

This bipartisan legislation provides undocumented young people in the United States with conditional residency and a pathway to citizenship if they came here before the age of 16 and maintained a continuous residency for 5 years. These young people must also graduate from high school or obtain a GED, have no criminal records and either serve their country in the military or attend college for at least two years.

Since the first introduction of this legislation in 2001, an untold number of accomplished and determined immigrant students have been denied the right to citizenship, at severe cost to our nation economically and socially.

I am proud to not only count myself among DREAM Act supporters, but also as an active recruiter to convince some of my more conservative colleagues to sign their name on, too.

Tonight is a wonderful night for countless talented young people across our nation. I will proudly vote "yes" on the American DREAM Act.

### FULL-YEAR CONTINUING APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 8, 2010*

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, today we take the last few steps in the decades-long fight to finally update our nation's food safety infrastructure.

When you consider that the current food safety system has remained largely unchanged since it was first adopted in the 1930s, it is no wonder that each year thousands of Americans fall ill and even die, as a result of tainted food. In fact, the Centers for Disease Control estimates that food contaminations cause 76 million illnesses in the U.S. each year, including over 300,000 hospitalizations and 5,000 deaths. And the economic cost is equally astounding. A recent report estimates that in Colorado alone over \$2.3 billion is spent on the health-related costs of foodborne illness. And of course, the cost to our nation's food industry—from the farmer to the producer to the community supermarket—is often even greater. From Salmonella in eggs to E.coli in cheese, the last few months alone have proven that every day we have waited to pass food safety legislation was one day too many.

As we evaluate this final bill today, I still stand by the stronger traceability provisions I fought for in the bill this Chamber passed last year. While this bill marks an improvement to our current regime, I still believe over the next few years Congress will have to maximize the traceability pilot projects called for in this legislation in order to develop the tools we need to pull tainted products from the shelves or prevent unsafe food products from even getting into our stores and homes. Nonetheless, the mandatory recall authority in this bill means we no longer have to rely on corporations to act in good faith. And greater inspection of imported goods means we can ensure that they are just as safe as what is cultivated and produced domestically.

But the benefit of these changes won't come overnight. So I look forward to working

with the FDA as they put this new law to work. This bill could overcome years of intransigence and partisanship that have needlessly exposed people throughout my state of Colorado and across the U.S. to foodborne illness.

Food safety is both a public health issue and an economic issue. This bill represents the best of what the American people sent us here to do—work together on a bipartisan basis to keep their families safe and healthy, while securing the key industries that help drive our economy. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation, and I look forward to the Senate finding a way to send this to the President.

### MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. KURT SCHRADER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 2, 2010*

Mr. SCHRADER. Mr. Speaker, as our economy continues to recover we need to do everything we can to help struggling middle class families. That's why I supported the extension of the 2001/2003 tax cuts which provides meaningful tax relief for 97 percent of families and small businesses. I'm also pleased that this legislation complies with PAYGO and will add some much needed certainty to Oregon families and small businesses as they budget for next year.

However, I'm uncomfortable making these tax cuts permanent and would prefer a temporary extension to protect middle class families. We need to have a real debate on overhauling our tax system and its long term effects on our economy and National Debt next session. Without controlling our deficit issues we will be unable to fund our schools, health care for seniors, public safety and national defense so we must keep all our options on the table. I'm also disappointed we did not include the bipartisan estate tax fix, which passed the House last December, in this tax relief package.

WARD MCGINLEY

**HON. TOM PRICE**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 9, 2010*

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I offer my delighted congratulations to Matthew and Lauren McGinley on the birth of their first child. Born on December 2, 2010, Edward (Ward) Joseph McGinley weighed in at a respectable 5 pounds, 12 ounces and measured 20 inches from stem to stern. His parents are understandably overjoyed, as are all who know and love them.

I wish every blessing upon young Edward as he charts his course of success and love of liberty.

### RECOGNIZING THE ARGYLE HIGH SCHOOL BAND

**HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 9, 2010*

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Argyle High School Band from Argyle, Texas for their recent outstanding achievement in winning the 2010 Class 3A UIL Texas State Marching Band Championship.

Argyle swept the state competition in San Antonio with a unanimous decision from all judges for a perfect score of straight 1's, besting their closest competitor by a significant margin. The band's stellar performance of "Inside Out" earned them their fourth state title.

The accomplished members of the Argyle High School Band deserve praise for their hard work and dedication. I commend Argyle's Director Kathy Johnson, Associate Director Michael Lemish, Superintendent Telena Wright and Principle Jeff Butts for their leadership of these exemplary students.

Madam Speaker, it is truly an honor to have the opportunity to commend the Argyle High School Band. I am proud to represent the administrators, teachers, staff and students that comprise the Argyle Independent School District in the U.S. House of Representatives.

### DEVELOPMENT, RELIEF, AND EDUCATION FOR ALIEN MINORS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 8, 2010*

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the DREAM Act, which is common-sense, bipartisan legislation that will strengthen our country.

The DREAM Act will allow millions of young people who have grown up in America the chance to develop their talents and contribute to our nation's success by serving in our Armed Forces or pursuing a college education. It is targeted legislation that ensures many of our best and brightest young people can earn their legal status, but only after going through a rigorous and thorough process.

By allowing these students to achieve their full potential, we strengthen both our economy and our national security. Additionally, this bill allows us to do the right thing for millions of young men and women living in America—people who were brought here as minors, through no fault of their own, and most of whom know no other home.

Madam Speaker, I urge a "yes" vote.

### HONORING WILLIAM W. MILLAR

**HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, December 9, 2010*

Mr. OBERSTAR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a man who has greatly served