

life in Philadelphia wherein he graduated from Cardinal Dougherty H.S., St. Joseph's University and Temple University, Graduate School.

Under the leadership of Zachary Clayton, Mr. Kimmins began his volunteer commitment in 1967 as a gang control worker in Philadelphia. Following that he served at the House of Umojah under Sister Falaka Fattah, mother of U.S. Congressman CHAKA FATTAH. Mr. Kimmins has been addressing youth groups with a message of respect for law enforcement, parents, clergy, teachers, adults, and fellow young people. Under the direction of Dr. Herman Wrice and Dr. Constance Clayton, Superintendent of Philadelphia Schools, Mr. Kimmins taught for over 30 years on the subjects of anti drugs, anti violence, anti guns, anti bullying, and tolerance.

Mr. Kimmins became a skilled anti crime activist and community organizer. He also studied under Dr. Russell Ackoff of the University of Pennsylvania's Wharton School. Currently, Mr. Kimmins is a full time volunteer, and Executive Director, for Mantua Against Drugs.

Mr. Kimmins is the proud recipient of numerous awards including honors from Time Magazine, the MLK Center, and the University of Pennsylvania. In addition to these accolades, Mr. Kimmins' greatest accomplishment has been the many lives he has positively impacted.

Mr. Kimmins' long and impressive career showcases his commitment and service to his community. Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in thanking Bernard Kimmins for his work and congratulate him on a job well done.

HONORING THE HONORABLE
FRANK C. DAMRELL, JR.

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Judge Frank C. Damrell, Jr., as he retires from the United States District Court,

Eastern District of California. A federal judge since 1997, Judge Damrell has served on the bench with distinction and integrity. As his family, colleagues, and community leaders all gather to honor his remarkable career, I ask my colleagues to join me in tribute to Judge Damrell's service to the federal judiciary and his unwavering commitment to increasing civic involvement amongst our nation's youth.

A native of California's Central Valley and graduate of the University of California, Berkeley, and Yale Law School, Judge Damrell enjoyed an exceptional law career in both the private and public sectors prior to his 1997 appointment to the federal bench by President William Jefferson Clinton. He has been an active member of the federal judiciary and served on the 9th Circuit Education Committee, the Federal Judicial Branch Committee of the United States Judicial Conference, the Judicial Panel on Multidistrict Litigation, and a number of other important committees and commissions.

Since being appointed to the United States District Court of the Eastern District of California, Judge Damrell has remained steadfast in his advocacy for civic education. In May of 2002, he led a national summit in our nation's capital that brought together all major civic education organizations, to restore civic engagement in public schools. These organizations led a nation-wide effort to encourage public schools to educate students about each of our civic duties, responsibilities, and privileges. To help advance this crucial mission, Judge Damrell founded Operation Protect and Defend, a program that has connected high school students to the Constitution and helped them explore the responsibilities of citizenship.

Beyond encouraging students to learn about their civic responsibilities, Judge Damrell has been a strong proponent of higher education and served on the boards of various universities. He was a member of the Board of Regents of Santa Clara University, Board of Overseers for University of San Francisco, and the Board of Trustees for University of California, Merced. Judge Damrell has spoken in front of a wide variety of organizations to promote civic education and given insightful

commencement addresses at the Santa Clara University School of Law and McGeorge School of Law.

Mr. Speaker, as Judge Damrell, his wife Ludy, their children Frank, Lia, Anne, and James, their grandchildren, friends, and colleagues celebrate his retirement, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking and recognizing him for his many years of service. Judge Damrell has contributed immensely to the federal bench and our community.

RECOGNIZING SIMRUN BAL OF
SPRINGFIELD, VA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 30, 2011

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Simrun Bal, a 2011 Critical Language Scholarship Program Recipient. Simrun has been identified by her educators for her academic excellence, leadership potential and exemplary citizenship to participate in the Critical Language Scholarship Program in Chandigarh, India.

This Critical Language Scholarship Program allows students to participate in daily educational activities in Chandigarh, India, as well as the surrounding areas. The program allows participants to make friends with young leaders from all over the world with an intensive focus on the Punjabi language, one of the thirteen critical need foreign languages determined by the Department of State, for summer 2012. At the end of the program, participants receive a certificate of completion.

Simrun is a student at the University of Richmond. It is inspiring to see young people who are interested in educational and developmental experiences such as these.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing this remarkable achievement by Simrun Bal and wishing her continued success in her further pursuits.