

1320, "Expressing support for the vigilance and prompt response of the citizens and law enforcement agencies in New York and Connecticut to the attempted terrorist attack in Times Square, May 1, 2010," I would have voted aye;

For rollcall vote 247, on motion to suspend the rules and agree as to H. Res. 1272, "Commemorating the 40th anniversary of the May 4, 1970, Kent State University shootings," I would have voted aye;

For rollcall vote 248, on motion to suspend the rules and agree as amended, H. Res. 1301, "Supporting the goals and ideals of National Train Day," I would have voted aye.

ON MEMORIAL DAY AND EVERY DAY, LET US REMEMBER ALL THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED OUR NATION

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, as we recognize Memorial Day 2010, I wanted to remember each of the American Service Members from Florida's 7th Congressional District who have lost their life to hostile actions since 1996 as reported to me by the U.S. Department of Defense.

Let us remember all those who have fallen in service to our Nation. Let us never forget those who have served and paid the ultimate price so that we can live in this great land.

We must forever keep these heroes in our thoughts and prayers. Let us today, on Memorial Day and every day, thank the good Lord for their incredible sacrifice.

They have made it possible for all Americans to live in freedom. Let us also remember and pay tribute to the families and loved ones whose loss is immeasurable.

On Memorial Day and every day, let us continue in our hearts and minds to hold dearly all those who have served and are serving this Nation.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

1. Patrick Fennig, Air Force, Palm Coast—June 25, 1996, Khobar Towers.

2. Michael Heiser, Air Force, Palm Coast—June 25, 1996, Khobar Towers.

3. Brian McVeigh, Air Force, DeBary—June 25, 1996, Khobar Towers.

4. Kenneth Conde, Marines, Orlando—July 1, 2004, Iraq.

5. Jason Dwelley, Navy, Apopka—April 30, 2004, Iraq.

6. Bradley Fox, Army, Orlando—April 20, 2004, Iraq.

7. Arthur Mastrapa, Army, Apopka—June 16, 2004, Iraq.

8. Antoine Smith, Marines, Orlando—November 15, 2004, Iraq.

9. Theodore Bowling, Marines, Casselberry—November 11, 2004, Iraq.

10. Patrick Rapicault, Marines, St. Augustine—November 15, 2004, Iraq.

11. Arthur Williams, Army, Edgewater—December 8, 2004, Iraq.

12. Carlos Gil, Army, Orlando—February 18, 2005, Iraq.

13. Alwyn Cashe, Army, Oviedo—November 8, 2005, Iraq.

14. Gene Hawkins, Army, Orlando—October 12, 2006, Iraq.

15. Sean Tharp, Army, Orlando—March 28, 2006, Iraq.

16. Marco Miller, Army, Longwood—December 5, 2006, Iraq.

17. Nicholas Rogers, Army, Deltona—October 22, 2006, Iraq.

18. Angelo Vaccaro, Army, Deltona—October 3, 2006, Afghanistan.

19. John Mete, Army, Bunnell—September 14, 2007, Iraq.

20. Brandon Bobb, Army, Orlando—July 17, 2007, Iraq.

21. Sandy Britt, Army, Apopka—August 21, 2007, Iraq.

22. Alexander Rosa, Army, Orlando—May 25, 2007, Iraq.

23. Bryan Tutten, Army, St. Augustine—December 25, 2007, Iraq.

24. Adam Quinn, Army, Orange City—October 6, 2007, Afghanistan.

25. Robert Miller, Army, Oviedo—January 25, 2008, Afghanistan.

26. Jason Dahlke, Army, Orlando—August 29, 2009, Afghanistan.

27. Randy Haney, Army, Orlando—September 6, 2009, Afghanistan.

28. Anthony Davis, Army, Daytona Beach—January 6, 2009, Iraq.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. PENCE. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, May 19, 2010, I was absent from the House floor, during rollcall vote No. 277 on H.R. 5325, the America COMPETES Reauthorization Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

CONGRATULATING MALAYSIA IN ITS 50TH YEAR OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. MEEKS of New York. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize Malaysia's 50th anniversary of Independence. Since Malaysia gained its independence from the United Kingdom on August 31, 1957, Malaysia has made tremendous progress toward democracy and economic growth. The road to democracy and economic stability has not been easy, with a number of bumps along the way; however, I believe it is important to recognize Malaysia's perseverance in moving its democracy and economy forward.

Today, Malaysia is a middle-income country with a multi-sector economy based on services and manufacturing. It is now our 10th largest trading partner and we are Malaysia's largest foreign investor. Since its independence, Malaysia has had one of the best economic records in Asia. Malaysia's GDP has grown by an average of 6.5 percent per year since 1957. The Malaysian government has taken an active role in ensuring that its economic development also benefits marginalized

groups, such as the ethnic Malays and other indigenous groups. Through economic programs, such as the New Economic Policy of 1971, the National Development policy, and the National Vision Policy, Malaysia has demonstrated its commitment to eradicate poverty, enhance the economic standing of ethnic and indigenous groups, promote education, and its intent to focus on higher-technology production. I believe it is also commendable that Malaysia has set a national goal to become a fully developed economy by the year 2020. With its historical progress, I believe it is feasible and I look forward to witnessing their progress and deepening our bilateral relations in the years to come.

In addition to our robust economic ties with Malaysia, I would also like to highlight our joint efforts to combat international terrorism. Malaysia has been a key ally to the U.S. and a leader in counter-terrorism and counter-narcotics in Southeast Asia. Through intelligence sharing, close cooperation in law enforcement, participation in joint exercises and trainings, Malaysia has been a tremendous partner in security cooperation. In May 2002, Malaysia signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. on counterterrorism and we made a joint declaration that provides a framework for counterterrorism cooperation. As a progressive and moderate Muslim nation, Malaysia is a good example of a modern, prosperous, multi-racial, and multi-religious society.

Since coming to power in 2003, Malaysian Prime Minister Abdullah Badawi has provided opportunities for the U.S. to improve diplomatic and political relations with Southeast Asian nations. As a moderate secular Islamic nation, Malaysia's experiences and cooperation could play a key role in coping with religious extremism, countering terrorism, and exerting a moderate influence on the Islamic community in Southeast Asia. Under Prime Minister Badawi's leadership, Malaysia is adopting an "Islam Hadhari" approach, which encourages and emphasizes a view of Islam that is focused on development, social justice, and tolerance. Malaysia's progressiveness is highly commendable and has the potential to have great influence internationally.

Malaysia has come a long way and, as a key ally to the United States, I would like to commend Malaysia for its continued progress and remarkable achievements and congratulate the people of Malaysia in their celebration of 50 years of independence.

HONORING ARCHBISHOP HOVNAN DERDERIAN

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 28, 2010

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend Archbishop Hovnan Derderian on the 30th anniversary of his ordination into the Priesthood and the 20th anniversary of his elevation to the rank of Bishop. Archbishop Derderian is Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Apostolic Church of North America. The Western Diocese covers the Western United States.

Archbishop Derderian was born in 1957 in Beirut, Lebanon. In 1980, he was ordained as a priest in the Armenian Apostolic Church. In

1987 Archbishop Derderian received his Master's Degree in Theology from Oxford University, and was raised to the rank of "Dzairakuyun Vartabed." In 1990 he was elected Primate of the Diocese of the Armenian Church in Canada, and later in 1990, was ordained as a Bishop by His Holiness Vazken I. On February 18, 1993 he was made an Archbishop. In 2003, Archbishop Derderian was elected Primate of the Western Diocese of the Armenian Church of North America by the 76th Annual Assembly.

Since being elevated to the rank of Archbishop, he has led many projects of great importance to the Church and the community. He created the Christian Youth Mission to Armenia in 2003 which builds ties between youths living in America to Armenia through travel and internship programs. Under his leadership, the Church is nearing completion of the first ever Cathedral of the Armenian Apostolic Church on the West Coast, located in Burbank, California. Additionally, since his appointment as Primate he has ordained five new priests to serve the Western Diocese.

Archbishop Derderian's commitment to serving the faithful and the community are admirable. I congratulate him on his 30 years of service in the Priesthood and thank him for his leadership.

SPECIAL AGENT SAMUEL HICKS
FAMILIES OF FALLEN HEROES
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2711, the Special Agent Samuel Hicks Families of Fallen Heroes Act. I also want to thank my colleague, Mr. ROGERS, for introducing this important legislation.

This legislation aims to authorize the FBI to pay the relocation and moving expenses for families of FBI agents who are killed in the line of duty. At present, the law only provides for the FBI to cover these expenses if an FBI agent or an employee is killed overseas. However, payment for the relocation of a decedent's immediate family if the death occurs in the U.S. falls outside the ambit of the current statutory provision.

Special Agent Hicks, the man after whom this legislation is named, was a former police officer with the Baltimore police department. Upon receiving an assignment as an FBI agent, Hicks and his family relocated to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Special Agent Hicks regrettably lost his life when he was fatally shot on November 19, 2008 at the age of 33 while executing a Federal search warrant associated with a drug distribution ring. He is survived by his wife and their 2-year-old son. The Bureau was unable to assist the Hicks family in moving back to Baltimore because of restrictive construction of the statute providing only for the financial assistance to families of agents perishing overseas.

This instance of a family of a federal law enforcement officer being denied the financial assistance they required to relocate is indicative of the error in the construction of the ini-

tial remedial statute. Allowing for domestic family members of fallen federal agents or employees to receive the same assistance that foreign families receive will widen the scope of the statute and provide much needed relief to those persons touched by such tragedy.

FBI employees take on tremendous responsibilities to ensure the safety and the security of these United States. As such, agents and their families are moved throughout the country, dispersed to its very corners, in pursuit of this nation's protection. In the event of an untimely and tragic death, we would like to bring help to the fallen hero's family within the perimeter of this new legislation—regardless of whether the tragedy strikes abroad or here at home.

Unfortunately, in the recent past there have been instances in which such authority was needed to support the families of agents or employees who gave their lives for this country, and received no assistance at all. This legislation seeks to remedy this wrong, and hopefully with its passage the immediate family of FBI agents or employees will receive the help they deserve.

The foregoing reasons outline the importance of our attention this legislation seeks to afford those families of federal agents or employees that the initial statutes did not cover. We must provide financial assistance to the families of domestic fallen heroes.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

RECOGNIZING AND HONORING
MEMBERS OF ARMED FORCES
AND VETERANS

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 25, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1385, which recognizes the courage and sacrifice of our veterans and members of the Armed Forces, and urges all Americans to honor their brave service. This important resolution expresses our national gratitude for the willingness of our men and women in uniform, past and present, to risk their lives on our behalf.

I thank Chairman SKELTON for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor. I also thank the Congressman for sponsoring this legislation and for his dedication to ensuring that this Nation does everything it can to repay our veterans and members of the Armed Services for the sacrifices they have made to protect us and the values that we cherish as American citizens.

Mr. Speaker, throughout our history, the members of our Armed Forces have endured hardship and suffering—many of them making the ultimate sacrifice—on behalf of our Nation. Time and again, they have answered the call to serve the United States, leaving their homes, their families, and American soil, in times of war and peace. From World Wars I and II to the Vietnam War and Operation Desert Storm, our men and women in uniform have fought valiantly to protect American citizens and promote global security.

Since the tragic attacks of September 11, 2001, the Armed Forces have served with an inspirational sense of duty and country. Since

2001, more than 1,000 Americans have lost their lives and more than 5,500 Americans have been wounded in the Operation Enduring Freedom. Since 2003, over 4,300 servicemen and servicewomen have sacrificed their lives in Operation Iraqi Freedom. More than 31,000 Americans have returned from this conflict wounded or with disabilities. California has lost nearly 600 servicemen and servicewomen in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom; two of these brave individuals came from my district. Almost 4,000 men and women from California have been wounded in these conflicts. I am forever grateful for these sacrifices and for the dedication of our Armed Forces to ensure the safety of the American people at a time when our Nation faces challenging new threats from abroad.

These brave men and women have assumed the responsibility of protecting us; we, then, have a solemn obligation to them. We must always provide the members of our Armed Forces with the resources, supplies, and equipment they need to carry out their mission as safely and successfully as possible. We must work hard to support our veterans who return home from overseas, serving their needs with the same vigor and sense of duty that they displayed in serving our country. As the representative of a district that is home to over 24,000 veterans and the VA Medical Center of Long Beach, I know how important it is to ensure that our veterans have access to affordable health care, housing, and job opportunities.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 1385.

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON
OECD MEMBERSHIP

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1391, a resolution congratulating Israel on its accession to membership in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). Membership in the OECD, which includes the United States and most of the nations in the European Union, will yield greater stability and security for Israel. However, like many Israelis, I believe that true long-term stability and security for Israel depends upon a peaceful relationship with its Palestinian neighbors.

The OECD stated values include "a commitment to pluralist democracy based on the rule of law and the respect of human rights." As such, the body has a responsibility to ensure its members uphold and comply with those values. Absent from the debate on this resolution was the revelation that the economic data submitted to the OECD for membership included Israeli citizens living in the West Bank and East Jerusalem, in violation of OECD's own values and international law.

The submission of this data did not thwart Israel's acceptance into the OECD; however, continued illegal settlement building in the Occupied Territories and the debilitating blockade of Gaza does thwart Israel's long-term security. The acceptance into the OECD despite this data sends a signal to members of the