

At that event, I met again the parents of a young man who was killed a few weeks ago, from our home. It was a Filipino family who had a son and two daughters. Their son, Ian Gelig, was killed in Afghanistan, just as I said, a few weeks ago. They came to this gathering from the cemetery, which is where they go on a daily basis to visit their son.

We had another family there who had lost their son in Iraq a few years ago, and this family has kind of befriended the parents of other young people who have lost their lives since then. They go to all of the funerals, and they have become strong advocates, reaching out to help the other families.

They feel good about what their sons have done. They hate the fact that they have lost their sons, but they feel proud of what they have done and feel like their sons did what they wanted to do.

I had the experience today of meeting a young midshipman. He will be graduating Friday from the Naval Academy. He is planning on becoming a SEAL. He has been learning Arabic, and he is looking forward to having an exciting career in the Navy.

You know, seeing these young people and seeing the light in their lives and what their plans are makes one think of others, as the chairman talked about—of the young man who graduated from West Point, who lost his life. He had that same light in his life, and I'm sure he felt like what he was doing, the sacrifice he'd made for our country, was worthwhile.

It is up to us to remember those sacrifices and, as Mr. WILSON said, to never forget 9/11 and to never forget the service of all of these young people since the birth of our great Nation.

I would ask that all of our colleagues support this resolution.

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1385, to recognize and honor the courage and sacrifice of the members of the Armed Forces and veterans for their service to the people of the United States.

First I want to thank Chairman IKE SKELTON, and Ranking Member HOWARD "BUCK" MCKEON, of the Armed Services Committee, for their leadership and for championing the cause of our military men and women and our veterans. In this month of May known as National Military Appreciation Month, it is important to take time from our busy schedule to recognize and celebrate the service and sacrifice of our Armed Forces and veterans, and again I commend Chairman SKELTON and Ranking Member MCKEON for introducing this resolution.

Mr. Speaker, as a Vietnam veteran, I want to thank all members of the Armed Forces and veterans for their service to this great nation. I especially want to recognize the service and sacrifice made by the sons and daughters of American Samoa to protect this great nation. I am most proud to state for the record that American Samoa's sons and daughters have served in record number in every U.S. military engagement from WWII to the present. Indeed, located some 3000 miles from Hawaii,

the American Samoa reserve unit is under the only remaining infantry unit of the U.S. Army Reserve, the 100th battalion of the 442nd Infantry Regiment, or the "Purple Heart Battalion" based at Fort Shafter, Hawaii.

As a true testament to the sacrifice made by our brave warriors from American Samoa, I am always reminded of retired Command Sergeant Major Falaniko and his late son Private Jonathan I. Falaniko. PVT Falaniko attended basic training at Fort Leonard Wood, MO, in May 2003 and was later deployed to Iraq in August 2003. He was then assigned to the 70th Engineer Battalion under the 1st Armored Division, Engineers Brigade of which his father, CSM Ioakimo Falaniko, was the Command Sergeant Major of the brigade and was the most senior enlisted soldier.

On October 27, 2003 PVT Falaniko was killed by a rocket-propelled grenade attack. Twenty-year-old Jonathan Falaniko had been in the U.S. Army for less than 6 months. He was laid to rest with all the other brave men and women that have served this great nation, at the National Cemetery in Arlington. Jonathan's story is only one of thousands of the many Americans who have given the ultimate sacrifice for this great nation.

Mr. Speaker, it is customary in the Samoan culture to recognize great deeds and exceptional feats in speeches, songs and storytelling so that they are memorialized and imbedded in the hearts and minds of generations to come. Therefore, I rise today with great honor in support of H. Res. 1385 to recognize the service and courage of all our servicemen and women and veterans. Let us honor their patriotism, love of country and willingness to serve and sacrifice so much to bring about peace and freedom in a troubled world. To our veterans and current service members, and especially to American Samoa's Reserve unit scattered throughout the Middle East, I would like to close by saying how honored and proud I am of your service to this great nation and I commend you for your courage.

May God bless you and may God continue to bless the United States of America. I strongly urge my fellow colleagues to pass this resolution.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the courage and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces and our Veterans.

May is National Military Appreciation Month, a time when we honor the bravery and service of our Armed Forces, veterans, and their families. Members of our Armed Forces leave behind their homes, families, and jobs in times when duty calls. They protect America and American Allies, provide support in times of disasters, and help bringing stability to areas of unrest.

From my time as a psychiatric nurse in the Dallas Veterans Affairs Hospital, I know firsthand the burden placed upon those who serve in our Armed Forces. People around the world owe their freedoms and liberties to the courage, service, and sacrifice of members of the Armed Forces. I urge all Americans to recognize and honor the courage and sacrifice of our men and women in uniform and thank them for their service.

Mr. MCKEON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. SKELTON. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Missouri (Mr. SKELTON) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1385.

The question was taken.

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

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

The yeas and nays were ordered.

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

STUDENT FINANCIAL AID AWARENESS MONTH

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1353) supporting the goals and ideals of Student Financial Aid Awareness Month to raise awareness of student financial aid, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1353

Whereas education is the key to a successful future for many people in the United States;

Whereas the ability of some students to attend an institution of higher education is conditional on the availability of student financial assistance;

Whereas the cost of higher education continues to rise for 4-year private colleges and universities, 4-year public colleges and universities, 2-year community colleges, and for profit institutions;

Whereas students and families across the United States are making important decisions about financing their education at an institution of higher education;

Whereas efforts to increase awareness about student financial aid options are necessary for students across the United States to receive all of the financial aid available to them;

Whereas increasing awareness about the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) ensures that more eligible students may benefit from Federal financial assistance;

Whereas students must complete and submit a new FAFSA each school year to be considered for all forms of Federal financial aid;

Whereas each year, about 16,000,000 students apply for financial aid by filling out the FAFSA;

Whereas increasing access to Federal financial aid helps reduce students' reliance on costly private loans; and

Whereas Student Financial Aid Awareness Month will help call attention to the critical role financial assistance plays in helping students attending an institution of higher education: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) supports the goals and ideals of Student Financial Aid Awareness Month;

(2) encourages students and families across the United States to participate in activities being offered during Student Financial Aid Awareness Month; and

(3) recognizes the importance of educating students and families about Federal student financial aid.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) and the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. ROE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I request 5 legislative days during which Members may revise and extend and insert extraneous material on House Resolution 1353 into the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1353, which expresses support for the goals and ideals of Student Financial Aid Awareness Month.

This month is an important part of increasing awareness of the many financial aid options available to young people who are preparing to go to college. With the cost of college rising rapidly every year, it has become increasingly critical that students take full advantage of their options for financial aid, including those of grants, loans, and scholarships.

The passage of the Health Care and Education Reconciliation Act of 2010, of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009, of the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008, and of the College Cost Reduction and Access Act of 2007 have all increased the amount of aid available and have improved access to student aid for millions of students and their families.

Student Financial Aid Awareness Month helps students and their families get the information they need to make important decisions about financing their postsecondary education. High schools and colleges across the country celebrate Student Financial Aid Awareness Month by providing critical information, aid application deadlines, FAFSA application workshops, money management tips, advice on applying for scholarships, and student loan repayment options.

In 2008, 67 percent of students graduating from 4-year colleges and universities, or 1.4 million students, had student loan debt. The average debt level for these graduating seniors was \$23,200 in 2008. With an increasing reliance on student debt to finance postsecondary education, it is important that students and their families have the information they need to make responsible borrowing decisions. Student Financial Aid Awareness Month helps achieve this goal.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I express my support for celebrating Student Financial Aid Awareness Month at schools across this country and for all of the benefits this focused effort

brings to help families across the country in their pursuits of higher education.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

To the previous speakers who were here with regard to House Resolution 1385, I want to associate myself with the remarks of Chairman SKELTON, Mr. MCKEON, and Mr. WILSON. As a veteran, I, too, on Memorial Day, would like to honor all those who paid the ultimate price.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of House Resolution 1353, a resolution supporting the goals and ideals of Student Financial Aid Awareness Month to raise awareness of student financial aid. In many low-income households, a college education is the ticket to a more prosperous way of life. Many students rely on numerous Federal financial aid programs to accomplish that goal.

For example, the Pell Grant, originally created in 1972 and known then as the Basic Opportunity Grant Program, is used as the cornerstone for a low-income student financial aid package. Through this grant and the other Federal financial aid programs, like the Federal Work-Study, the Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grant, the Perkins Loan Program, and the Stafford Loan Program, millions of students have been able to pursue their dreams of postsecondary educations.

□ 1645

While it is important to recognize the role that Federal financial aid plays in college access, it is also critical to discuss the importance of the partnership that must exist between the Federal Government, States, institutions of higher education, and students and their families. Without each part of this partnership, it will be impossible to continue to help students attend some form of college.

In recent years, the Federal Government has increased the amount of aid provided exponentially, only to have institutions continue to raise their costs at rates outpacing inflation. If college costs continue to rise at rates of 4, 5 or 6 percent per year, students will quickly find themselves unable to afford a college education. All participants in the partnership must do their part if we want college to remain an option for all students.

While Federal financial aid is important, it is not the only thing that should be mentioned during the conversation around Student Financial Aid Awareness Month. There are thousands of organizations around the country whose mission it is to help low-income students navigate the student aid and college application process. Whether the organization helps students fill out the Free Application For Federal Student Aid, the FAFSA,

provides financial literacy, assists students with filling out their college applications, or provides extra tutoring services to ensure that students are prepared for the rigors of college, these entities are critical in ensuring that college remains an option for every student who wants to attend.

For these reasons, I support the goals and ideals of Student Financial Aid Awareness Month, and I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

I have also served on two foundation boards at universities, and I can tell you as a foundation board member and president of a college foundation board that these organizations are absolutely essential to help educate students.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I join Dr. ROE in urging my colleagues to vote for this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. BISHOP) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1353, as amended.

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

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF ROLLINS COLLEGE

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1169) honoring the 125th anniversary of Rollins College, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1169

Whereas Rollins College is one of the oldest institutions of higher learning in Florida;

Whereas the motto of Rollins College is "Fiat Lux", meaning "Let There Be Light" and, indeed, there has been light at Rollins from the beginning;

Whereas Rollins is a comprehensive liberal arts college with an undergraduate Arts & Sciences program, the Crummer Graduate School of Business, and evening degree and community outreach programs offered through the Hamilton Holt School;

Whereas for the fifth consecutive year, Rollins College ranked No. 1 among 117 Southern master's-level universities, in the annual rankings of "America's Best Colleges" in U.S. News & World Report;

Whereas Rollins College is fortunate to count among its alumni a Nobel Prize winner and Rhodes Scholars;

Whereas Rollins College students frequently secure Fulbright, Truman, Goldwater, and Pickering Scholarships;

Whereas John Dewey, the distinguished philosopher and educator, served as Chairman of the 1931 Curriculum Conference held at Rollins College, inspiring higher education curricular reform that still redounds today;

Whereas Sinclair Lewis, when he accepted the Nobel Prize in Literature, named Rollins