

hard work that all mothers engage in each day.

In the past week, presumptive Republican Presidential nominee Mitt Romney has said that he believes “all moms are working moms.” I agree. Unfortunately, if you are a low-income mother, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) program punishes you if you decide to stay home to care for your young child. Our laws should reflect the value of care giving work done by all mothers.

Current law does not count low-income stay-at-home parents who are raising young children as meeting the necessary Temporary Assistance for Needy Families (TANF) work requirement. Current law also bans States from counting these individuals toward that State’s work participation rate, which can result in financial penalties if not met. This effectively bars low-income parents who choose to stay home to raise their young children from access to the financial support of TANF.

The WORK Act would recognize that raising children is, in fact, work. The legislation would amend current TANF law to provide States the option to maintain a safety net for poor parents. Low-income parents could receive job training or search for work, or they could raise their children until they are school-aged without fear of being pushed deeper into poverty. This is the same option that wealthy families enjoy.

I urge all of my colleagues to show that they understand the importance of all mothers and the care they provide by supporting the WORK Act.

TRIBUTE TO ATMORE MAYOR
HOWARD SHELL

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of South Alabama’s senior statesmen. This fall, Atmore Mayor Howard Shell will officially retire from office, leaving a legacy of 22 years of dedicated service to his community.

A four-year Navy veteran of the Korean War, and a retired research and development employee for Monsanto Corporation, Howard Shell first entered politics in 1984, winning an Atmore city council seat. After holding the post for just two years, he was appointed to serve out the remaining two years of the late Mayor Patricia McKenzie’s term of office in 1986.

Mayor Shell’s characteristic strong leadership was a natural fit as the city’s chief executive. Consequently, he threw his hat into the ring, serving two consecutive terms as Atmore’s duly-elected mayor from 1988 to 1996. In 2000, he reentered the mayor’s race, returning to serve three more consecutive terms as Atmore’s top office holder.

With more than two decades of his life invested in leading the city he loves, Mayor Shell has made a difference in the lives of the citizens of Atmore. He has presided over local economic growth and, more recently, has led efforts to extend the city’s revenue base through new industrial and commercial recruitment along Interstate 65.

A dedicated and visionary leader, Mayor Shell has not only been Atmore’s strongest

advocate but also an active civic leader on regional, state and national levels. He has served on the National League of Cities’ Economic Development Board, as well as the Alabama League of Municipalities, the South Alabama Regional Planning Commission Board of Directors, and the Jefferson Davis Community College Board of Advisors.

As he prepares to leave public office, I join with all the people of South Alabama in extending our heartfelt thanks for a job well done, as well as our very best wishes for all future endeavors. May he and his lovely wife, Nannette, find ample time to enjoy their two children, five grandchildren and great grandson as they open another rewarding chapter in their already rich lives.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF GRAPEVINE-COLLEYVILLE INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I celebrate the 50th Anniversary of the consolidation of the Grapevine and Colleyville school communities into Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District (GCISD). This outstanding school district has excelled in educating thousands of students and has prepared them with the necessary skills to live a successful, happy, and meaningful life.

GCISD is a K–12 public school system located in the heart of the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. The 54.1-square mile district consists of 17 traditional schools and two alternative campuses serving approximately 13,400 students and 1,750 employees.

GCISD has been rated a Recognized school district for 2010 under the Texas accountability system. In addition, nine GCISD schools achieved the State’s highest rating of Exemplary. For the ninth consecutive year, GCISD received a rating of “Superior Achievement” under Texas’ Schools FIRST (Financial Integrity Rating System of Texas) financial accountability rating system. The Superior Achievement rating is the State’s highest, demonstrating the quality of the District’s financial management and reporting system.

As of today, the average GCISD population of 13,400 students annually accomplishes a 95% graduation rate with 80% of those students enrolling in post-secondary studies. The students’ success is credited to the outstanding and experienced teachers and administration staff as well as an involved and supportive community.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in congratulating the Grapevine-Colleyville Independent School District on its 50th Anniversary. I am extremely proud to represent the cities of Grapevine and Colleyville, and I am grateful for the school district’s exceptional and enduring commitment to educating our youth.

CONGRATULATING MRS. SUSAN AND MR. STANLEY KRAMER ON THEIR 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I offer my highest congratulations today to Mrs. Susan and Mr. Stanley Kramer on their 50th wedding anniversary.

Married June 10, 1962, Susan and Stanley have raised three wonderful sons, including my good friend Doug Kramer. Meeting in the summer of 1959 in Monterey Park, California, they quickly began dating and stayed together during Susan’s return to New York to attend Brooklyn College and Stanley’s enlistment and service in the Naval Reserve.

On June 10, 2012, they will have stood by each other and at the head of a rapidly growing family for half of a century. The world today is a very different place than it was in June 1962, but the love between these two people is unchanged. They are a shining example to all of us and I hope you will all join me in offering them congratulations and wishing them many more years of happiness.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY STAFF SGT.
CHRISTOPHER BROWN

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Army Staff Sgt. Christopher Brown, 26, who lost his life on April 3, 2012, while defending our country. We are grateful for his service and we will always remember his sacrifice for our freedom.

A native of Columbus, Ohio, Staff Sgt. Brown was assigned to A Company, 2nd Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment, 4th Infantry Division, Fort Carson, Colorado. On March 20, he was stationed in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Brown succumbed to injuries he sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol in Kunar Province.

Staff Sgt. Brown was on his third combat assignment since he enlisted in the Army in 2003. His previous service included a tour in Iraq from August 2004 to July 2005 and a prior tour in Afghanistan from June 2009 to May 2010.

Staff Sgt. Brown was awarded the Bronze Star, Purple Heart and Army Commendation Medal.

Staff Sgt. Brown was a devoted soldier who loved his country and his loss is shared by all our community.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and a grateful nation, I offer my deepest condolences to his wife, Ariell Taylor-Brown, and their daughters, Charlie and Dilyn of Mobile, their unborn son, Carter Christopher, and their extended family.

You are all in our hearts and prayers during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF CHILD CARE
AFFORDABILITY ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, throughout the country, affordable and safe child care is essential for working families. According to the U.S. Census Bureau, more than 70 percent of children have one or more parents in the labor force. A survey commissioned by the National Association of Child Care Resource & Referral Agencies revealed that 57 percent of parents reported in 2010 that child care was a necessity, compared with 49 percent in 2006.

Despite the great need for affordable child care, there is a wide gap between what today's families are earning and the cost of child care and household expenses. In 2010, the average cost of full-time care for an infant in a child care center varied from \$4,650 in Mississippi to over \$18,000 in the District of Columbia. In my own state of New York, the average yearly cost of part time care for a school-age child is an exorbitant \$10,400. The amount of assistance offered by the current federal credit for child care costs is a minimum of only \$600 for one child and \$1,200 for two children. Unfortunately, this amount does little to offset our country's extraordinarily high child care costs. To ease the burden on our working families, today I am introducing the Child Care Affordability Act. This legislation would create a new tax deduction for child care and dependent care expenses and expand the current credit for child and dependent care expenses, so families receive a truly impactful level of assistance. Parents would be given the choice of utilizing the tax deduction or the tax credit to select the option that provides them with the greatest amount of relief.

During tax season, it is important to offer working families who are struggling to afford child care.

REFLECTIONS ON THE WORLD
BANK PRESIDENTIAL CONTEST

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on Monday the World Bank formally selected Dr. Jim Yong Kim, president of Dartmouth College, and an expert in public health, as its next president. Dr. Kim's selection continues a long-standing practice of having an American lead the institution; which is appropriate as the United States is the single largest financial contributor to the bank. Typically, the selection of a new World Bank president draws little notice but this year, in the most open and transparent selection process in the bank's 68 year history, the Board of Directors had three well-qualified candidates to choose from.

Although the United States supported Dr. Kim, and I agree with his selection, it should be noted that the other two candidates, former Colombian finance minister Jose Antonio Ocampo and Nigeria's current finance minister Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, were equally qualified for the position. Mr. Ocampo has a strong

record of public service with both the United Nations and the Government of Colombia, most notably serving as the United Nations' Under-Secretary-General for Economic and Social Affairs; Executive Secretary for the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean; and in Colombia as Minister of Finance and Public Credit and Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development. Likewise, Ms. Okonjo-Iweala is a globally renowned Nigerian economist best known for her two terms as Finance Minister of Nigeria (her current position) and for her work at the World Bank, including several years as one of its Managing Directors. The Board of Directors was clearly blessed to have three outstanding candidates to choose from.

I commend Mr. Ocampo and Ms. Okonjo-Iweala for driving a spirited and appropriate debate about the future direction of the World Bank. It is always good to obtain new perspectives and to explore new ideas. Indeed, in accepting his new position yesterday, Dr. Kim recognized the growing influence of our colleagues in the world's emerging economies—as represented by Mr. Ocampo and Ms. Okonjo-Iweala—and pledged to “seek a new alignment of the World Bank Group with a rapidly changing world.” And he also committed himself to fostering a bank that, among other things, “amplifies the voices of developing countries and draws on the expertise and experience of the people we serve.”

I hope that Mr. Ocampo and Ms. Okonjo-Iweala will take up Dr. Kim's call to work with him to reshape the World Bank into a more potent tool for helping to resolve some of the world's most intractable problems. And I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing all three outstanding World Bank president candidates for their dedication to service.

CONGRATULATING THE 2011 BCS
NATIONAL CHAMPION UNIVER-
SITY OF ALABAMA CRIMSON
TIDE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, the University of Alabama Crimson Tide makes its second trip in three years to the White House to be honored as Bowl Championship Series National Football Champions.

On January 9, 2012, the Crimson Tide reclaimed the BCS National Football Championship with the University of Alabama's 21 to 0 shutout of the LSU Tigers in the New Orleans Superdome.

During a football season that many armchair quarterbacks claimed lacked drama due to the apparent domination of one team for much of the year, the final verdict was confirmation to Crimson Tide fans around the nation and throughout the world that Bama was simply the best.

In a land of many great traditions, football is uniquely American. The struggle to overcome and outlast your opponent for four quarters in one of the most physically challenging sports is what draws many of us to the game. Down South, we may not have written the first chapter in the book of football, but the Southeastern Conference has become the main character for the last six years.

By capturing the 2011 BCS title, the Alabama Crimson Tide can lay claim to 14 NCAA college football championships and the second in three years under Coach Nick Saban.

Going into New Orleans on January 9, the world of college football was divided over whether the unbeaten and number one LSU Tigers or the one-loss Crimson Tide would leave the Louisiana Superdome wearing the BCS crown. But for Bama fans the outcome was never in doubt. Both the Tigers and the Tide earned their journey to the final contest, but only the Crimson Tide came ready to play.

By halftime it was already apparent that victory for the Tide was in the offing and the third and fourth quarters only brought confirmation. The Crimson Tide offense scored 21 unanswered points and the Bama defense dominated the formerly mobile Tigers offense, holding them to just 92 total yards.

Once again, the BCS National Championship title returns to Tuscaloosa and the historic victory in New Orleans is not only a triumph for the Tide but a win for all football fans in the State of Alabama.

Mr. Speaker, I join the entire Bama nation in congratulating Coach Saban, his talented assistants, the staff, the team, their loyal families and Bama fans everywhere . . . Roll Tide!

HONORING ROSE FELDSHER'S 50
YEARS OF VOLUNTARY SERVICE

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 18, 2012

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and congratulate Rose Feldsher on her retirement from the volunteer program at Einstein Medical Center in Philadelphia after 50 years of service.

Rose is the longest serving volunteer out of 500 at Einstein. Her volunteer work there started back when John F. Kennedy was president.

After waiting long, stressful hours by herself for her own husband in surgery, Rose took it upon herself to volunteer her time so that people in similar positions did not have to go through the same thing she did. And so, in 1961 Rose started “making rounds”. She delivered water, comforted loved ones in the waiting room and assisted nursing staff.

Since then, the hospital has changed staff, technology, and facilities. Even with the arrival of new technology and ways of helping those who come to see patients, Rose still personally sees that family members and friends get personal updates directly from her. Although the hospital itself has changed over the years, Rose has faithfully shown up every Friday morning for the past 50 years.

Now retiring at the age of 90, Rose plans on spending time with her four grandchildren and two great grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleges join me in thanking Rose Feldsher for her 50 years of dedication and service to those in need in the community.