

These misguided pieces of legislation would undermine the Environmental Protection Agency's ability to enforce the Clean Air Act and significantly limit the federal government's ability to ensure that the air we breathe is safe and pollution-free.

Sadly, these bills are just the latest in a long line of bills from the majority that put big polluter profits before the health and safety of the American people. From the Dirty Air Act that would remove EPA's statutory authority to regulate carbon pollution to legislation that exempts offshore drilling operations from having to control their pollution emissions and legislation that would allow power plants to emit more and more toxic air pollution, the majority seems intent on rolling back programs that preserve our environment, protect our public health, and grow our economy.

For forty years the Clean Air Act has been successful in protecting public health and preventing deaths from respiratory disease because it was written to follow science as science evolved. The success of the Clean Air Act is because its regulations are based in science. Legislators shouldn't pretend to be scientists.

I urge my colleagues to vote no on these dangerous bills.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ASSOCIATION OF INDIANS IN AMERICA AND ITS PRESIDENT, RANJU BATRA

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge the Association of Indians in America and its President, my good friend Ms. Ranju Batra, on the occasion of its 24th annual celebration of the festival of Diwali at the historic South Street Seaport in lower Manhattan.

The theme of the Association's celebration this year, "Non-Violence in Today's World," is more salient than ever. Most fittingly, it takes place on the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi. With more than a thousand attendees expected from all across the greater New York metropolitan region, this year's Diwali celebration will be a highlight of the year for AIA and its distinguished new President, Ms. Ranju Batra.

Founded in 1967, the Association of Indians in America is the oldest association of Indians in America. The New York chapter includes members from across the tri-state region, and prides itself on its tradition of openness and respect for persons of all religious faiths. Its membership is a microcosm of the extraordinary diversity of the Indian community in the New York area, with all regions and religions of India represented, as well as a wide range of professions, backgrounds and occupations. AIA's New York chapter performs countless acts of public service and philanthropy, reflecting its motto, "Indian Heritage and American Commitment."

Diwali is a holiday that celebrates the victory of good over evil and awareness of one's

inner light, the dispelling of ignorance, and the realization of knowledge and insight. Through intriguing exhibits, stirring music and dance performances, fine cuisine, inspirational oratory from featured speakers, and a dazzling fireworks display over the East River, this year's festival is helping to educate New Yorkers about Diwali and its celebration by adherents of Hinduism, Jainism and Sikhism, and thereby promoting awareness and appreciation of South Asian culture and its amazing richness and diversity.

I am proud to salute my good friend Ranju Batra on her election as President of AIA, a recognition by her peers in the Indian-American community of her leadership abilities and passion for serving others. In addition to AIA, which she has served as Cultural Chair for several years, Ranju Batra has demonstrated her commitment to numerous worthwhile charitable organizations, including the Hindu Center; Arya Samaj of Westchester County, New York; and Children's Hope. A loving wife to her husband, Ravi, and a caring mother to their children, she is deservedly a widely respected leader of the South Asian community in the nation's largest metropolitan area.

Mr. Speaker, I request that my colleagues join me in paying tribute to the Association of Indians in America and its President, Ms. Ranju Batra, for their extraordinary contributions to the civic life of our nation.

CONGRATULATING WEIRS BEACH RESIDENT ROBERT LAWTON ON THE 20TH YEAR OF THE WEIRS TIMES AND TOURISTS' GAZETTE

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on September 21, 2011 I had the privilege of nominating Robert Lawton of Weirs Beach, New Hampshire to be a recipient of the prestigious Nackey S. Loeb School of Communications First Amendment Award. After a lifetime of giving to his community as an entrepreneur, New Hampshire historian and Representative to the General Court, Bob re-launched the 19th Century newspaper The Weirs Times and Tourists' Gazette in 1992. Now in its 20th year, the newspaper started with an initial run of only 2,000 copies distributed in the Laconia area each week. Bob and his son David have since grown circulation to almost 30,000 copies across the state.

At age 80, retirement is not an issue for Bob. Opening his businesses at eight o'clock in the morning he demonstrates the true spirit of the Greatest Generation—its exemplary work ethic. Bob often says, "I like to be busy, I like to be working, I like to keep moving, I like to be thinking of new things all the time."

His thoughtful respect for New Hampshire history, and interest in the community, has successfully resurrected a Lakes Region icon—The Weirs Times. By spreading his opinion and stories about current events and bringing to light our state's historical backdrop, all Granite Staters are in debt to him for continuing to "think of new things all the time."

I commend the work of Mr. Lawton and for his outstanding support of the community. I

wish him the very best and many more years of success ahead.

HONORING NICHOLAS STALLWORTH HARE ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to extend very special birthday greetings to an honored member of the South Alabama legal community. Next week, Nick Hare will celebrate his 100th birthday among the company of a proud family and many loyal friends in his hometown of Monroeville.

Born on October 11, 1911, "Mr. Nick" graduated from Northwood School, Lake Placid, New York, in 1930. He received his college undergraduate degree with honors from Auburn University (Alabama Polytechnic Institute) in 1932, and three years later earned his law degree from the University of Alabama.

After completing his education, Nick joined his cousin, Francis Hare, in the practice of law in Birmingham. Soon after, World War II intervened and his country called. Nick was inducted into the Army Air Corps where he honorably served America, including working on the famous Manhattan Project to produce the atomic bomb.

After his distinguished military service, Nick returned to Alabama and opened his law office in Monroeville. He soon entered politics, being elected to the Alabama legislature in 1954. During his tenure in Montgomery, Nick served as chair of the Judiciary Advisory Council. He left office in 1959 assuming the role of Assistant Attorney General under Alabama Attorney General MacDonalld Gallion. While on the Attorney General's staff, Nick worked with Governor John Patterson to combat loan sharks victimizing Alabamians.

In 1960, Nick turned his gaze to Mobile after he was appointed chief legal counsel for the Alabama State Docks under director Earl McGowan. Later, during the Reagan administration, he served the federal government as an appointee to represent the United States in legal seminars with the People's Republic of China.

Nick Hare has accomplished much in his 100 years. He's been an Army Air Corpsman, a legislator, a state official, federal appointee and a lifelong attorney representing the best interests of the people of Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, it is not uncommon to laud someone you respect with the compliment "they're a gentleman and a scholar". In "Mr. Nick's" case, he truly is both. A nationally recognized legal mind, an inventor holding eight patents, and an active member of his community, Nicolas Stallworth Hare is a true gentleman and a scholar and a very dear friend to many, many people.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and this House, I am pleased to offer Nick our very best wishes on his 100th birthday. May he continue to have a long, happy and healthy life for many years to come.

RECOGNIZING EIGHT NIGHT STALKERS OF THE 4TH BATTALION, 160TH SPECIAL OPERATIONS AVIATION REGIMENT, RECIPIENTS OF THE DISTINGUISHED FLYING CROSS

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor CWO-4 Bernard Litaker, Jr., CWO-3 Maciek Mankowski, CWO-3 Todd Peterson, Staff Sgt. Benjamin Tate, Staff Sgt. Stanley Yeadon, Sgt. Jason Brown, Sgt. Jeremy Gribble, and Spc. Matthew Jones who received the Distinguished Flying Cross for their extraordinary service and valor. I recently had the privilege to meet with the leadership of these eight brave servicemen of the 4th Battalion, 160th Special Operations Aviation Regiment (Airborne) located at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, and believe that they have achieved the pinnacle of military excellence.

The Distinguished Flying Cross is awarded to members of the Armed Forces of the United States who distinguish themselves through heroism above and beyond the call of duty while participating in aerial flight, an award which these men have undoubtedly earned.

On a late September 2009 evening in Afghanistan, these men embarked on a high-priority, high-risk mission that would necessitate that they put their lives at risk to protect other forces. The unexpected call required them to quickly develop and execute a plan, but the ensuing enemy fire would force them to adapt to the increasingly dangerous situation. The pilots gave heroic flying performances, expertly navigating their helicopters while calling out enemy threats to their gunners.

Upon completing their objective and reaching safety, they learned they would need to return for a casualty evacuation. Once again landing their aircraft mere meters from their target, the men held off enemy fire and successfully flew the target to safety. Facing seemingly insurmountable odds, not once but twice, these eight brave Night Stalkers demonstrated skillful flying and venerable courage in the face of danger.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues in the House of Representatives please join me in congratulating these eight brave men for their commendable service and thanking them for the sacrifices they have made for their country.

IN TRIBUTE TO THE ELEVEN EXTRAORDINARY 2011 INDUCTEES TO THE NATIONAL WOMEN'S HALL OF FAME

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the National Women's Hall of Fame and the eleven women who were formally inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame on September 30 and October 1, 2011 in Seneca Falls, New York.

Since 1969, the National Women's Hall of Fame has showcased great American women

who have demonstrated an ability to inspire, lead and innovate. Fittingly, the Hall is located in Seneca Falls, the site of the 1848 Women's Rights Convention which adopted the Declaration of Sentiments demanding that women "have immediate admission to all the rights and privileges which belong to them as citizens of these United States."

Nearly 250 women have been honored by induction into the National Women's Hall of Fame. They come from many fields—they are educators, actors, writers, politicians, visionaries, philanthropists, athletes and scientists—but they share a talent for making a difference and inspiring us all. The eleven women who were inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame this past weekend have truly made their mark on this country and on our history.

St. Katharine Drexel (1858–1955), a missionary who dedicated her life and fortune to help native Americans and African Americans, is the second American-born person to be recognized as a saint. St. Katharine founded the Sisters of the Blessed Sacrament. During her lifetime, she and her order founded more than sixty missions and schools, including Xavier University in Louisiana.

Dorothy Harrison Eustis (1886–1946) co-founded the nation's first dog guide school, The Seeing Eye. Born in Switzerland, Eustis started breeding German Shepherds for civic duty. Morris Frank, a blind American man, contacted her for help in acquiring a guide dog. She moved to America and, together with Frank, established The Seeing Eye, which has trained 15,000 dogs to assist nearly 6,000 individuals.

Loretta C. Ford (1920–) is an international leader in nursing who is best known for co-founding the nurse practitioner model, which expanded nurse's scope of practice and allowed them to perform a broader range of duties.

Abby Kelley Foster (1811–1887) was a major figure in the anti-slavery and women's rights movements. An organizer, lecturer and fundraiser, she worked tirelessly for the ratification of the 14th and 15th amendments and helped lay the groundwork for the 19th amendment granting women suffrage.

Helen Murray Free (1923–) is a pioneering chemist who conducted research that revolutionized diagnostic testing in the laboratory and at home. Her work on dip-and-read strips has made it easier and cheaper to test for diabetes, pregnancy and other conditions.

Billie Holiday (1915–1959) is one of the greatest jazz vocalists of all time. Her unique style continues to influence jazz and pop vocalists more than fifty years after her death.

Coretta Scott King (1927–2006) was a celebrated champion of human and civil rights through non-violent means, in partnership with her husband, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and following his death.

Lily Ledbetter (1938–) is best known for her fight to achieve pay equity. As she was retiring from her position as a manager with the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Ledbetter was advised anonymously that she had been paid considerably less than her male colleagues. She subsequently initiated a lawsuit against Goodyear. She won in trial court, but the Supreme Court later overturned the verdict because she had not filed within 180 days of the discriminatory act even though she was unaware of the discrimination at the time. Thanks in part to her advocacy,

Congress reinstated the right to sue, and President Obama signed into law, the Lily Ledbetter Fair Pay Act in 2009.

BARBARA MIKULSKI (1936–) is the first female Democratic Senator elected in her own right. During her more than 30 years in the Senate, she has worked on legislation promoting equal health care for American women, Medicare reform, better care for veterans, greater student access to quality education and much more. This year she became the longest serving female Senator in U.S. history.

Dr. Donna Shalala (1941–) is an educator, scholar and politician who was the longest serving Secretary of Health and Human Services (1993–2001). She has been president of Hunter College which is located in my district, chancellor of the University of Wisconsin-Madison and is currently President of the University of Miami.

Kathrine Switzer (1947–) broke the gender barrier in 1967 when she was the first woman to officially enter the Boston Marathon. She has completed over 37 marathons and has dedicated her career to creating Opportunities and equal sports status for women. In 1977, she founded the Avon International Running Circuit and in 1984 she was a leader in making the women's marathon an official event in the Olympic Games. She is an Emmy Award-winning sports commentator.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in rising to celebrate the National Women's Hall of Fame and its eleven remarkable 2011 inductees.

IN RECOGNITION OF DR. BRUCE A. BEUTLER, RECIPIENT OF THE 2011 NOBEL PRIZE IN PHYSIOLOGY OR MEDICINE

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 6, 2011

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Bruce A. Beutler for winning the Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine, alongside two other scientists, for discoveries in how the immune system functions.

Initially, Dr. Beutler began searching for a receptor with the ability to bind lipopolysaccharide (LPS). After devoting a great deal of time cloning LPS receptor genes, Dr. Beutler and his colleagues made an important discovery in 1998—a Toll-like receptor (TLR) that activates signals when bound with LPS. This discovery spurred further research in innate immunity and now, over a dozen of different TLRs have been identified. I applaud Dr. Beutler's dedicated efforts and know that this finding will provide our medical community with greater understanding about how immune systems respond to diseases, keeping us on the forefront of medical research.

In 2008, he was elected to the National Academy of Sciences. He currently serves as the Director of the Center for the Genetics of Host Defense at UT Southwestern Medical Center. Dr. Beutler is the fifth faculty member from UT Southwestern Medical Center to be awarded a Nobel Prize since 1985.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Beutler on receiving this prestigious award.