

Crocker, Josh Sonis, Dane Espinosa, and Trey Jackson on an amazing accomplishment and a job well done.

The Neosho wrestling team had an unfair advantage against their opponents: their friends, family, and fans attended the tournaments, cheered them on throughout the wrestling season, and followed them to Columbia for the state championships. The Neosho community is justifiably proud of their team, and the team is fortunate to have such strong support from their community.

As if winning a state championship isn't enough of an accomplishment, the Neosho High School Wrestling Team has the distinct honor of winning it two years in a row. This shows that our athletes and coaches in Neosho are among the best in America and can stand proud in their accomplishments.

But even more important than that, the Neosho wrestling team will have memories to last a lifetime. They've had that extraordinarily opportunity to live the dream of anyone who has ever dreamed of competing with the best and achieving victory.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Neosho High School Wrestling Team, the Missouri Class 3 State Champions.

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HONORING CORPORAL JONATHAN W. TAYLOR, HOMOSASSA, FLORIDA

**HON. RICHARD B. NUGENT**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2011*

Mr. NUGENT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Corporal Jonathan W. Taylor, of Homosassa, Florida who died on February 22, 2011 while conducting combat operations in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan.

Growing up, Corporal Taylor always knew that he wanted to one day become a Marine. As a student at Lecanto High School, he was an active member of the JROTC Program and participated in the Yankeetown U.S. Navy Sea Cadet corps.

In October 2007, Corporal Taylor was deployed on his first combat tour of duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Following that tour, he was also deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom three separate times. While his unit was not deployed during his second to last tour, Corporal Taylor bravely volunteered to go back to Afghanistan to continue the fight with his fellow Marines.

Corporal Taylor was laid to rest today with full military honors at Arlington Cemetery. Now beside his fellow brothers in uniform, his parents say they are proud to see him off on what they like to call his fifth and final tour of duty on behalf of this great country.

As a nation, we owe our fallen heroes and their families a debt that can never truly be repaid. Corporal Taylor courageously made the ultimate sacrifice for his fellow Marines and for our country. I am humbled to have the opportunity to honor a true American hero today.

AMERICAN MEMORIAL PARK  
ANNEX IN TINIAN

**HON. GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO  
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2011*

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am reintroducing the American Memorial Park Annex in Tinian Act at the request of Senators Jude U. Hofschneider and Francisco Cruz, and many of the people of Tinian, one of the Northern Mariana Islands I represent.

The bill, which I also introduced late in the last Congress, authorizes the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service, to establish an annex of the American Memorial Park, located on the island of Saipan, on the adjacent island of Tinian.

Tinian is only 39 square miles in area. But the island played an outside role in ending World War II.

While a military lease of two-thirds of Tinian precludes any set-aside of the historical land on Tinian, creating an annex of the American Memorial Park, a repository for artifacts to be displayed, and a locus for the interest of visitors to Tinian and locals alike, would be appropriate.

I am submitting for the record the letter of request from Senators Hofschneider and Cruz. I am also submitting NMI Senate Resolution No. 17-37 that supports the establishment of annex. The Resolution refers to H.R. 6380, the bill number from the 111th Congress. But the language of today's bill is essentially the same as H.R. 6380.

I ask that my colleagues support the American Memorial Park Annex in Tinian Act.

NORTHERN MARIANAS  
COMMONWEALTH LEGISLATURE,  
*Saipan, MP, March 14, 2011.*

Hon. GREGORIO KILLI CAMACHO SABLAN,  
*Delegate, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, Cannon House Office Building, Washington, DC.*

DEAR CONGRESSMAN: I am writing to request your reintroduction of legislation authorizing the Secretary of the Interior to establish an annex of the American Memorial Park in Saipan, on the Island of Tinian.

The North Field on Tinian has been designated as one of the most important World War II (WWII) sites in the Pacific. The North Field was used as the launching point for the dropping of two atomic bombs on Japan during WWII, in addition to the strategic bombing of Japan. Many historians believe use of the Atomic bomb ended America's war with the Japanese expeditiously, saving the lives hundreds of thousands, if not millions of lives had the U.S. naval and ground forces invaded Japan.

On June 18, 2009, I wrote you regarding adding Tinian's North Field to the national park system. However, as I stated in that letter, the U.S. military leases approximately two thirds of Tinian, and their training needs preclude inclusion. On December 23, 2009, the National Park Service suggested several options to recognize the North Field such as brochures, an interpretive film and providing interpretive tours on Saipan. While these suggestions are a good start, the people of Tinian feel a permanent memorial, the Tinian Annex of the American Memorial Park, will appropriately recognize the historic role of Tinian in WWII.

The Tinian Delegation of the Commonwealth Legislature, Senator Cruz and me,

and the Mayor and Municipal Council of Tinian and Aguiguan humbly encourage you to assist us with this legislation to obtain the Tinian Annex to the American Memorial Park. Such a memorial appropriately recognizes the historic role of Tinian in WWII.

Thank you for your consideration,  
Sincerely,

JUDE U. HOFSCHEIDER,  
*Senator, CNMI Legislature.*

FRANCISCO Q. CRUZ,  
*Senator, CNMI Legislature.*

SENATE RESOLUTION NO. 17-37

Whereas, the people of Tinian agreed to sacrifice two-thirds of their island to the United States Department of Defense in support of the creation of "The Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America"; and

Whereas, this unique relationship is codified at 48 U.S.C. § 1801; and

Whereas, Federal Public Law 94-241 (H.J. Res. 549) was adopted on March 24, 1976 to approve "The Covenant to Establish a Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands in Political Union with the United States of America," and for other purposes; and

Whereas, Federal Public Law 95-348, passed on 18 August 1978 by the United States Congress, authorized and directed the National Park Service "to develop, maintain and administer the American Memorial Park . . . for the primary purpose of honoring the dead in the World War II Mariana Islands campaign"; and

Whereas, Federal Public Law 95-348 further stated that "[o]ther points in the Northern Mariana Islands relevant to the park may be identified, established, and marked by the Secretary in agreement with the Governor of Northern Mariana Islands"; and

Whereas, the Marianas Islands Range Complex Record of Decision was signed on August 20, 2010; and

Whereas, the Record of Decision noted that the North Field National Historic Landmark will be closed to the public during certain exercises; and

Whereas, the North Field National Historic Landmark is essential to the historic preservation and promotion of Tinian as a tourist destination; and

Whereas, on September 29, 2010, CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Killili" Sablan introduced into the United States Congress H.R. 6380, a bill to authorize the Secretary of the Interior, acting through the National Park Service, to establish an annex in Tinian, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, as an extension of the American Memorial Park located in Saipan; and

Whereas, H.R. 6380, the "American Memorial Park Annex in Tinian Act," directs that the annex be used to interpret historical events related to the World War II Marianas Campaign and for curatorial storage of World War II artifacts; and

Whereas, H.R. 6380 has been referred to the House Committee on Natural Resources, for which Congressman Sablan has requested a legislative hearing as soon as possible; and

Whereas, the Tinian Leadership is working diligently with CNMI Delegate Gregorio "Killili" Sablan to increase National Park Service activity on Tinian, through the establishment of a center that would interpret historical events and impart our cultural heritage: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, that the Senate of the Seventeenth Northern Marianas Commonwealth Legislature supports the passage of H.R. 6380 to authorize the Secretary of the Interior to establish an annex in Tinian as an extension

of the American Memorial Park located in Saipan; and be it further

*Resolved*, that the President of the Senate shall certify and the Senate Legislative Secretary shall attest to the adoption of this resolution, and thereafter the Senate Clerk shall transmit a certified copy to the Honorable Nick J. Rahall II, Chairman, Committee on Natural Resources, United States House of Representatives; the Honorable Doc Hastings, Ranking Republican Member, Committee on Natural Resources, United States House of Representatives; the Honorable Raul M. Grijalva, Chairman, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, United States House of Representatives; the Honorable Rob Bishop, Ranking Republican Member, Subcommittee on National Parks, Forests and Public Lands, United States House of Representatives; the Honorable Madeleine Z. Bordallo, Chairwoman, Subcommittee on Insular Affairs, Oceans and Wildlife, United States House of Representatives; and the Honorable Benigno R. Fitial, Governor of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2011*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, March 10 and Friday, March 11, 2011, I was unable to be present for recorded votes.

Had I been present on Thursday, March 10, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote No. 168 (on agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. LYNCH), “yes” on rollcall vote No. 169 (on agreeing to the amendment as modified, offered by Ms. WATERS), “yes” on rollcall vote No. 170 (on the motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 830), and “no” on rollcall vote No. 171 (on passage of H.R. 830).

On Friday, March 11, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall vote No. 172 (on agreeing to the amendment offered by Ms. WATERS), “yes” on rollcall vote No. 173 (on the motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 836), and “no” on rollcall vote No. 174 (on passage of H.R. 836).

THE TWIC PROGRAM ACT

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 15, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce legislation today with the following Democratic Members of the Committee on Homeland Security: Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ, Ms. SHEILA JACKSON LEE, Mr. HENRY CUELLAR, and Mr. CEDRIC RICHMOND.

The SAFE Port Act of 2006 authorizes the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) Program to be administered jointly by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Coast Guard within the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The TWIC program is focused on protecting the Nation’s maritime transportation facilities and vessels by requiring maritime workers and other workers who need unescorted access to secure port facilities to obtain a biometric identification card.

After initial delays, all maritime workers were required to obtain biometric TWICs by April 2009. The initial cost to workers for these cards is \$132.50 per credential, and in the event that a card is lost, stolen, or damaged, a replacement TWIC costs \$60.00. To date, over 1.8 million longshoremen, truckers, merchant mariners, and rail and vessel crew members have undergone extensive homeland security and criminal background checks to obtain TWICs.

However, the full promise of a biometric access security system has not been realized, as DHS has made little progress in deploying TWIC card readers to ports and vessels. TSA was two years late in starting a pilot program for the readers, even as workers raced to obtain TWICs to continue working in our Nation’s ports. Finally, in April 2009, TSA commenced a limited pilot program to test the business processes, technology, and operational impacts necessary for full deployment of the TWIC readers.

The law requires DHS to issue final regulations for the deployment of TWIC readers based on the results of these pilots by April 2011. TSA has said that it expects to complete the pilots by August 2011 and that Coast Guard would then issue final regulations in late 2012. Under current law, starting in October 2012, workers would be required to renew their TWICs, even though DHS has yet to issue regulations requiring TWIC readers.

In the interest of security and in order not to place an undue burden on workers, I am introducing legislation to ensure that the full promise of the TWIC program is realized. The “TWIC Program Act” ensures that Transportation Worker Identification Credentials held by workers for unescorted access to port facilities are valid until the earlier of (1) the deadline for full implementation of a final rule by the Department of Homeland Security for readers to be installed as a security measure to verify the identity of TWIC card holders against the credential presented to gain access to our Nation’s maritime ports; or (2) December 31, 2014.

This legislation will help ensure that the full promise of the TWIC program is realized. I look forward to working with the Senate and the rest of our colleagues on a bipartisan, bicameral basis to see that this bill is enacted.