayor Gotthardt was recognized for his tireless efforts to ensure the community and people were provided the services needed.

Along with his business career and terms as Mayor of Seguin, the late Gotthardt was a member of Seguin Masonic Lodge AF&AM 109, Alzafar Shrine, Elks Lodge 1229, Order of the Eastern Star Chapter 555, the Seguin Chamber of Commerce, the Seguin Rotary Club and the Comal County Seniors Center. His leisure time was spent with the Seguin Chamber of Commerce, senior center, and with his family.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to have had this time to recognize the late Ed Gotthardt, former Mayor of Seguin, Texas on his contributions to the community. I thank you for this time.

COMMENDING THE NORTH CLACKAMAS CHAMBER COMMUNITY SAFETY HONOREES

HON. KURT SCHRADER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. SCHRADER. Madam Speaker, for the third year, the North Clackamas Chamber of Commerce in my district is holding a Community Safety Luncheon to recognize the members of the community whose actions have improved public safety in our local neighborhoods. For some of these men and women, they're first responders and public safety employees who regularly go above and beyond the call of duty in their jobs. For others, they are tireless volunteers, giving up hours of their free time to improve the lives of their neighbors. But all of them are being recognized today because of the importance of what they do and because the support of community members like these is key to the success of public safety departments throughout the country.

I'd like to take a minute to recognize the brave and selfless men, women and organizations who are being honored by the North Clackamas Chamber today:

American Medical Response River Rescue, which worked to turn a local community swimming hole on the Clackamas River from a dangerous site where drowning deaths were an all too regular occurrence to a safe swimming location for the community.

Amy Bullard, a retired teacher from the Oregon Trail School District, who helped train over 1,000 students at Sandy High School in lifesaving skills when she incorporated CPR and first aid training into the tenth grade health classes.

Damascus Community Church, which has hosted shelter trainings and been a leader in the community in emergency management operations with their participation in community safety events.

Angela Fox, publisher of the Clackamas Review and Oregon City News, who works to provide the community with in-depth reporting on public safety issues, using the media to educate and inform the public.

Olga Gerberg, a volunteer from Sandy who has coordinated bike helmet fitting and child safety seat inspection workshops for the local community and regularly reaches out to her neighbors to share safety information about available resources and services.

Tom Hogan, the volunteer coordinator for the Gladstone Emergency Management Support team who volunteers his time to improve emergency preparedness in the community, training other volunteers and working to bring grant funding to the community.

Dale Kim, with the Clackamas County Juvenile Department, who serves as the lead organizer for the Sandy Youth Service Team and whose work reaching out to at-risk youth and intervention and prevention services have helped countless community youth. The Milwaukie Public Safety Foundation, which has raised over $20,000 to start a K–9 program for the Milwaukie Police Department and supports the department by conducting an annual Office of the Year function and a Parent Awareness Night.

Jeff Oliver, with the Lake Oswego Police Department, who volunteers to assist at the monthly Child Safety Seat Fitting Station and has trained, certified, and re-certified 36 CPS technicians in North Clackamas County.

Portland Mountain Rescue, a volunteer organization that provides specialized search and rescue services to Mt. Hood and other areas in the region and participated in 10 mountain rescues in 2008, in addition to providing outdoor and wilderness safety training to the community.

And Larry Alexander, from the Boring Water District, who is the first recipient of the North Clackamas Chamber's Shining Star Safety Award, for his work in securing funding for the water district as well as his work in establishing an effective notification system to notify all Boring Water customers of an emergency in under one minute. He's also been an active volunteer in his home community, starting a neighborhood watch with the Clackamas County Sheriff's Office.

To these men and women as well as every other community safety volunteer who does their part to keep our neighborhoods safe, I say thank you for all that you do.

RECOGNIZING THE DIFFICULT CHALLENGES AND HEROISM OF BLACK VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the challenges and difficulties that our Black veterans encounter as they embark on reintegrating to civilian life. I would also like to commend the Honorable LARRY KISSELL for introducing H. Con. Res. 238, and his conviction on recognizing the importance of their military sacrifices and patriotism.

The story of the African American soldier is one of extraordinary faith, hope and determination in the face of bitter disappointment over denial of their well-earned rights to full citizenship. It is a story of inspiration, leadership and a refusal to accept ''no'' for an answer. Ultimately, it is a story of their victory over legal segregation and discrimination. Their story speaks of their long struggle for equality and willingness, in each instance, to forsake violence in their struggle for justice.

Black Americans have fought for their country going back to the Revolutionary War when 5,000 Black men risked their lives in the cause of independence. Serving in the Continental Army, mostly as infantry and artillerymen, they fought in the first battles at Lexington and Concord, and crossed the Delaware with George Washington. Overwhelmingly, they resisted the enticements of the British enemy, who offered promises of freedom if they would join the Redcoats. Yet, after the victory, the first of Black America's military heroes were met, not with parades or accolades, but with whips and chains as they as they surrendered their weapons for bondage on the plantation.

African Americans also served in the War of 1812 when the Battalion of Free Men of Color helped to save New Orleans in a counter-attack against the British invaders. The nation reneged on the rhetoric of General and later president Andrew Jackson who told the Black fighters, ''You surprised my hopes. The nation will applaud your valor.''

Fifty years later, in the Civil War, 200,000 Black men took up arms and manned military vessels, one out of ten of the entire Union army. Among the most famous was the 54th Massachusetts Infantry Regiment, which gained its modern-day fame in ''Glory,'' a movie depiction of their heroic attack in the first wave of the assault on the beaches of Charleston. The regiment was wiped out.

Black soldiers not only had fought well, they provided the margin for victory when finally called upon as reinforcements by President Lincoln to bolster the devastated Union army. But even following this victory in the Civil War, when they fought not just to preserve the Union but to end slavery in the existing states, the nation went back on its promises. While Emancipation had ended the evil practice of legal slavery and allowed a short breathing space of freedom and political participation, less than two decades later Black Americans were bound by the new set of legal shackles of Reconstruction and Jim Crow.

Regardless of these negative circumstances, Black troops broke the societal constraints. One such group, the 369th Harlem Hellfighters, was the first African American Regiment during World War I. Faced with surmounting discrimination and rabid racism in the U.S., they were sent to fight with the French troops against the Germans. Not only did these Black troops serve the longest stretch in battle without replacement, 191 days, they did not lose ground or men to enemy capture. This all Black unit earned the Croix de Guerre, France's highest military honor, yet upon returning to their homes in the U.S., they were vilified and discriminated against as they had been before the war.

Again, during World War II, our Black soldiers proved their loyalty and commitment to the United States. The Tuskegee Airmen, America's first Black military airmen, helped break through the constraints of a segregated military when, inspired by their bravery and achievements, President Truman promulgated Executive Order Number 9981 in 1948. Many of these Black veterans fueled the Civil Rights movement through their courage and strength to change the status quo and fight for equality.

Black Veterans have time and time again proven their loyalty and patriotism to a country they were instrumental in building. They have led the charge in breaking the shackles of slavery and discrimination. We must stand in support of our brave men and women in the Armed Forces as they return in increasing numbers to find that their employment prospects are limited. Others are suffering the detrimental effect of multiple deployments and PTSD.

It is our duty as a nation to assist those who have so valiantly fought for our freedoms by providing the tools necessary for them to fairly compete in the job market whether it is psychological counseling for trauma experienced while in combat or job training to bolster the unique skill sets they have acquired during their time in the service.

HONORING JAMES CARELLO

HON. ERIC J.J. MASSA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. MASSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and pay tribute to a fine American, James Carello, on an occasion when he and his business have received a prestigious honor: the International Circle of Excellence Award for 2009.

The Circle of Excellence, which is awarded by the International dealer organization of Navistar, Inc., honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and financial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction. It is the highest honor a dealer principal can receive from the company.

Mr. Carello's business, Regional International Corporation, is headquartered in Henrietta, New York. Under his leadership, it has grown into one of the preeminent truck dealerships in western New York, with 160 employees and two secondary locations in Buffalo and Geneva. Jim is a recognized leader in the industry, as Regional spent six years on the Rochester Top 100, a listing of privately-owned companies recognized in the area. With this most recent award, Regional International has now received the Circle of Excellence Award a total of seven times.

An International dealer since 1989, Jim is a member of International's Dealer Development and Systems Advisory Board. Jim has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through years of hard work and service to his industry and community. An avid sports fan, Jim can frequently be found cheering for his favorite NASCAR driver or the Buffalo Bills. He also has a keen interest in a variety of other vehicles, including a 1934 Ford roadster, a customized motorcycle and two show trucks called Mayhem and Bad Habit. Both of his children, Jason and Gina, are now active in running the business, becoming the next generation of participants. Jim and his wife Lyn dote on their two grandchildren.

Through his dedication, hard work and outstanding customer service, he has built an economically vital business of which he can be justly proud. On behalf of the 111th United States Congress, I congratulate Mr. James Carello for his record of accomplishment.

THE TEJANO MUSIC INDUSTRY

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of 30 years of honors by the Texas Talent Musician's Association. This San Antonio-based non-profit organization promotes excellence in the Tejano Music Industry.

Tejano music is known for its modern sound with influences from cumbia, rock and blues. This type of music originated along the Mexico-Texas border during the time of the Mexican-American Revolution in the 1840s. Not only is it a combination of different sounds, but also a fusion of Mexican, Texan, and even Eastern European cultures. Songs within Tejano music are known to be passed down from generation to generation, making sure those epic stories about political leaders, history, and current times are consistently being told through song. Tejano Music is truly an original American art form.

It is impossible to talk about Tejano music without mentioning Selena Quintanilla Perez, the ''Queen of Tejano Music.'' Selena was a proud Mexican-American woman who was born and raised in Texas. Although she did not speak Spanish, most of her music was in Spanish. She performed from the age of 8 until her death at the age of 23. In 1987 she won Female Vocalist of the Year at the Tejano Music Awards. Selena's contributions to the music industry are legendary and are commendable.

The Texas Talent Musicians Association has hosted the Tejano Music Awards every year since 1980. This year the 30th annual Tejano Music Awards will take place on July 11th in San Antonio, Texas, proudly known as the ''Tejano Music Capital of the World''.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize Tejano Music as truly an original American art form, Selena Quintanilla Perez as a legend of Tejano Music, and the Texas Talent Musician's Association for their international promotion of Tejano Music.

TRIBUTE TO DEMERY ORMROD OF ORANGE, CONNECTICUT

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Demery Ormrod of Orange, Connecticut, a young woman from my district who, by virtue of her strong commitment to volunteer service, has been named a winner of a 2010 Prudential Spirit of Community Award.

An eighth grader at Amity Middle School, Demery raised more than $20,000 to help provide cleft palate and lip surgeries for 86 children through the charitable organization Smile Train. She began these efforts while still in elementary school, making bookmarks, lollipops, cookies, and jewelry with her friends, which she then sold at her family's restaurant.

When news of Demery's good works spread throughout the community, other schools got involved, local businesses offered matching funds, and strangers sent along checks, all to help the cause. The playwright Henrik Ibsen once said that ''A community is like a ship—Everyone ought to be prepared to take the helm.'' And that is exactly what Demery has accomplished here. Because she was moved to help children less fortunate than herself, and because she took the extra step to get involved on their behalf, Demery took the helm of her community, and ignited the whole State of Connecticut behind her efforts.

Demery is a perfect candidate for this Spirit of Community Award, and a great representative for the importance of volunteers. Created by Prudential Financial, in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals, in 1995, to reward youths who give their time and talents back to their community, this award has honored nearly 100,000 young volunteers at the local, state, and national levels over the past 15 years.

I applaud Demery's good works and Prudential's commitment to recognizing her and other students like her. I congratulate her on this award, and I very much hope she continues to give back to the community in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mrs. CAPPS. Madam Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following rollcall votes on February 25, 2010 and February 26, 2010; and I would have voted as follows: Rollcall No. 67, ''no''; rollcall No. 68, ''yes''; rollcall No. 69, ''yes''; rollcall No. 70, ''yes''; rollcall No. 71, ''yes''; rollcall No. 72, ''no''; rollcall No. 73, ''yes''; rollcall No. 74, ''yes.''

EXPRESSING THE SENSE OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES ON RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN IRAQ

SPEECH OF

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Mr. LEVIN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 944, which recognizes the persecution and displacement of ethnic and religious minorities in Iraq. This resolution calls on the Iraqi and United States governments to better protect the rights of persons of all ethnicities and religions.

This resolution comes as the Chaldean community mourns the two-year anniversary of the murder of Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho. Archbishop Rahho dedicated his life to the Chaldean Church in Mosul and sought to build interfaith relationships while advocating for the inclusion of Chaldeans and other vulnerable populations in the new Iraqi state.

These vulnerable populations include Chaldeans, Assyrians, Turkmen, Sabean Mandeans, Yazidis, and Syriacs. Their unique languages and histories are among the oldest of the Mesopotamian region. Together, they represent the richly diverse heritage of Iraq.

Since 2003, however, members of their communities have suffered marginalization, harassment, and violence. Many have been forced to seek safety away from their homes, often outside the country's borders. Ethno-religious minorities formerly comprised approximately five percent of Iraq's population; today, they comprise almost twenty percent of all Iraqi refugees registered with the United Nations Refugee Agency.

Minorities fear such rates of displacement threaten the very future of their communities. Continued sectarian violence prevents the free exercise of religion, cultural expression, and political participation that are fundamental to democracy. This resolution underscores the importance that Iraq's upcoming elections be free, fair, and safe, and that the rights of its minority populations be protected.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 944 and in urging meaningful support for Iraq's ethnic and religious minorities.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ''ACTIVE COMMUNITY TRANSPORTATION ACT OF 2010''

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, today I am proud to introduce the Active Community Transportation Act, legislation that will provide concentrated, long term funding for communities to implement active transportation systems. Communities across the country are realizing the importance of encouraging active lifestyles, for the health of their citizens, the environment, and the economic strength of the community itself. As only 68 percent of Americans are licensed drivers, we should provide transportation options for those who don't have access to a car, generally the elderly and the young. Since half of the trips taken in the United States today are within a 20-minute bicycle ride, and a quarter of all trips are within a 20-minute walk, there are plenty of opportunities to incorporate walking and biking into Americans' daily lives.

Americans will walk and bike if these modes are made safe and convenient. However, our nation has failed to invest adequately in pedestrian and bicycle networks to make active transportation a viable choice for routine travel. Too often we take for granted the value of being able to bike and walk to work. It is time for the federal government to support infrastructure investments to make walking and biking safe and convenient for all Americans. Investing federal dollars to create walkable and bikeable communities is also a cost-effective way to create jobs and transportation choices. In my hometown of Portland, Oregon, our investment of $60 million created 274 miles of bike lanes, more than doubled the amount of people who commute by bike and provided between 850 and 1,150 jobs. This is just one of many stories I have heard about the impact that active transportation infrastructure has on people's health, their daily lives, and their pocketbooks.

The Active Community Transportation Act will help communities to implement comprehensive, strategic active transportation systems to make walking and bicycling safe, accessible and convenient for Americans, thereby increasing activity levels, lowering emissions and creating healthier, more vibrant communities.

RECOGNIZING THE AQUARIUM OF THE PACIFIC

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the Aquarium of the Pacific located in my community of Long Beach, California, for receiving the prestigious Super Nova Star of Energy Efficiency from the Alliance to Save Energy, a coalition of prominent business, government, environmental, and consumer leaders who promote the efficient and clean use of energy to benefit consumers, the environment, economy, and national security. Each year the Alliance to Save Energy recognizes companies, learning institutions, state offices, and government programs for their efforts to promote energy efficiency domestically and globally. My constituents at the Aquarium of the Pacific received the Super Nova Star Award on September 17, 2009, at the Alliance to Save Energy Gala in Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, the Aquarium was chosen for this globally recognized award because it is the most energy efficient business in the Nation with annual revenues under $50 million. The Aquarium became the first among museums, zoos, and other aquariums in this country to certify its greenhouse gas emissions with a third-party, the California Climate Action Registry. This led to its being named as a Climate Action Leader with the Climate Action Registry in 2007. The Aquarium of the Pacific has used energy-efficient practices to maintain steady kilowatt-hour usage for the past 8 years despite rising visitor numbers.

It is no surprise to me that the Aquarium of the Pacific received such a prestigious award because it is a pioneer of marine education and energy efficiency in my district. In 2008, the Aquarium inaugurated a new environmental classroom that was recognized as Long Beach's first LEED-platinum certified building. The classroom achieved LEED-platinum certification because it uses solar power, a green roof, a rainwater capture system, and a highly efficient pool pump, among other energy and water efficiencies. The Aquarium is committed to achieving LEED platinum or gold certification for all future projects and is setting an excellent example for how other businesses and institutions in my district can prioritize and achieve energy efficiency.

Madam Speaker, the Aquarium of the Pacific is a vital part of my constituents' community environmental conservation efforts. The Aquarium's Green Team task force organizes environmentally friendly activities such as an annual street cleanup day, an Earth Day festival, a sustainable seafood initiative, and a watershed and ocean literacy program. As the Aquarium continues to grow, one of the underlying objectives of the master plan is to increase attendance by expanding the facility's capacity and conservation programs without increasing energy and potable water usage.

Madam Speaker, I also want to commemorate the Aquarium of the Pacific for its ongoing efforts to broaden the public's understanding of the Pacific Ocean and its complex ecosystem. The Aquarium's mission is to instill a sense of wonder, respect, and stewardship for the Pacific Ocean, its inhabitants, and ecosystems. It is the largest aquarium in Southern California and the fifth largest in the nation. With 200,000 school children visiting annually, the Aquarium of the Pacific provides a fun and educational experience for students of all ages and backgrounds through its interactive exhibits and daily presentations. The Aquarium hosts a variety of educational programs, cultural festivals, classes and courses, offsite field trips, and renowned guest speakers to connect Long Beach's diverse community with the Pacific Ocean's diverse ecosystem.

I applaud the Aquarium of the Pacific for its hard work and dedication both to educating the community of Long Beach about marine environments and to mitigating the effects of climate change. I ask my fellow colleagues to

join me in recognizing the Aquarium of the Pacific for having received the high honor of the Super Nova Star of Energy Efficiency.

COMMEMORATING THE SUMGAIT POGROM

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, this past Sunday marked the twenty-second anniversary of the pogrom against Azerbaijanis of Armenian descent in the town of Sumgait, Azerbaijan. The 3-day massacre in the winter of 1988 resulted in the deaths of scores of Armenians, many of whom were burnt to death after being brutally beaten and tortured. Hundreds of others were wounded. Women and girls were brutally raped. The carnage created thousands of ethnic Armenian refugees, who had to leave everything behind to be looted or destroyed, including their homes, cars and businesses.

These crimes, which were proceeded by a wave of anti-Armenian rallies throughout Azerbaijan, were never adequately prosecuted by Azerbaijan authorities. Many who organized or participated in the bloodshed have gone on to serve in high positions on the Azeri government. For example, in the days leading up to the massacre, a leader of the Communist Party of Azerbaijan, Hidayat Orujev, warned Armenians in Sumgait: ''If you do not stop campaigning for the unification of Nagorno Karabakh with Armenia, if you don't sober up, 100,000 Azeris from neighboring districts will break into your houses, torch your apartments, rape your women, and kill your children.'' Orujev is currently the State Advisor for Ethnic Policy to Azeri President Heidar Aliyev.

Despite efforts by the Government of Azerbaijan to cover up the events of February 1988, survivors of the pogrom have come forward with their stories. They told of enraged mobs, which threw furniture, refrigerators, television sets and beds from apartment balconies and set them afire. Armenians were dragged from their apartments. If they tried to run and escape, the mob attacked them with metal rods, knives and hatchets before the victims were thrown into the fire. One witness said of a victim, ''He was still moving, trying to escape from fire, but five young men were pushing him back into the fire with metal rods.'' Others told of Interior Ministry troops, who stood by doing nothing.

The Sumgait massacres led to wider reprisals against Azerbaijan's ethnic minority, resulting in the virtual disappearance of Azerbaijan's 450,000-strong Armenian community, and culminating in the war launched against the people of Nagorno Karabakh. That war resulted in almost 30,000 dead on both sides and created more than one million refugees in both Armenia and Azerbaijan.

This April will mark the 95th Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide, a crime that Azerbaijan's ally and protector Tukey has devoted enormous political resources to deny. Just as we cannot allow the first genocide of the Twentieth Century to fade into history, the memory of the victims of Sumgait must not be forgotten either.

TRIBUTE TO DON THOMPSON

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize an accomplished and talented corporate leader who is an outstanding role model as we celebrate Black History Month. Don Thompson is the recently appointed President and Chief Operating Officer for the McDonald's Corporation in Oak Brook, Illinois. Mr. Thompson is in charge of global strategy and operations for McDonald's 32,000 restaurants in 117 countries. He is tasked with maximizing profits for the company's many shareholders across the globe.

Don was raised in Chicago and Indianapolis by his grandmother. He credits his early success to her unwavering commitment to his education and wellbeing. Thanks to her determination and Don's hard work, he graduated from Purdue University with a degree in electrical engineering and got a job at the Northrop Corporation. He joined McDonald's in 1990 as a Restaurant Systems Engineer but soon realized his interest lay in restaurant operations.

In 1993, Don was named Director of Strategic Planning and Quality Management. Since then, he has risen quickly through McDonald's operational structure, performing beyond expectations in each position he has been given. In 1998 he was named the San Diego Regional Manager, a position that put him in charge of 300 area restaurants. Within a year, San Diego went from being McDonald's 39th most profitable market to its 2nd.

Five years later, Don was promoted to the position of Executive Vice President of Global Innovation where he helped expand and improve McDonald's global operations. Under his guidance, foreign branches were retooled to satisfy local palates. McDonald's international sales soon grew as a result and many observers attributed this turnaround to Don's ambitious initiatives.

In 2006, Don became the President of McDonald's USA where he oversaw all of the company's 14,000 American locations. He helped steer the company to several years of positive domestic growth. Last month Don was named to his current position as President and Chief Operating Officer. He now plans McDonald's global strategy and helps execute its implementation.

Don has been recognized for his outstanding work at McDonald's by a number of media outlets and business associations. Black Enterprise named him Corporate Executive of the Year. In 2008 the Trumpet Foundation awarded Don the Corporate Executive award. Last year, he received the Presidential Inspiration Award from Alpha Phi Alpha Fraternity Incorporated.

Along with being a gifted businessman, Don is a committed member of his community and remains true to his humble beginnings. ''Don't get into the pity party of what's going to be done for you, because there are so many things you can do for yourself,'' he has said. ''Others will see what you do and will look to support and help you.'' He currently serves on the board of trustees for Purdue University and is a member of the Executive Leadership Council. He is a former member of the San Diego Ronald McDonald House Charities board of directors.

While reaching the upper echelons of American business, Don has remained a committed family man. He lives in the Chicago area with his wife Elizabeth and their two children.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Don Thompson on his recent appointment and the positive example he sets for all Americans. In this month, when we recognize the contributions of African Americans in this country, it is fitting and proper that we include corporate leaders like Mr. Thompson, who have broken barriers and opened doors for future generations to follow. I applaud his extraordinary accomplishments and the wonderful legacy he has built through hard work and perseverance.

EXTEND TAX CREDIT FOR THE PRODUCTION OF STEEL INDUSTRY FUEL

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. DOYLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to lend my support to a provision in the Extenders Bill that is being debated in the Senate to extend and clarify a tax credit for the production of Steel Industry Fuel, SIF. Last Fall, my colleagues and I introduced a similar bill to extend and clarify the SIF credit. SIF is used by the domestic steel industry as a feedstock for the manufacture of coke, which is coal that has been carbonized and is used as a fuel in steel making.

In October, 2008, Congress enacted a new refined coal tax credit under Section 45 of the tax code for the production of steel industry fuel, which is made from coal waste sludge and coal. The availability of the steel industry fuel tax credit provides a subsidy for projects that may not otherwise be commercially viable on account of materials, process, technology and other transaction costs. As originally enacted, the SIF credit was available for only one year. The placed-in-service period for the credit expired as of December 31, 2009, so new steel industry fuel projects cannot be brought on line without an extension of the credit.

The use of Steel Industry Fuel provides significant energy, environmental, and economic benefits, all of which argue for an extension of the SIF credit. The primary benefit of manufacturing SIF is that the production process recaptures the BTU content of coal waste sludge. The Environmental Protection Agency has approved the production of SIF as a method for disposing of coal waste sludge, and the production of SIF is the preferred method of coal waste sludge disposal. In addition, our domestic steel industry can become more competitive by using SIF because it lowers production and operation costs.

From an energy resource and environmental standpoint, the production of SIF is the superior method of disposing of coal waste sludge, it would otherwise be treated as a hazardous waste under applicable Federal environmental rules. The alternative methods of disposal are incineration and land-filling, each of which requires the physical conveyance of a waste product off-site. These disposal methods fail to

recapture the energy content of the coal waste sludge because the coal waste sludge, which has a high BTU content, is not used as a fuel.

An extension of the Steel Industry Fuel tax incentive is of critical importance in the current economic downturn, and its expiration has had a negative impact on our domestic steel industry. Steel companies and coke plant operators have suffered large losses as steel demand has declined significantly. These companies have been forced to lay off thousands of workers in my State of Pennsylvania, as well as in Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, West Virginia, Kentucky, and elsewhere. Domestic steel manufacturers have had to operate at low capacity utilization rates and coke batteries have been placed on ''hot idle,'' which is a holding pattern to prevent the coke battery bricks from cooling and damaging the battery. The extension and clarification of the SIF credit will help these manufacturers mitigate their losses as the economy recovers.

The one-year credit period and short placed-in-service deadline for SIF facilities have had a negative impact on SIF producers' ability to attract the outside investment needed to finance SIF projects. This negative impact has been compounded by the economic conditions that have prevailed since the enactment of the credit. SIF projects typically involve lengthy negotiations to implement the transaction structure necessary to claim the SIF credit, address environmental considerations, and negotiate the relevant economic terms. This in turn effectively reduced the one-year credit period to a lesser period for certain projects. The short time period to place projects in service—slightly over one year after the enactment of the credit—meant that there was too little time to get projects up and running. For these reasons, the intended subsidy of the SIF credit did not operate as designed and the extension of the credit—from one year to at least two years—and the extension of the placed-in-service deadline—from December 31, 2009 to December 31, 2010—are needed.

Included in the legislation I cosponsored is an important clarification on an issue that has slowed negotiations with respect to SIF projects. I very much hope that the final extenders package will include this and other clarifications. It is expected that, for the convenience of the parties and for environmental safety, facilities producing SIF will typically be located on land leased from a steel company or other owner of a coking operation. Such a lessor will not be treated as having an ownership interest in the SIF facility under the clarification because it leases land and related facilities, sells coal waste sludge or coal feedstock, and/or buys SIF so long as such person's entitlement to rent and/or other net payments is measured by a fixed dollar amount or a fixed dollar amount per ton, or otherwise not determined by reference to the profit or loss of the facility. Similarly, a licensor of technology will not be treated as having an ownership interest in the SIF facility because it is entitled to a royalty and/or other payment that is a fixed amount per ton or otherwise not determined by reference to the profit or loss of the facility. Such arrangements may also cause facilities that produce SIF to operate at a loss before the credit is taken into account. However, it is intended that the occurrence of such a ''pre-tax loss'' will not affect entitlement to this credit, regardless of whether such ''pre-tax loss'' is caused by the terms of the lease, license, supply or sales contracts between the parties. To that end, the bill provides necessary flexibility for varying circumstances of ownership interests and clarifies that the existence of such arrangements will not prevent the equity owner of a facility from receiving tax credits for its sales of SIF. This amendment would provide greater tax certainty to potential investors in SIF projects.

SIF is typically produced at facilities that are located on the premises of coke plants that are owned by integrated steel companies that are unrelated to the SIF producers. The SIF production facility is situated on or near conveyor belts that may be leased from the integrated steel company and production of SIF may occur while coal—and coal blended with petroleum coke—is transported on the conveyor belts. SIF producers may purchase coal from the integrated steel producer, taking title and having risk of loss while such coal is transported on the conveyor belt.

The bill provides a safe harbor that establishes that the SIF producer shall be treated as the producer and seller of SIF that it manufactures from coal to which it has taken title. The bill further clarifies that the sale of SIF shall not fail to qualify as a sale to an unrelated party for purposes of the SIF credit solely because the sale is to a party that is also a ground lessor, supplier, and/or customer.

Our bill also establishes that SIF may also be made using coal or coal that is mixed with some petroleum coke or other coke feedstock. Such ''pet coke'' has traditionally been used by steel companies/coke operators in a blend with coal as a feedstock for coke. Steel companies also have explored and presently contemplate the use of other coke feedstocks to manufacture SIF. The bill provides that the use of pet coke or other coke feedstocks in the production of SIF does not invalidate or otherwise reduce the credit.

The steel industry is still prominent in my district in Pittsburgh and I'm hopeful that SIF projects will expand our domestic energy resources by using what would otherwise be a hazardous waste of the coking process in a fuel product. The availability of the tax credit will attract outside investment to the steel and coke production industries and promote job growth in the domestic steel production industry and in related industries that service the steel and coke production industries. The extension of the SIF credit will spur the investment of millions of dollars that will create hundreds of new jobs—in construction and processing—and maintain other jobs in the domestic steel industry, in Pittsburgh and around the country. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation and hope the Senate will extend this credit and make these much needed technical corrections.

RECOGNIZING THE DIFFICULT CHALLENGES AND HEROISM OF BLACK VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. LARRY KISSELL

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 24, 2010

Mr. KISSELL. Mr. Speaker, a constituent of mine, Michael Lawson, recently told me about the little known role the first all black fighting regiment had during WWI.

The 15th New York Infantry, ''The Harlem Hellfighters,'' later federally designated as the 369th Regiment Army. They served valiantly, including 191 days without a replacement and never lost a prisoner or a foot of ground. He said there had been no formal American recognition of the dedication and sacrifice of these young men. The French did recognize them with the Croix de Guerre, their highest military honor as well as a monument dedicated by a grateful French government.

Michael knew all about the Harlem Hellfighters because his grandfather, MAJ Melville T. Miller, served more than 50 years in the U.S. Army through two World Wars and the Korean War. Major Miller began his service as a member of the unit when he was just 16 years old.

RECOGNIZING THE KIWANIS CLUB OF FINDLAY ON ITS NINETIETH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JIM JORDAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. JORDAN of Ohio. Madam Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Kiwanis Club of Findlay, Ohio, as it celebrates 90 years of service to the greater Findlay area.

Since 1915, Kiwanians have been dedicated to ''changing the world one child and one community at a time.'' Chartered 90 years ago today, the Kiwanis Club of Findlay has answered this call from the start, playing a vital role in supporting youth programs throughout Hancock County.

Findlay's Kiwanians proudly sponsor local Key Clubs and K-Kids programs, support the University of Findlay's Circle K Club, and inspire our country's future leaders through the Hugh O'Brian Youth Leadership Program. For more than 70 years, they have sponsored Boy Scout Citizenship Day to help young people learn about the duties and responsibilities of their local government officials.

The club is well known for its outstanding scholarship programs, which to date have seen in excess of $100,000 awarded to more than one hundred students. It developed this program in recognition of its longtime secretary and treasurer, Fred Brucklacher, a lifelong advocate of higher education.

In 2007, in the aftermath of devastating flooding throughout the Findlay area, the Findlay Kiwanis led efforts to raise more than $17,000 in cash and school supplies to donate to students and families in need.

Madam Speaker, the club will mark its anniversary with a dinner this evening, where Kiwanis International Vice President Alan Penn and Ohio District Governor Donald Parker will lead the tributes to the club's long history of service. Among the honorees will be Dwight Snyder, Jr., a former state chapter officeholder who has compiled a 40-year record of perfect attendance at local meetings.

I invite my colleagues to join me in saluting the Kiwanis Club of Findlay on its ninetieth anniversary and wishing its members every success in the future.

HONORING THE LIFE OF RONALD CRABB

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today with a heavy heart to mark the passing of my friend and constituent Ronald Crabb who died tragically while working on the site of the Kleen Energy Plant in Middletown on February 7, 2010. Ron was a devoted father, husband, and son, and his loss has been felt by countless individuals in his community and by those who called him a friend.

He was a skilled tradesman who exemplified hard work and citizenship by constantly giving back to the people of Colchester. As a pipefitter for the Connecticut Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 777, he took on leadership roles to ensure the safety and improve the lives of his fellow union members. Ron was also an active member of his community. He served on Colchester's Democratic Town Committee and, until recently, was a member of the Board of Finance for several years.

It was Ron's love for his wife, Jodi, and his two sons that made him so passionate and upbeat. Anyone fortunate enough to call him a friend would tell you that he kept their love with him no matter where he was or what he was doing. He loved spending time with them and spoke fondly of them in their absence.

On the job and in life, Ron had a seemingly endless desire and ability to help. He did this by putting his good values into practice and his town, friends, and family are better for it. He left us too early and we will miss him dearly. I ask my colleagues to join me in mourning the loss of Ronald Crabb.

HONORING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND LIFE OF NINA SIMONE

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of legendary American Jazz musician and civil rights activist Nina Simone. A native of Tryon, North Carolina, Nina Simone was born Eunice Kathleen Waymon on February 21, 1933. In the United States House of Representatives, it is an honor to represent Ms. Simone's birthplace and the town where she began her legacy of musical innovation and civil rights activism.

Ms. Simone began playing the piano at age three and made her first classical piano debut at the age twelve. During this first recital she witnessed her parents being escorted from the front row to make room for a Caucasian family. Ms. Simone refused to play until her parents were seated in the front row. This event marked the beginning of a lifetime of civil rights activism.

As the sixth of seven children in a poor family, Ms Simone began her musical career singing as an accompanist to earn extra income for her family. As the civil rights struggle developed in the United States, so did her music. In any number of her protest songs, one can hear her emotional response to the situations of African Americans in the United States.

By 1974, Ms. Simone was traveling the world. Her music, both in French and English, has been an inspiration for artists around the world. The Eunice Waymon-Nina Simone Project honors the legacy of Nina Simone in Tryon, her hometown in Western North Carolina. The Project honors her remarkable life and musical contributions. The Project also seeks to inspire and support talented youth to reach their full potential through a variety of scholarship programs. On the 21st of February they will be unveiling a life-size bronze statue of Ms. Simone. The Eunice Waymon-Nina Simone Project keeps her legacy alive in Western North Carolina.

Ms. Simone passed away on April 21, 2003 at the age of 70 in the French countryside. Her daughter, Lisa Celeste Stroud, is also an actress and singer. Born in New York, Ms. Stroud spent much time traveling the world with her mother before enlisting in the United States Air Force. Today, she is a successful singer with a resume that includes starring in the Tim Rice Musical ''Aida.''

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating Ms. Simone's 77th birthday, and celebrating her extraordinary accomplishments as both an extraordinary jazz musician and strong civil rights activist.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor the week of Monday, February 22, 2010–Friday, February 26, 2010.

For Monday, February 22, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted ''aye'' on rollcall vote #49 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4425), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #50 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4238).

For Tuesday, February 23, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote #51 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1083, which provides for consideration of H.R. 2314), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #52 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1066), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #53 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1059), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #54 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1039), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #55 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1046), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #56 (on agreeing to the Hastings (WA) amendment to H.R. 2314), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #57 (on agreeing to the Flake amendment to H.R. 2314), ''no'' on rollcall vote #58 (on agreeing to the Abercrombie amendment to H.R. 2314), ''no'' on rollcall vote #59 (on passage of H.R. 2314).

For Wednesday, February 24, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote #60 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1098, which provides for consideration of H.R. 4626), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #61 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1074), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #62 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 944), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #63 (on motion to recommit H.R. 4626 with instructions), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #64 (on passage of H.R. 4626), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #65 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1085).

For Thursday, February 25, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote #66 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1105, which provides for consideration of H.R. 2701), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #67 (on motion to concur in Senate amendments to H.R. 3961), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #68 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 227).

For Friday, February 26, 2010, I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been present I would have voted ''no'' on rollcall vote #69 (on agreeing to the Reyes (TX) amendment to H.R. 2701), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #70 (on agreeing to the Hastings (FL) amendment to H.R. 2701), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #71 (on agreeing to the Schauer amendment to H.R. 2701), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #72 (on motion to recommit H.R. 2701 with instructions), ''no'' on rollcall vote #73 (on passage of H.R. 2701), ''aye'' on rollcall vote #74 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Con. Res. 238).

HONORING EDWARD F. GORHAM

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Edward F. Gorham of Randolph, Maine on the occasion of his recent retirement as president of the Maine AFL–CIO.

For over forty years, Eddie Gorham has been a voice for working men and women in Maine. He has been tireless in fighting to ensure that ordinary Mainers have a chance to join the middle class, and he embodies the Maine values of fairness and equality. Born March 8, 1944 to Joe and Betty Gorham, strong union members with roots in Connemara, Ireland, Eddie grew up in the Munjoy Hill neighborhood of Portland. After graduating from the University of Maine with a degree in history and government in 1966, Eddie heeded President John F. Kennedy's call to service and went to India as a volunteer with the Peace Corps. Back in Maine, Eddie joined Local 29 of the International Brotherhood of Boilermakers, Iron Shipbuilders, Blacksmiths, Forgers and Helpers and became a journeyman boilermaker.

In 1976, Eddie began his nearly thirty-five years of dedicated service to Maine workers at the Maine AFL-CIO. During his tenure there, he never stopped advocating for the Maine men and women who build our ships, make our paper and keep our state running. Eddie started out as a legislative liaison. He quickly and deftly learned the political and legislative process in Augusta, participating in labor committee sessions, researching and revising labor bills and lobbying for their passage. In 1977, he was elected Secretary-Treasurer, a position he held for twenty-two years until becoming president in 1999. During these years,

Eddie's prowess in the halls of the State House in Augusta became legendary. He has forged coalitions, organized participation in hearings and provided key facts to legislators on labor issues. There is no doubt that Eddie's legislative skills have been a driving force behind the passage of major legislation benefiting Maine's working families, including the first in the country Chemical ID Law, Community Right To Know, minimum wage, severance pay, sexual harassment, toxic use reduction, VDT standards, workers' compensation and unemployment and training benefits.

In addition to his professional contributions, Eddie is a leader in his community. He currently serves as selectman in his hometown of Randolph, where he lives with his wife Diana and his three children, Matthew, Delia and James.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring Edward F. Gorham for his life-long dedication and service to the working people of Maine.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I attended the grand opening events of the Kia Motors manufacturing facility in West Point, Georgia. As a result, I missed a number of votes. Had I been present, I would have voted the following: ''Nay'' on Agreeing to the Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 2701) to authorize appropriations for FY 2010 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the U.S. Government, the Community Management Account, and the CIA Retirement and Disability System, waiving a requirement of clause 6(a) of rule XIII. (rollcall No. 66);

''aye'' on Motion to Concur in Senate Amendments to Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act. (rollcall No. 67); and

''aye'' on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree, as Amended, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Urban Crimes Awareness Week (rollcall No. 68).

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUE WILKINS MYRICK

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mrs. MYRICK. Madam Speaker, I was unable to participate in the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote No. 67, on motion to concur in Senate amendments—H. R. 3961, Medicare Physician Payment Reform Act—I would have voted ''aye.''

Rollcall vote No. 68, on motion to suspend the rules and agree, as amended—H. Con. Res. 227, Supporting the goals and ideals of National Urban Crimes Awareness Week—I would have voted ''aye.''

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is $12,507,536,462,861.04.

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

This means the national debt has increased by $1,869,110,716,567.24 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

REVEREND DR. MAJOR A. STEWART

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Rev. Dr. Major A. Stewart as he is installed as pastor of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church on Sunday, March 7th in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

Pastor Stewart was raised in the Muskegon, Michigan, area. He confessed his call to preach the gospel in 1986, and was licensed to preach in 1992. He was ordained in December 1995. His ministry has included work as a youth pastor, associate minister, singles coordinator and assistant pastor, working in Michigan, California, Florida and Pennsylvania. His missionary work has taken him to Turkey, West Africa, and Liberia. He has also participated in a trip to Israel with the United Theological Seminary Pilgrimage Team.

In addition to his duties as senior pastor of Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church, Reverend Stewart also works at GM Parts World Headquarters and is an adjunct part-time instructor at Concordia University teaching accounting, business policy and marketing management. Pastor Stewart holds a bachelor of business administration degree from Eastern Michigan University; a master of business administration degree from California Lutheran University; a master of arts in Christian education from Michigan Theological Seminary; and a doctor of ministry degree from United Theological Seminary.

Reverend Stewart and his wife, Carla Brooks Stewart, are the parents of Alexandria Janine, Mikaela Ann and Karissa Danielle Stewart.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Rev. Dr. Major A. Stewart as he is installed as the new pastor of the historic Mt. Olive Missionary Baptist Church. Mt. Olive has been a rock of hope and guidance for 102 years and I pray that under Pastor Stewart's leadership it will continue to spread the good news of Our Savior, Jesus Christ, throughout the Flint area for many, many years to come.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JAMES GLOVER, JR.

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true military hero, a constituent and a valued friend Reverend James Glover, Jr. passed away on February 6, 2010, and we all owe him a debt of gratitude his service to our nation and his commitment to his community. Mr. Glover was a member of the Montford Point Marines, African Americans members of the United States Marine Corp, who served in World War II.

James Glover, Jr. was born August 16, 1916, in Eutawville, South Carolina, the son of a prominent Baptist minister. Although he felt a strong pull to follow his father's footsteps, the call to serve his country during World War II changed his course as a young man.

He entered the military February 28, 1942, as one of the first African Americans to be permitted in the Marine Corp and his unit became known as the legendary Montford Point Marines. As a marine, Lance Corporal Glover endured great hardships to begin a legacy that has brought honor to the United States Marine Corps and all those who have served our nation.

Lance Corporal Glover and his fellow Black Marines succeeded despite enduring segregated training conditions at the Montford Point Camp, which is now part of Camp LeJeune, North Carolina. They were subjected to racial abuse and discrimination, yet persevered and earned the respect of the other Marines.

Lance Corporal Glover served honorably in the Pacific theatre in the 51st Defense Battalion authorized in 1942. As a member of the 27th Marine Depot Company, a combat support unit, he helped supply the front lines with food and ammunition. Under sometimes heavy enemy fire, he loaded and unloaded supplies, resupplied frontline units, and evacuated the dead and wounded.

He was honorably discharged from the Marines on December 1, 1945 and returned to his beloved home in South Carolina where he pursued his calling in the ministry. Reverend Glover was called to pastor Mount Calvary Baptist Church in Orangeburg, SC in 1971. While ministering to his flock at Mount Calvary, Reverend Glover led the efforts to build a new church sanctuary. In addition, the church experienced tremendous growth under his leadership including: organizing numerous auxiliaries, clubs, and choirs. The church's educational center and children's choir have been named in his honor.

Reverend Glover resigned as pastor of Mount Calvary after 26 years of service in 1997, to devote all of his time to his home church, Spring Hill Baptist Church in Eutawville, South Carolina. He was appointed pastor of Spring Hill Baptist Church in 1973 following the rich legacy of his father, Reverend James S. Glover, Sr., and grandfather, Reverend John Glover. Because of the growth of the congregation while serving as the under-shepherd of Spring Hill Baptist Church, Reverend Glover also lead the efforts to build a new church sanctuary and educational building in 1990. He retired as pastor of Spring Hill

Baptist in January 2002, after 29 years of dedicated service, and presently serves as pastor emeritus. In March 2002, Reverend Glover received the ''Living Legends Award'' from the Orangeburg Ministers' Fellowship Conference.

Reverend Glover was married to his beloved wife, Lillian, for 45 years. The couple had five (5) children, fourteen (14) grandchildren, and twenty-five (25) great-grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me congratulating and expressing our deep and abiding gratitude and appreciation to Rev. James Glover, Jr., posthumously, for his leadership, valor, and enduring service to his country. He was a tremendous role model and has left a legacy of service and sacrifice that will live on as part of our nation's rich history.

RECOGNITION OF THE GERMAN VILLAGE SOCIETY ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the German Village Society for fifty years of dedication to preserving the unique, historical charm of the German Village community. German Village is one of the preeminent historic districts in the United States and is the first neighborhood in Ohio recognized by the White House as a ''Preserve America Community.''

Fifty years ago, community organizer Frank Fetch worried that the historical neighborhood south of downtown Columbus was deteriorating rapidly. He held a meeting to discuss ways to revive the neighborhood. This initial meeting led to the formation of the German Village Society, a group of devoted, preservation-minded residents intent on saving and restoring their neighborhood's historic charm.

Under the guidance of its charter members and with the dedication of local volunteers, German Village's historical preservation continues to this day. Residents donate more than 10,000 hours of their time annually to the community. Due to their passion and dedication to German Village, the entire 233-acre neighborhood is now on the U.S. Department of the Interior's Nation Register of Historic Places.

The German Village Society continues to enhance its reputation as one of central Ohio's best communities in which to live and work. The Haus Und Garten Tour event is recognized on the American Bus Association's ''100 Best Events'' list. The Society also hosts many free programs including Shakespeare in the Park, a summer series of Shakespeare's plays performed outdoors, and a weekly farmer's market. German Village is also home to the 23-acre Schiller Park, an anchor to the neighborhood for over 140 years, and numerous independent restaurants and businesses.

With the continued support of local residents, the German Village Society continues to enrich their neighborhood and promote ''living'' history. On January 10, 2010, the German Village Society celebrated its 50th anniversary. I am proud to recognize and honor the German Village Society and all of its dedicated volunteers for five decades of meaningful work to strengthen and preserve the thriving historical neighborhood of German Village.

HONORING DR. FRANKLIN ODO

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Franklin Odo for his 12 years of service as Director of the Smithsonian Asian Pacific American Program. The Asian Pacific American Program assists the Smithsonian's 19 museums and research centers with the collection of Asian Pacific Americans' artifacts, programs, research, and outreach. The program gives Asian Pacific American communities across the Nation access to the Smithsonian.

In addition to being the founding director of the Asian Pacific American Program at the Smithsonian Institution, Dr. Odo was the first and only Asian Pacific American curator at the National Museum of American History. Dr. Odo has dedicated his life to documenting, preserving, and presenting the histories of Asian Americans and Pacific Islanders. He has written numerous critically acclaimed books on the Asian American experience, taught at prestigious universities across the Nation, and brought to the Smithsonian cutting edge exhibits on Chinese Americans, Native Hawaiians, Korean Americans, Filipino Americans, and Japanese Americans.

As an educator myself, I understand and respect Dr. Odo's work. Whether as a professor or a curator, Dr. Odo has made teaching his priority. Through his work and vision, Dr. Odo has managed to engage thousands of people in the history, culture, and important contributions of Asian Pacific Americans. He is able to translate scholarly work into publicly accessible formats. Dr. Odo has helped many of us tell our story and ensure that these important lessons continue to pass on from generation to generation.

Franklin Odo has been an activist and academic, and will continue to be a leader in our community. We hold a debt of gratitude to Dr. Odo for his incredible contributions.

STRATEGIC DESIGNATION OF THE PORT OF PORT ARTHUR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, today the Second District of Texas is proud to honor the Port of Port Arthur for their designation as a Strategic Seaport by the Department of the Army's Military Surface and Distribution Command. They join the nearby Port of Beaumont and the Port of Corpus Christi as the only Strategic Seaports on the Gulf Coast.

The Port of Beaumont is U.S.'s busiest shipper of military cargo, being home of the 842nd Transportation Battalion. The Port of Port Arthur has handled their overflow since November 2007, totaling 9 ships. Now after this honor, Port Arthur can continue to work on overflow while also receiving shipments directly.

The convenient connection between these two ports allow for the ability to quickly and efficiently mobilize and deploy military forces as well as equipment and supplies. The Sabine-Neches Ship Channel is the only one in the Nation with two Strategic Ports, making it the most vital military shipping portal in the U.S.

This designation for the Port of Port Arthur is shared with only a small percentage of U.S. seaports. Port Arthur beat out 11 other Gulf Coast ports, including ones in Houston and New Orleans, for the decoration. The Port of Port Arthur hopes to add jobs for those associated with the shipping industry, which would be an outstanding benefit for all of Southeast Texas.

The Port of Port Arthur has worked since 2000 to upgrade their facilities to meet the military's qualifications. They have worked hard to strengthen the port's ability to serve more customers and there's no more important customer than our nation's military.

The Second Congressional District of Texas commends the Port of Port Arthur and their employees for their hard work and dedication to make this designation possible. Port Arthur can now stand shoulder to shoulder with the finest ports in the world.

NATIONAL EATING DISORDERS AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Madam Speaker, this week we observe National Eating Disorders Awareness Week; an opportunity for all Americans to educate themselves about unhealthy eating habits and arm themselves with the tools they need to stay healthy.

Unfortunately, in today's society, girls are especially prone to eating disorders. One organization in particular that has done a great deal of research on eating habits and how they relate to girls' body image and self esteem is the Girl Scouts of the USA, through their Research Institute.

For the past decade, the Girl Scouts Research Institute has been a crucial center for research and public policy information on the healthy development of girls. Their most recent survey, Girls and Body Image, indicates that now, more than ever, young girls struggle with their body image and have unrealistic standards of beauty.

Specifically, the survey found that body dissatisfaction leads to unhealthy eating and dieting habits. More than half of girls (55 percent) admit they diet to lose weight, 42 percent of girls know someone their age who forced themselves to throw up after eating, 37 percent know someone who has been diagnosed with an eating disorder, and 31 percent admit to starving themselves or refusing to eat as a strategy to lose weight. Findings from the survey show girls feel pressure from mainstream media to have an ideal body type.

I am committed to working with Girl Scouts to advocate for media messaging to be more ''girl-positive.'' This will lead to the healthy development of girls in terms of self-esteem and

body image, respectful relationships, and leadership skills. As our nation reflects this week on the importance of healthy eating habits and the destructive effects of eating disorders, we are presented with a unique opportunity to empower girls to lead healthier lives. We recognize that the self-esteem issues in young women are getting worse and the time to take action is now.

It is in this spirit that I encourage all of my colleagues to partner with the Girl Scouts in their efforts to promote media messages that feature girls and women who have diverse body images and act as positive role models.

As co-chair of Troop Capitol Hill, the Honorary Congressional Girl Scout Troop for all women Members of Congress, it is an honor to partner with the Girl Scouts to promote policy solutions that improve girls' lives.

ORLANDO ZAPATA TAMAYO: A CUBAN HERO

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, Friday's Washington Post featured an editorial which posed the following question: "Since the critique of the old Cuba policy was grounded in its supposed ineffectiveness, it seems fair to ask: Is the new, Castro-friendly approach working?"

The Post continued, "A good answer to that question came Tuesday, when Orlando Zapata Tamayo, a 42-year old Afro-Cuban political prisoner, died after an 83-day hunger strike."

Last week, just 90 miles off our shores, Mr. Tamayo's heroic protest against his treatment by the Cuban regime tragically ended.

Mr. Tamayo had been active in several dissident organizations and was arrested in 2003 during a government crackdown and sentenced to a lengthy prison term. Forced to endure what he described as repeated beatings among other abuses, he stopped eating solid foods on December 3. At the time of his death he was he was facing a total of 36 years in prison for a variety of baseless charges, among them "disobedience."

He was not alone in his repression. The U.S. State Department's annual human rights report outlines in grim detail the reality of life in a country where the government continues to deny its citizens the most basic human rights. The 2009 report indicated that at year's end there were "at least 205 political prisoners and detainees. As many as 5,000 citizens served sentences for 'dangerousness,' without being charged with a specific crime," according to the report.

I'd be curious to know how many of those political prisoners or their families have been visited by any of the international delegations, including U.S. congressional delegations, that frequent Havana.

I have long held the belief—in Democrat and Republican administrations alike—that America is most true to its defining principles when in the face of tyranny, fear and oppression, we boldly speak for those whose voices have been silenced. Ronald Reagan did this time and again with the Soviet Union. And when the Wall had crumbled, and the dust had settled, stories emerged of dissidents who found the hope to carry on when word reached their cells of this American president who had raised, by name, their individual plight.

Let us speak out for heroes like Mr. Tamayo who cannot speak for themselves.

ROSEHAVEN MANOR

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rosehaven Manor on their 20th Anniversary as a retirement community in my hometown of Flint, Michigan. A celebration is planned for Thursday, March 4th to honor this milestone.

Associated Management recognized the need for senior housing in the Flint area and broke ground at the building site on December 20, 1988. The work was completed on the 123 units in February 1990 and the grand opening was held in March of that year. All the units were rented and at that time there was a waiting list. Today there are three original residents still living at Rosehaven Manor; my sister, June Crockett, Kathleen Shepard and Clarence Henderson.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the staff and Associated Management for providing senior housing to the Flint community. I commend them for their service to the residents of Rosehaven Manor for the past 20 years.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND ABRAHAM BROWN

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and accomplishments of Reverend Abraham Brown—and to acknowledge his contributions to education, social progress, and to the community of Tampa Bay.

Rev. Brown was born in downtown Tampa, the youngest of 3 children. He graduated from Tampa's Middleton Senior High School in 1946 and continued his education as an All Conference Student Athlete at Florida Agriculture and Mechanical University (FAMU). He graduated in 1950 and ultimately earned a Master's Degree in Administration and Supervision.

Rev. Brown returned to Tampa and went to work for the students in the public Hillsborough County Schools for thirty-eight years as a Teacher, Coach and Administrator. His coaching promoted sixteen athletes to professional football. These professional players attribute their success to the firm foundation and inspirational teachings of Coach Abe Brown. "Coach" retired from Hillsborough's school system on January 29, 1988 as Dean of Boys at Chamberlain High School.

In 1976 a former player of Rev. Brown was charged with murder and Brown realized that he had taught young men how to play football but had not taught them how to live productive lives. In response to this he founded Prison Crusade Ministries, Inc. (now Abe Brown Ministries, Inc.) a non-profit organization that enables offenders, ex-offenders, their families, and others at risk, to achieve productive and spiritually fulfilling lives.

Rev. Brown continued his social outreach and in 1991, he received nationwide coverage and honor through an article in the Readers Digest regarding his active establishment and implementation of an effort to stop street drug sales in Tampa's College Hill community.

In 1993, he was awarded the America's Award ("The Nobel Peace Prize for Goodness") for dedication through the Norman Vincent Peale Foundation. Rev. Brown was named Father of the Year in 2007 by the 100 Black Men of Tampa Bay and was also honored by the Tampa Chapter of the NFL and Hall of Fame with the J. Rex Farrior Award. In 2008, Tampa's new Middleton High School stadium was named "Abe Brown Stadium" in his honor.

Rev. Brown is a tremendous role model for our youth and an inspiration to our community. He selflessly devoted his life to others and instead of abandoning those who had lost their way he worked tirelessly to help them get back on track. He not only helped numerous individuals, he helped an entire community. That is why I rise today to honor the life of Reverend Abraham Brown.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I attended the grand opening events of the Kia Motors manufacturing facility in West Point, Georgia. As a result, I missed a number of votes. Had I been present, I would have voted the following:

Nay on Reyes of Texas Amendment, as Modified on Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2701 (rollcall No. 69)

Aye on Hastings of Florida Amendment, on Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2701 (rollcall No. 70)

Aye on Schauer of Michigan Amendment, on Agreeing to the Amendment to H.R. 2701 (rollcall No. 71)

Aye on Motion to Recommit with Instructions, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (rollcall No. 72)

Nay on Passage, the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010 (rollcall No. 73)

Aye on Motion to Suspend the Rules and Agree to Recognizing the difficult challenges Black veterans faced when returning home after serving in the Armed Forces, their heroic military sacrifices, and their patriotism in fighting for equal rights and for the dignity of a people and a Nation (rollcall No. 74)

HONORING WILSON COUNTY, TEXAS

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CUELLAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilson County, Texas on its sesquicentennial year. It was 150 years ago when Wilson County was founded in south Texas by an act of the state legislature. The area is rich in culture and history and serves a great part to the state of Texas.

Before the founding of the county, the first Spanish explorers traveled through the area in the early eighteenth century and used the land mostly for ranching. Most notably, the birthplace of commercial ranching took place at Rancho de las Cabras. This was a ranching outpost for Mission San Francisco de la Espada where the first ranches and cowboys settled near Floresville in Wilson County. By the 1800s, Anglo American, German and Polish settlers began moving into the area. Soon after, the state Legislature founded Wilson County on February 13, 1860. The county was named after James Charles Wilson, who was an early settler of Texas and a state legislator.

Throughout the years, Wilson County has played a significant role in south Texas history. After the Civil War, Wilson County's population underwent the greatest growth due to the completion of the San Antonio and Aransas Pass Railway, which reached Floresville in 1886. By the early nineteenth century, farmers who were once known for cotton crops as the most important cash crop, then diversified into a wider range of peas, watermelons, and peanuts. Today, some call Floresville the ''Peanut Capital of Texas.'' One of the county's best known natives is John Connally, who was born in 1917 near Floresville. Later Connally served as governor and survived a shot during President John F. Kennedy's assassination in 1963. One hundred and fifty years has shaped the county and development of Texas through its historical sites, involvement in diversified farming, ranching, and even oil discovery.

Wilson County includes towns and cities such as Carpenter, Floresville, La Vernia, Pandora, Poth, Saspamco, Stockdale, Sutherland Springs, Grass Pond Colony, Kicaster, Doseido Colony, and Sandy Hills. It totals 809 square miles and has a population of more than 40,000.

From a legacy in ranching, to its honorable natives and rich historical culture, Wilson County celebrating its sesquicentennial year is a milestone for the county and for Texas. I am honored to have had this time to recognize Wilson County on its sesquicentennial year. I thank you for this time, Madam Speaker.

NATIVE HAWAIIAN GOVERNMENT REORGANIZATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 23, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, as a member of the Native American Caucus, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 2314, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, which will formally extend the federal policy of self-determination and self-governance to Native Hawaiians.

I would like to acknowledge Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader REID, and Chairman RAHALL for their leadership in bringing this milestone bill to the floor. I would also like to thank my colleague Congressman AKAKA, the author of this legislation, who worked so hard for so many years to give Native Hawaiians the opportunity for self governance.

Mr. Speaker, the Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act provides Native Hawaiians with an opportunity for self determination and cultural preservation, while empowering them to be an equal partner with the state and federal government. They will finally be on equal footing in federal policies toward American Indians, Alaska Natives, and Native Hawaiians.

I am pleased to champion H.R. 2314, which provides the self governing opportunities that have been denied to this community for so long. Native Hawaiians should have the same opportunity for cultural preservation and self-determination as indigenous people on the mainland U.S. Just to be clear, this bill does not recognize a Native Hawaiian government upon passage, nor exempt a Native Hawaiian government from any provision of the U.S. Constitution, Federal law, or taxation.

Mr. Speaker, I support this bill because it will finally extend the federal policy of recognition to Native Hawaiians. This legislation is yet another example of how Congress is responding to calls for change in America.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 2314.

TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA SOWELL HARRIS

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding business, civic and community leader who is a wonderful example of why we celebrate Black History Month. Patricia Sowell Harris is the global chief diversity officer for McDonald's Corporation in Oak Brook, Illinois. Under her leadership, McDonald's has become a global leader in workplace diversity.

I am proud to say that Patricia is a fellow South Carolinian and a good friend. She was born and raised in the small town of McBee. One of 11 children, she earned her bachelor's degree in public administration and personnel administration from Roosevelt University in Chicago. In 1976, she was hired by the McDonald's Corporation to work in its legal department. Nine years later, she was named the company's affirmative action manager. Pamela was appointed assistant vice president in 1997, and in 2001 she was appointed to her current position as global chief diversity officer.

Charged with spearheading McDonald's diversity initiatives, Ms. Harris responded with considerable resolve and her efforts have produced astonishing successes. As a result, McDonald's is widely recognized as a diverse and welcoming place to work. Fortune magazine listed McDonald's 2 years in a row as the no. 1 company for diversity. Other publications that have lauded McDonald's for its inclusive philosophy include Essence, Hispanic Business, Latina Style and Black Enterprise.

Patricia's hard work has not gone unnoticed in other quarters. In the course of her career she has been the recipient of many accolades and tributes. She was awarded the National Restaurant Association's Salute to Excellence and was inducted into their 2006 Hall of Diplomats. Working Mother magazine called Patricia one of the top 10 diversity champions in the country. McDonald's presented her with the Eagle Award and named its annual award for achievements in diversity the ''Pat Harris Diversity Award.''

Her ascent through the ranks of the McDonald's Corporation is a testament to her professionalism and strong work ethic. Her extensive work in her community is a demonstration of her imitable character and strong moral foundation. She has said that ''the best accomplishment one can receive is to be asked to serve and give back to the community.'' Her unyielding commitment to this philosophy is evident in her numerous philanthropic pursuits.

Patricia is a founding member and former chair of the Multicultural Foodservice and Hospitality Alliance and a founding member and past board member of the Women's Foodservice Forum. She is the chair of the NAACP ACT-SO Advisory Council and is the board president of the Y-Me National Breast Cancer Organization. She is also a board member of DePaul University's Business and Ethics Committee, the International Franchise Association's Diversity Institute and co-chair of the Rainbow/PUSH EXCEL board of directors.

In 2009, Wiley published her book None of Us Is as Good as All of Us, which documents her rise from humble beginnings as a farmer's daughter to the top ranks of American business. The book also details her corporate philosophy and the steps McDonald's has taken under her leadership to improve workplace diversity.

Patricia currently resides in Chicago and is a proud mother and grandmother to her son Dwayne and granddaughter Cydnii.

Madam Speaker, I ask you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating Patricia Sowell Harris on her impressive career at McDonald's and her ongoing commitment to her community. I am proud to add my voice to the chorus of individuals, media outlets and organizations that have praised Ms. Harris for her many accomplishments. She serves as a tremendous example of why we celebrate the contributions of African Americans during Black History Month, and I commend her for all that she has done and will continue to do on behalf of people of color.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, I was not present for votes on Friday, February 26, 2010. Had I been present, this is how I would have voted: On rollcall #69 I would have voted ''no.'' On rollcall #70 I would have voted ''yes.'' On rollcall #71 I would have

voted "yes." On rollcall #72 I would have voted "yes." On rollcall #73 I would have voted "no." On rollcall #74 I would have voted "yes."

CONGRATULATIONS TO UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS MEDICAL BRANCH AT GALVESTON FOR BEING ASKED TO JOIN THE TEXAS MEDICAL CENTER

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston (UTMB) for being approved for full membership in the Texas Medical Center, the world's largest medical complex. Texas Medical Center President and CEO Richard E. Wainerdi said of the decision to include UTMB in the Texas Medical Center, "We are proud to have The University of Texas Medical Branch join the Texas Medical Center as its 49th member institution. As a member of the Texas Medical Center, UTMB will be collaborating more closely with other member institutions and this relationship will further increase the combined level of expertise that will be a material benefit to citizens throughout Texas and beyond."

Working closely with UTMB as I do, I am not surprised that it has been asked to join the University of Texas Medical Center. The people of UTMB are consistently working to improve the lives and health of Texans and all Americans.

UTMB is one of the major centers of medical research in Texas and in the nation. UTMB features a multidisciplinary environment that enables scientists and clinicians to work on projects that often have immediate application to patient care. Among UTMB's areas of strength are neuroscience; pain management and stroke treatment; gastrointestinal health; environmental health and asthma; infectious diseases; vaccine development; cancer; molecular medicine; aging; and diabetes. Among its numerous activities, UTMB hosts summer science programs for middle school, high school, and undergraduate students to help encourage and develop the research workforce of tomorrow.

While UTMB's research program is impressive, many Texans primarily think of UTMB as a leading provider of quality health care. This is because UTMB offers services ranging from primary to specialized diagnostic care. Particularly impressive is UTMB's pioneering telemedicine programs.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I congratulate the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston for being asked to join the University of Texas Medical Center. I also extend my gratitude, on behalf of all the people of my district, for all that the people of UTMB are doing in both the field of medical research and in delivering quality health care to the people of Texas.

SID PRUITT—2010 INDUCTEE FOR THE BEACH DEEJAY HALL OF FAME

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. JONES. Madam Speaker, I have the privilege of representing a district with a very unique culture. The people of eastern North Carolina have fought to preserve this culture that focuses on beach life and the traditions that go along with the coastal and coastal piedmont region.

Beach Music and Shag Music is the very foundation for many of the traditions for the people who grew up in eastern North Carolina and this music remains a staple in the lives of my constituents to this day.

My wife JoeAnne and I would like to congratulate Mr. Sid Pruitt, of Wilmington, NC, who is being recognized as the 2010 Inductee to the Beach Deejay Hall of Fame. I have known Sid for 15 years and have flown with him a number of times, as he is also a pilot. I have just learned of his other talent as a "Beach Music" deejay.

Beach Deejay Hall of Fame inductees are to be of reputable character and conduct him/herself in a professional manner and I can attest to this with Sid Pruitt.

Again, I would like to congratulate my friend, Mr. Sid Pruitt and his wife, Kathy, on his induction into the Beach Deejay Hall of Fame and thank him for upholding and preserving the traditions that are so dear to the people of eastern North Carolina.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BART STUPAK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. STUPAK. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, February 25 and Friday, February 26, 2010, I was absent for eight votes for medical reasons. I rise today to state how I would have voted had I been able to vote.

House rollcall vote 67, I would have voted "no."

House rollcall vote 68, I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 69, I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 70, I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 71, I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 72, I would have voted "no."

House rollcall vote 73, I would have voted "yes."

House rollcall vote 74, I would have voted "yes."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 2, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and not present in the House chamber on Thursday, February 25, 2010 to vote on rollcalls 66 through 73.

I would have voted "yea" on rollcalls 66, 67, 68, 69, 70, 72 and 73. I would have voted "nay" on rollcall 71 had I been present.