

close and dear friend ever since. He served as co-manager of my successful campaign for San Mateo County Supervisor in 1980 and has played a significant role in legislative victories at all levels of government.

Charlie has worked in the California Attorney General's office for 38 years in numerous high-level positions, and holds the distinction of being the second-youngest person to be appointed as Deputy Attorney General IV. He investigated the Los Angeles Unified School District when it built a high school on a toxic waste site. He successfully shut down a statewide development scam where local government bonds were being used to finance private developers that preyed on seniors and other people on fixed incomes. Mr. Getz won an Attorney General Award for Excellence, among other honors, for his work on litigation surrounding the infestation of Mediterranean fruit flies (Medfly). A University of California-Berkeley study later concluded that his work on the Medfly saved the state's economy \$5 billion per year. During that time, Charlie never lost a single case or motion.

Charlie is an avid model railroader. He is a member of the board of directors of the National Model Railroad Association, has given talks around the world about this popular hobby, and has written for *Narrow Gauge* and *Shortline Gazette* magazine for over 30 years. He is an acknowledged expert on the assassination of President Kennedy, has lectured on this subject on numerous occasions and has a library of volumes on JFK that is extraordinary. He is a highly-talented poet and not so gifted comedian. Charlie could have earned a lot more money over his lifetime if he had gone into writing comedy for late night television. Instead, he dedicated his life to statewide public service. Charlie is also passionate about the public's interest at the local level. Despite a demanding daytime schedule at the California Department of Justice, Charlie served for many years on the planning commissions of two communities in which he lived: South San Francisco and San Carlos. Unbeknownst to most of us, his votes and vision shaped the character of these two cities for many decades.

Charlie Getz is a graduate of the University of California at Los Angeles with a bachelor's degree in history and the University of Southern California School of Law.

In short, Charlie Getz is a Renaissance man in our modern era. He is fortunate to be blessed with a wonderful wife, Margaret, who is also brilliant, a computer specialist, teacher, and a professional chef. Margaret will have her hands full ensuring that Charlie stays on track during retirement. I wish both Charlie and Margaret the very best in the next chapter of their lives.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to join me in celebrating the extraordinary career of a dedicated public servant, a wise citizen, and an uncommon friend, Charlie Getz.

HONORING RABBI STEVEN  
CHESTER

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 3, 2011*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career and long-time spiritual

guidance of Rabbi Steven Chester as he retires from over 22 years at the helm of East Bay's oldest Synagogue, Temple Sinai, located in the City of Oakland. Under Rabbi Chester's excellent leadership, Temple Sinai has become even more effective in the promotion of worship, education, service and volunteerism within its large congregation, and throughout our community.

Additionally, with the completion of the new Rabbi Steven and Leona Chester Campus, the Rabbi's work and his family's many contributions have formed a tangible legacy within Temple Sinai. Consistent with his many years of service, Rabbi Chester's namesake is a place of gathering and good works that will serve both the modern and traditional needs of his beloved congregation.

Rabbi Steven Chester's multi-faceted career began long before his tenure at Temple Sinai. After receiving his bachelor's degree in History from the University of California, Los Angeles, he earned a B.H.L. from Hebrew Union College in Los Angeles and an M.H.L. from Hebrew Union College in Cincinnati, Ohio. He spent a seventh year of rabbinical studies in Israel, and was ordained in 1971. By the time of his ordination, Rabbi Chester was already a vocal advocate for many social issues, including supporting civil rights and ending the war in Vietnam. This early penchant for activism and the promotion of peace and human dignity would play a role in Rabbi Chester's spiritual teachings and community service throughout the span of his career.

Spending five years of his rabbinate at Temple Beth Israel in Jackson, Michigan, Rabbi Chester utilized proximity to the state's main prison to provide weekly counseling and spiritual services to its prisoners as the facility's Jewish chaplain. From 1976 to 1989, Rabbi Chester served Temple Israel, located in Stockton, California, where he was also an adjunct professor in the Religious Studies department at the University of the Pacific.

Over two decades ago, he left Stockton to become Rabbi at Temple Sinai. Founded in 1875, the Synagogue is a historic landmark that continues to serve the largest Jewish community in the East Bay and has deep roots in the Oakland community. During Rabbi Chester's tenure, he added a pre-school, introduced adult education programs and supported the congregation's return to more traditional practices, including the re-introduction of Hebrew into the service. He also continued the congregation's history of advocating for social justice by championing local affordable housing and health care for the underserved, supporting women's reproductive rights and protesting the genocide in Darfur.

Whether participating in the Hurricane Katrina prayer service at the Oakland Arena, taking a bold public stance on global conflicts, or sponsoring a school for the poor and orphaned in Siem Reap, Cambodia—Rabbi Chester has inspired many through his insight and actions. In fact, among his many accolades, Rabbi Chester was voted the 2006 Reader's Choice for "Minister/Rabbi/Imam with the Biggest Heart" in the East Bay Express.

On behalf of the residents of California's 9th Congressional District, Rabbi Steven Chester, I salute you. I thank you and your wife, Leona, for your countless contributions to the well-being of our East Bay community. Your work promoting the values and traditions of Judaism has served our many Jewish community mem-

bers and enriched the amazing diversity we enjoy in Oakland. I congratulate you on your many achievements, and I wish you and your loved ones all the best in this next chapter of life.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CHI  
STATE ORGANIZATION OF THE  
DELTA KAPPA GAMMA SOCIETY  
INTERNATIONAL

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 3, 2011*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Chi State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma Society International as they join together to celebrate their 75th year in California. It is a great pleasure to recognize the Chi State Organization of the Delta Kappa Gamma International Society's dedication to promoting the professional and personal growth of women educators, and excellence in education. Over 6,000 California members will celebrate this historic milestone at their annual convention this year, themed "Soar on Wings of Transformation." I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring their leadership in our community, our state, and throughout the country.

Delta Kappa Gamma Society International was founded in 1929 and the Chi State Organization was established in 1936. The seven purposes of the organization are: to bring women educators of the world together; to honor women who are committed to distinctive service in the field of education; to advance the professional interest of women in education; to initiate, endorse and support legislation and public policy that is in the interests of education and of women educators; to endow scholarships to aid outstanding women educators; to stimulate the personal and professional growth of members; and to inform the members of current economic, social, political and educational issues so that they may participate effectively in our society.

Over the last 75 years, the Chi State Organization has funded and participated in a number of literacy projects throughout California, given scholarships to members and grants to non-members to pursue continuing education, and volunteered in classrooms and communities.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to the Chi State Organization of Delta Kappa Gamma Society International on their 75th anniversary, and their outstanding commitment to California's teachers and students, while promoting excellence in education.

KAYLA KOVAL

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 3, 2011*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Kayla Koval for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Kayla Koval is a 7th grader at Drake Middle School and received this award because her determination