

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.

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