

would be an ability to bring cases against Israel in international legal bodies that are often hostile to the Jewish state. But ordinary Palestinians will soon realize that their lives are little changed. Their disappointment will further destabilize the region and leave us farther from a resolution to the conflict.

At the end of the day, the Palestinians' gambit will bring them no closer to peace, no closer to established borders and no closer to economic stability. It will, however, leave Israel more isolated, more vulnerable and less secure. I applaud President Obama and both the Democratic and Republican leadership of Congress for taking a principled stand against an unprincipled effort. Peace can only come from the bargaining table.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TAIWAN
ON ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I join with many others to congratulate our good friends, The Republic of China (commonly known as Taiwan), on their 100th anniversary, which will take place on October 10, 2011.

Relatively speaking, America is not much older than Taiwan. The United States has only been around for 235 years, and like Taiwan, is young in comparison to many of the countries of the world. To the people of Taiwan, October 10th is revered as much as July 4th in the United States. As many remember, we had a huge celebration for our bicentennial in 1976.

Just to put in perspective how long ago the United States celebrated our 100th anniversary in 1876, our president was Ulysses S. Grant, Alexander Graham Bell made his famous first phone call to Watson, and the United States only had 37 states at the beginning of that year.

Just as we have progressed in our second 100 years, Taiwan has greatly changed in its first 100 years, as well. One of the most exciting changes is that Taiwan has become a full-blown democracy over the last 15 years having its first actual direct elections for president in 1996. Since then, Taiwan has had three successful transfers of power from one party to another, showing the fairness and legitimacy of its elections.

Taiwan is a beacon of democracy in Southeast Asia, and we look forward to our continued friendship for many years to come. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we offer our congratulations to Taiwan on its centennial celebration.

CONGRATULATING TAKEYSHA
SHEPPARD CHENEY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate TaKeysha Sheppard Cheney on being named the 2011 Empowered Woman of the Year by the Women Presidents' Organization. Her dedication to empowering women and helping girls reach their full potential is inspiring.

From her work in the State Legislature to her time as the Executive Director of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, Ms. Sheppard Cheney has been an active participant in public service and making Ohio a better place for families. Her efforts with the LEADER Institute, a leadership development program for girls, is to be commended.

She has further made a difference in Columbus by serving on the boards of the Salvation Army of Central Ohio; the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium; the Ohio Commodores; and ROX, which is an empowerment program for girls.

Today, Cheney is the founder, CEO and publisher of The Women's Book, a magazine that shares information and resources for women in Central Ohio. The publication focuses on the latest happenings for women and girls in Columbus, and she has successfully expanded her publication to Cincinnati and Cleveland.

I would again like to congratulate TaKeysha Sheppard Cheney for being the 2011 Empowered Woman of the Year. She has truly made a difference in the lives of women and girls in the Central Ohio area.

REVEREND DOCTOR STEVEN D.
RILEY

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my dear friend, the Reverend Doctor Steven D. Riley, who was honored this past weekend for his 30th Anniversary as Pastor of Christ Temple Baptist Church in Ypsilanti, Michigan and his 40 years of teaching the gospel. A large and enthusiastic group of friends from all walks of life, leaders from the community, and people he touched throughout his life all gathered for a service to pay tribute to this wonderful local leader. The greatest message given that evening was seen on the faces of the audience whose love, gratitude, affection and respect for Reverend Riley's service to the church and his community radiated throughout the service.

He has led Ypsilanti and Southeast Michigan by his ministerial example and being steadfast in his mission to shape and mold the present into a better future. He has worked hard to ensure that residents in Southeast

Michigan have a friend in faith, are cared for, and have a roof overhead. For that, I would like to say on behalf of the people of Michigan's 15th Congressional District, thank you.

Reverend Doctor Riley has dedicated his career to spreading the gospel in Southeast Michigan. His commitment to serving others has helped my constituents lead healthier, more fulfilled lives. He has been a leader among the church-affiliated groups in Southeast Michigan. I want to thank him for his love of all people and for his tremendous friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I am told that Reverend Doctor Riley chose his career early in life. At the age of 11, he began ministering to his neighbors in Detroit, and stayed focused growing in the faith by earning a bachelor's degree in theology and philosophy. He felt called to continue learning more, going on to get a master's degree in theology and religious studies, and a doctorate of divinity degree along with a doctorate of humane letters.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Doctor Riley is an honorable man who has done many great things for the citizens of Southeastern Michigan. I am honored to have him as friend. I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Reverend Doctor Riley for his tireless support, kindness and leadership to his community and to give him our best wishes for the future.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SSI EXTENSION FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED REFUGEES ACT OF 2011

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 3, 2011

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the SSI Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act of 2011. I introduced a similar bill on August 1. This modified version would grant a one-year extension of current law, which passed unanimously in both chambers of Congress in 2008 and was signed into law by President Bush (P.L. 110-328). Under this law, elderly and disabled refugees and certain humanitarian immigrants who are very low income may receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for up to 9 years before becoming citizens, to allow time for naturalization. The Senate unanimously passed this bill today.

Unfortunately, the current law expired on September 30, 2011. Without immediate passage of this bill, thousands of refugees will face serious hardship. This legislation will be completely paid for by collecting a \$30 fee on diversity visas through October 1, 2013. Excess funds would go to the Department of Treasury. Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill would result in \$24 million in deficit reduction.

Mr. Speaker, this is a common sense bill that continues an existing law. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.