

other threatening activities, and for other purposes, I would have voted "present."

On rollcall 928, To provide for the application of measures to foreign persons who transfer to Iran, North Korea, and Syria certain goods, services, or technology, and for other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 929, To award Congressional Gold Medals in honor of the men and women who perished as a result of the terrorist attacks on the United States on September 11, 2001, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 930, To designate the property between the United States Federal Courthouse and the Ed Jones Building located at 109 South Highland Avenue in Jackson, Tennessee, as the "M.D. Anderson Plaza" and to authorize the placement of a historical/identification marker on the grounds recognizing the achievements and philanthropy, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 931, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 932, To authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense, for military construction, and for defense activities of the Department of Energy, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 933, On Approving the Journal, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 934, To require the Secretary of the Treasury to mint coins in commemoration of the 225th anniversary of the establishment of the Nation's first Federal law enforcement agency, the United States Marshals Service, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 935, To ensure public access to the summit of Rattlesnake Mountain in the Hanford Reach National Monument for educational, recreational, historical, scientific, cultural, and other purposes, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 936, To provide for the conveyance of certain property from the United States to the Maniilaq Association located in Kotzebue, Alaska, I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 937, On Ordering the Previous Question, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies Appropriations for FY 2012; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 938, On Agreeing to the Resolution, providing for consideration of the conference report to accompany H.R. 2055, Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and related agencies Appropriations for FY 2012; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 939, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Concur in the Senate Amendment, Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 940, To provide for the exchange of certain land located in the Arapaho-Roosevelt National Forests in the State of Colorado; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 941, On Agreeing to the Conference Report, Making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs; I would have voted "aye."

On rollcall 942, Directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections

in the enrollment of H.R. 3672; I would have voted "no."

On rollcall 943, On Passage, Making appropriations for disaster relief requirements for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012; I would have voted "aye."

I ask unanimous consent that my statement appear in the RECORD.

RECOGNIZING KELLY MEARS, ADRIAN PARSONS, SAM JEWLER, AND JOE GRAY WHO ARE ENGAGED IN A HUNGER STRIKE FOR DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA VOTING RIGHTS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to recognize the extraordinary dedication of four young people who are engaged in a hunger strike for District of Columbia voting rights, budget autonomy and legislative autonomy, an unprecedented step in the District's 210-year struggle for equal citizenship. D.C. residents Kelly Mears, Adrian Parsons, and Sam Jewler, in the tradition of Mahatma Gandhi, began their hunger strike on December 8, and were joined the next day by Joe Gray, a Maryland resident. Unfortunately, this unusual journey ended for one of the strikers, twenty-four-year-old Kelly Mears, who was unable to continue with the three other strikers due to medical complications. The four visited members of Congress during the final days of negotiation on the fiscal year 2012 appropriations bills, and as the District government faced a possible shutdown over a federal spending bill and payroll tax fight. The hunger strikers have written a declaration of grievances. They are asking members of Congress to find ways to show solidarity with them. Representative KEITH ELLISON of Minnesota came to the floor during my special order on the shutdown threat and the spending bill's prohibition on the District's use of its local funds for abortions for low-income women. We are grateful to Representative ELLISON for reading the declaration of the hunger strikers into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, and for his decision to abstain from food and water for 24 hours in solidarity with them. Since the fiscal year 2011 spending deal was announced in April 2011, which prohibited the District from spending its local funds on abortion services for low-income women, 72 people, including D.C. Mayor Vincent Gray and D.C. Council members, have been arrested for acts of civil disobedience in protest of the treatment of D.C. residents as second-class citizens. However, the D.C. hunger strikers will always be remembered as a special inspiration and for a special sacrifice. It is a sacrifice we had no right to ask for. Even now, we ask these young people not to endanger their health. They have been heard. We will never forget them. I ask the House to join me in honoring Kelly Mears, Adrian Parsons, Sam Jewler, and Joe Gray.

STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN B. LARSON AND EULOGY DELIVERED BY HIS SON, THOMAS S. BRENNAN, HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE JOHN D. BRENNAN

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. John Brennan was a venerated citizen of my hometown, East Hartford. He served his country, his state, and his community in several elected, appointed, and volunteer positions; most recently he presided as a Judge where he served until he was 93, and did so with vigor, and a sense of humor. Growing up in East Hartford when you're poor John Brennan, if you were type casting, you'd say he looked like Henry Fonda, and we along with his beautiful wife Mary, raised four children, Susan, Jack, Peter, and Tome, all of who I was fortunate to know, and know how devoted to their father they are. At his funeral service it was his youngest son Tom, who gave the eulogy on behalf of the family, there is so much I could say about John Brennan, he commanded blind respect and rightfully so. Nothing I could say however captures the feeling, the sentiment, the public servant, and the father as Tom Brennan's remarks on his father that follows.

EULOGY HONORING THE LIFE OF JUDGE JOHN D. BRENNAN

(By Thomas S. Brennan)

First of all I'd like to thank everyone for coming to join our family today. I know how absolutely thrilled my father would be to see all of you here, even though I know also that he was a little disappointed to have only made it to the age of 94, when he was still in his youthful prime with so much left to be done. But in many ways he almost was still in his prime, and I think that said a lot about how he lived his life—he never lost his youthful enthusiasm and he had a genuine appreciation for whatever the moment offered. He was someone who from the beginning was endowed with many gifts and he made use of those gifts in a variety of arenas throughout his life.

My father often described his childhood growing up in East Hartford of the 1920s as an almost idyllic "Huck Finn" sort of existence—kids running free playing baseball down in the meadows, riding a rope swing into the Connecticut River or racing carrier pigeons that neighborhood kids would keep in backyard coops. Like many of the Irish back then, his father worked on the trains and would release the carrier pigeons when he was way down the lone toward New York. In that era, those pigeons making their way home might very well have sailed past Yankee Stadium when Babe Ruth was slugging a home run, or over houses where families were gathering around a radio waiting for FDR to speak, before circling down over the farms and tobacco fields that once surrounded this town. It was a simple working class world and he grew up during the Depression, so there wasn't any choice then but to make the most out of whatever you were lucky enough to have.

The arrival of World War II took him far away from the innocent small town life and it became one of the defining experiences of his life. The world was suddenly opened wide and he was thrilled to be riding on the tide of history. And of course, to hear him tell it, it was one giant adventure—we never knew