

Young America's Foundation works with students to establish American flag memorials—displays consisting of 2,977 American flags representing each person tragically killed in the terrorist attacks. This year, students at more than 280 schools erected such memorials on their school grounds. Students held campus-wide moments of silence or prayer on September 11, at 9:11 a.m., hosted patriotic speakers and first responders at their schools, and provided 9/11: Never Forget posters and other materials to distribute on the anniversary. Young America's Foundation is making sure that future generations understand the events of that horrific day, remember its victims and remember the many examples of courage, patriotism and dedication which have, and will continue to inspire so many.

This tenth anniversary year is not just a time to memorialize the fallen—as important as that is. This upcoming September 11, we humbly celebrate America's endurance, strength, and goodness. In doing so, we will ensure that future generations will never forget.

While we can erect grand edifices and give speeches about 9/11, it is this simple and poignant tribute in remembrance of those we have lost and all those who serve that speaks loudest across the years. It is my privilege to rise today and thank the Young America's Foundation for its ongoing service to our nation and our posterity.

EMPOWERING PARENTS THROUGH
QUALITY CHARTER SCHOOLS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JUDY BIGGERT

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 8, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2218) to amend the charter school program under the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965:

Mrs. BIGGERT. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 2218, the Empowering Parents through Quality Charter Schools Act.

While there is no silver bullet to resolve all the problems facing our nation's education system, this bill represents a critical step toward better preparing our children to meet the challenges of a 21st century economy. It is also the first major element of reform to be acted on this year by either chamber of Congress.

We all want our kids to be able to attend a great school. It's like my father told me, "If you have a good education, you can accomplish anything."

That's why transparent and accountable charter schools are so important. They ensure greater access among our children to the high-quality education they deserve. Moreover, charter schools often operate in flexible and innovative ways that promote student success.

Unfortunately, demand for these opportunities continues to outpace supply. Over 400,000 U.S. students remain on waiting lists for enrollment in charter schools.

That's why I support H.R. 2218, which contains provisions that will remove barriers to the establishment of charter schools, improve academic performance, and reduce the number of students waiting for admission. This legislation also establishes commonsense quality controls that will protect students and taxpayers alike. The bill requires accurate assessments of schools through independent financial audits, and establishes clear academic and performance standards.

Following passage in the House, this bill will be sent to the Senate, where I hope it receives the consideration it deserves. And, should it be signed into law, I will continue to work with my colleagues to monitor its impact and ensure that our nation's charter school system continues to reflect the transparency and accountability required by this legislation.

HONORING SERGEANT KEVIN
GLASER

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 14, 2011

Mrs. EMERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Sergeant Kevin Glaser of Sikeston, Missouri, for his 28 years of dedicated law enforcement with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. The people of my congressional district and the state of Missouri are grateful for Kevin's commitment to ridding our communities of illegal drug activity.

For 22 years Kevin has been on the front lines of drug enforcement in Missouri as the leader of the Southeast Missouri, SEMO, Drug Task Force. The SEMO Drug Task Force's main objective is to crack down drug creation, distribution and use through the southern Missouri. Kevin commanded the task force for over 16 years.

Kevin displayed courageous leadership in the face of great challenges in the name of safer Missouri communities. As methamphetamine use spread across rural America, Kevin and his squad made record arrests and seizures. In fact, over 75 percent of their efforts in drug enforcement were fighting the scourge of meth use in southern Missouri.

In a 1997 L.A. Times article, Kevin was quoted as saying: "It's hard to imagine a drug controlling you the way it does . . . They see their family falling apart, their bodies falling apart, but the only thing that matters to them is the dope." This drug was Kevin's enemy and the SEMO Drug Task Force's enemy, and they fought the enemy tirelessly.

I am thankful for Kevin's dedicated service with the Missouri State Highway Patrol. I am excited for his retirement, although I hear he is still playing an advisory role with the officers' training. Kevin, I wish you the very best on this new venture.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, September 15, 2011 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
SEPTEMBER 20

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To receive a closed briefing on Iran. SVC-217

Budget
To hold hearings to examine promoting job creation in the United States. SD-608

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine intelligence community contractors, focusing on striking the right balance; to be immediately followed by a closed hearing in Senate Security Conference Room 1. SD-342

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine tax reform options, focusing on incentives for innovation. SD-215

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
Housing, Transportation and Community Development Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine new ideas to address the glut of foreclosed properties. SD-538

Joint Economic Committee
To hold hearings to examine the debt limit. 210, Cannon Building

2:30 p.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine certain nominations. SD-226

Appropriations
Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies Subcommittee
Business meeting to markup proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2012 for Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and Related Agencies. SD-124

Intelligence
To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

SEPTEMBER 21

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine dually-eligible beneficiaries, focusing on improving care while lowering costs. SD-215

Foreign Relations
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Robert A. Mandell, of Florida, to be Ambassador to Luxembourg, Thomas Charles Krajeski, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Kingdom of Bahrain, and Dan W. Mozena, of Iowa, to be Ambassador to the People's Republic of Bangladesh, all of the Department of State. SD-419

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Business meeting to resume consideration of S. 1546, to authorize certain programs of the Department of Homeland Security. SD-342

Veterans' Affairs
To hold joint hearings to examine the legislative presentation of The American Legion. SDG-50

10:15 a.m.
Judiciary
Crime and Terrorism Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine countering terrorist financing, focusing on progress and priorities. SD-226

2 p.m.
Judiciary
Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine Google, focusing on consumers and competition. SD-226

2:30 p.m.
Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Business meeting to consider S. 1119, to reauthorize and improve the Marine Debris Research, Prevention, and Re-

duction Act, S. 1207, to protect consumers by requiring reasonable security policies and procedures to protect data containing personal information, and to provide for nationwide notice in the event of a security breach, S. 1307, to authorize the Secretary of Commerce to convey real property, including improvements, of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Ketchikan, Alaska, S. 1401, to conserve wild Pacific salmon, and S. 1430, to authorize certain maritime programs of the Department of Transportation, and promotion lists in the United States Coast Guard and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. SR-253

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
To hold hearings to examine transforming wartime contracting, focusing on recommendations of the Commission on Wartime Contracting. SD-342

Energy and Natural Resources
National Parks Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine a recently released report by the National Park Service, focusing on "A Call to Action Preparing for a Second Century of Stewardship and Engagement". SD-366

SEPTEMBER 22

9:30 a.m.
Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the United States strategy in Afghanistan and Iraq. SH-216

2:15 p.m.
Indian Affairs
To hold an oversight hearing to examine the "Tribal Law and Order Act" one year later, focusing on improved public safety and justice throughout Indian country. SD-628

2:30 p.m.
Intelligence
To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Irvin Charles McCullough III, of Maryland, to be Inspector General of the Intelligence Community, Office of the Director of National Intelligence. SH-216

POSTPONEMENTS

SEPTEMBER 20

10 a.m.
Judiciary
To hold hearings to examine if today's political rhetoric is true to the United States Constitution. SD-226