

story of our country's founding to our current status as the world's beacon of democracy and freedom, were on display.

But the full story of who we are as a nation and the many, vibrant ethnicities that make up the fabric of the American experience, remains incomplete. The story about the making of the American people—of all of the people—is missing and it needs to be told in the heart of our nation's capital.

That's why I am introducing a bipartisan resolution that calls for a Presidential Commission to study the establishment of the National Museum of the American People. A commission is the first critical step in the path toward the creation of a national museum that will highlight the diversity and richness of the cultures from which our ancestors came and will foster a sense of belonging to the nation by the waves of people who made us the leading economic, military, scientific, and cultural force in the world. The Museum's central theme takes its inspiration from our original national motto: "E Pluribus Unum"—From Many We Are One.

The Museum will be America's only national institution devoted exclusively to telling the full story of how the world's pioneers interwove their diverse races, religions, and ethnicities into the strongest societal fabric ever known to modern mankind. Both Canada and Mexico have major national museums in their capitals telling the story of their peoples and they are the most visited museums in those nations. People from every ethnic and minority group will come to see their own story and learn how they joined together with "the others" in pursuit of a more noble national purpose. Foreign visitors will come to learn how natives of their countries helped create our nation.

I fully understand the current fiscal realities of the day. This proposal will involve no authorization of federal funds and will not require the need for any taxpayer money. It does, however, already enjoy broad support having been endorsed by more than 130 organizations representing virtually every major ethnic and nationality group in the nation.

For the different groups who became Americans, the Museum will tell who, where, when, why and how transformed our nation. Today's technology makes all of this possible.

The Museum of the American People will be like walking through a dramatic documentary delving into these grand movements of peoples. It will follow in the tradition of some of today's most successful story-telling museums such as the Holocaust Memorial Museum. The goal will be to tell our peoples' compelling story with force and clarity.

While there should always be room for other national museums in our nation's capital devoted to all manner of art, cultural and scientific accomplishments, this Museum, covering accurately and adequately each group's story in the context of every group's story should help stem the trend of groups having their own individual, specific museums such as the National Museum of the American Indian, the National Museum of the African American History and Culture, and the National Museum of the American Latino. All of their stories should be told, but the list is nearly infinite while the space, money and political will is not. In telling everyone's story, the National Museum of the American People would recognize the important differences that set us apart while celebrating the common purpose

that has brought us together—E Pluribus Unum.

I encourage my colleagues to support this measure.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CONNIE MACK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. MACK. Mr. Speaker, on Wednesday, July 6, 2011, I was unavoidably delayed and unable to vote on rollcall Nos. 495 through 501. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on No. 495, "yes" on No. 496, "no" on No. 497, "no" on No. 498, "no" on No. 499, "yes" on No. 500, and "yes" on No. 501.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARY BONO MACK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mrs. BONO MACK. Mr. Speaker, on July 6, 2011, for rollcall Nos. 495 to 501, I was unavoidably absent and unable to vote due to travel delays. Had I been present, I would have voted, "no" on 495, "aye" on 496, "no" on 497, "no" on 498, "no" on 499, "aye" on 500, and "aye" on 501.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MR. TIMOTHY WARREN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Memphis Police Officer Timothy Warren, a courageous and deeply generous man who bettered the Memphis community through his service as a police officer and through his charitable work for the homeless. Lamentably, on Sunday, July 3, Officer Warren laid down his life while responding to a rogue gunman in a Memphis hotel.

Public safety is an inherent power of government and every day across our nation police officers put their lives on the line to protect our citizens. Officer Warren, like his fellow Memphis police officers, responded when the need arose, without hesitation and with great courage. His actions on July 3rd may very well have saved the lives of others.

Born in 1971, Officer Warren grew up in Cleveland, Mississippi and received a bachelor's degree from Delta State University, where he also earned a spot on the Mississippi All State Football Team. Despite his successes during college, he briefly ended up homeless and was forced to sleep in abandoned houses in the dead of winter. The empathy Officer Warren developed for the homeless community would last a lifetime.

After moving to Memphis, Officer Warren served as a Deputy Jailer for the Shelby County Sheriffs office from 2000 until joining the Memphis Police Department in 2003. He served as a Patrolman in the South Main dis-

trict, choosing to work a night shift in order to see his 8-year-old son, James, off to school in the mornings and to watch his 4-year-old daughter, Jewel, during the day.

Officer Warren and his wife, Betsy Gray, were active in the community helping to feed the homeless. While on patrol, Officer Warren would pass out bottles of cold water to the homeless sweltering in the heat and humidity of Memphis. While off duty with his family, they would take their grill to Overton Park to feed the homeless. At one point, Officer Warren considered leaving law enforcement to start a church. However his good friend and ordained minister, Jeff Gray, remembers him saying "Well, police work is all I know. I enjoy it. It also gives me the chance to minister to people because I'm right there."

Officer Timothy Warren was a man of exceptional courage with a big heart. His was a life too short, but today I honor him as a public servant and a hero. The city of Memphis is better because of his calling to serve and protect and because of his love for Memphis and its citizens. Officer Warren is survived by his wife Betsy, two children, James and Jewel, his father Jimmy Warren and his Sister Dondi Warren.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING NATIONAL DANCE DAY ON SATURDAY, JULY 30, 2011

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce a resolution designating the last Saturday in July as National Dance Day to combat obesity and overweight through dance of all kinds. This year, each community throughout the country is encouraged to celebrate National Dance Day on Saturday, July 30. In the nation's capital, National Dance Day will be celebrated at the Sylvan Theatre on the National Mall.

Our country has a notorious adult and child overweight and obesity epidemic. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, childhood obesity in the United States has more than tripled in the past 30 years. In the United States, almost one-third of children and teenagers ages 2 to 19 and 68 percent of adults ages 20 and older are obese or overweight. We can promote physical activity among children and adults while having fun dancing, an exercise that most enjoy.

On the National Mall, "So You Think You Can Dance" producer and celebrity judge Nigel Lythgoe, the Dizzy Feet Foundation, and the Larry King Cardiac Foundation will host a variety of dance groups that will perform the dances that keep them fit. A Flash Mob will also have everybody dancing for fun and physical fitness on July 30.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor the resolution and to encourage dancing for physical exercise on National Dance Day and throughout the year.