

Most importantly, no federal dollars will be spent on this important, new museum. The work of the NWHM Commission would be paid for entirely with private funds.

Women's history has taken a backseat to the hundreds of years of written and available narrative focusing on men. Women are largely missing from textbooks, memorials, and museum exhibits. Of the 210 statues in the United States Capitol, only 9 are of female leaders. Across the country, less than 5 percent of the 2,400 national historic landmarks chronicle women's achievements.

The museums and memorials in our nation's capital reveal what we as Americans value. Today, we have museums dedicated to many important people and issues of interest, including flight, postage stamps, and law enforcement. But we still do not have a museum dedicated to woman's history and their contribution to building our great country.

A vital part of achieving equal rights for women is acknowledging and commemorating the deep and lasting impacts women have made in history. This bill would provide us with a blueprint of steps to take in order to finally honor 53% of our population. Certainly, women should be honored for their many contributions that are the very fabric of our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in filling this void and honoring our Nation's foremothers by cosponsoring the National Women's History Museum Commission Act.

HONORING MAJOR WALTER D.
GRAY

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, our lives have been touched by the life of this one man . . . who has given of himself in order for others to stand; and

Whereas, U.S. Air Force Major Walter D. Gray served our nation with honor and gave his life answering a call to duty; and

Whereas, Major Gray never asked for fame or fortune, nor found a job too small or too big; but gave of himself, his time, his talent and his life to uplift those in need by demonstrating unwavering commitment to protecting and serving the citizens of the United States of America; and

Whereas, he was a husband, a father, a son, a brother and a friend; he was also our warrior, a man of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting and service to our nation; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia recognizes Major Walter D. Gray as a citizen of great worth and so noted distinction;

Now Therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Major Walter D. Gray is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Honor" by declaring Major Walter D. Gray U.S. Citizen of Distinction in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 17th day of August, 2012.

RECOGNIZING RUMFORD
INDUSTRIAL GROUP

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on July 25, 2012, the Committee on Small Business held a hearing examining how, despite the harrowing recession and tough economy, some small business owners have grown by innovating and strategically adapting their business models in order to find success. In the days leading up to the hearing, the Rumford Industrial Group, a small firm in Centerville, Ohio, sent me a letter highlighting their successes as well as noting the tough choices their company must make every day. As our Nation's job creators, small businesses, continue to struggle with economic uncertainty, I rise today to submit the Rumford Industrial Group's statement as a testament to the perseverance, innovation, and hard work accomplished by America's small business men and women every day. Their commitment to their businesses, employees, and communities is critical to this nation's future success.

RUMFORD INDUSTRIAL GROUP,
Centerville, OH, July 20, 2012.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
House Small Business Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN GRAVES: Thank you for the opportunity to discuss our successes and our concerns during this challenging time.

Rumford Industrial Group is a small industrial distribution company located in Dayton Ohio. Incorporated in 1980 by Jim Rumford we are your typical sales organization. The economic climate in 1980 wasn't very favorable for starting a company. Interest rates were around 18% and banks just weren't lending anyway.

We've made investments over the years to stay ahead of the competition and as our company grows, we hire. Our group currently numbers 40 over a 5 state territory.

As a sales organization it is our responsibility to provide certain functions to support our sales staff. These include but aren't limited to: Office/warehouse (of which we're about to break ground on a new 8500 sq ft facility); accounting/bookkeeping department; shipping/receiving capabilities; customer service; order taking; marketing department; technical support; sales consultants; application company.

By having a fully functional office to support our sales field we are able to increase our presence in our industrial accounts by making our sales staff more efficient. This increases our sales and allows us to expand our internal and external organizations.

In 2009 when the economy tanked we lost 40% of our business. We chose to use our savings accounts to keep people employed instead of laying them off. We believe most small businesses in this country would do the same if they had the option. We were fortunate when in August of 2010 business started picking up and we were able to gain back 25% of the previous year's losses. Still down but not as far. In 2011 we were up 25% over 2010 and so far for 2012 we are running at a 35% increase in business. How are we managing this? Well, we went back to the basics. We started calling our customers, knocking on doors and sending email newsletters to let the customer base know about our capabilities. Basically we implemented a great marketing campaign.

Typically in economic downturns our business does very well as we rebuild and salvage

component equipment in the industrial sector. This last downturn didn't just close factories and facilities, they were torn down. Automotive plants that covered hundreds of acres of land are gone. The industries that support big business were just gone. We were fortunate to survive and one of the main reasons for this is that we carry no debt. By not having debt to service we can focus on our mission of effectively educating employees and customers on providing reliable lasting solutions for the repair and reclamation of buildings, structures, machinery and equipment.

I'd like to make an important note. Our success and our survival as a small business is in no part due to the actions of the government. Indeed, the government could have eased lines of credit for small businesses and reduced the paperwork burden to obtain temporary financing, but it either did not happen or the bureaucracy was too burdensome.

During the economic downturn between 2008 and 2011, we tried to expand our business into the military, specifically the Army. Our focus was to improve the preservation and maintenance of Army equipment and we had numerous meetings with Army officials. Unfortunately, the Army has little focus on reducing the life cycle cost of their equipment and focuses more on quick fixes, thus spending more on maintenance and equipment over time. Indeed, there are few in the government capable of making life cycle determinations during acquisition decisions. After three years of trying to have meaningful discussions and meetings to change the Army's maintenance focus, we returned to our basic commercial roots working with companies who are interested in saving money. We are disappointed by a general lack of business acumen in the government.

The tax code needs to be completely abolished and rewritten to either a fair or flat tax where everyone pays their fair share, not just the wealthy.

In discussions around our community here are some bullet points that other small business owners would like to see us share with you.

1) Keystone Pipeline needs to be completed.

2) Fracking needs to be allowed to move forward.

3) SBA—Guarantees were put in place during the financial crisis and then removed. We'd like to see them reinstated.

4) Obamacare is proving to be burdensome, expensive and doesn't solve the health care problems.

5) Frustration with lack of federal budget and imbalance in receipts vs. expenditures.

6) Extend Bush tax cuts for all. This gives us the ability to make plans.

7) The unceasing attacks by the administration and certain members of Congress on the hard won success of numerous small business men and women who are the backbone of employment in our nation is despicable. To call successful small persons wealthy and to add additional tax burdens such as the Obama Health Plan will hurt employment and investments.

8) We would like the paperwork associated with small business loans significantly reduced.

Small businesses can grow and improve the nation's unemployment situation if we have the same access to capital at rates similar to large companies. There is a difference between low risk and no risk and too many financial institutions have taken the no risk approach.

Rumford Industrial Group is proud of its accomplishments. We have weathered poor economic conditions through hard work and sacrifice, reducing debt, and by making prudent financial decisions. It has not been easy

and many of the government's policy decisions have not improved conditions. We look for actions the House Small Business Committee can take to reduce burdensome rules and regulations that will help small business gain faster access to credit, reduce bureaucratic oversight, and promote a tax structure that encourages small businesses to grow in both revenue and employment. Small business is the cornerstone of the great American success story where personal sacrifice can lead to a better life for all the citizens of America.

With Respect,

STEPHANIE RUMFORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, due to the birth of my daughter's first child, my first grandchild, I was unable to be in Washington, DC for votes on Thursday afternoon and Friday, September 13 and 14, 2012. Had I been present for votes those days, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 576: I would have voted in favor of the Van Hollen motion to recommit with instructions, legislation that would eliminate sequestration entirely, provided that subsequent deficit reduction is enacted that equals or exceeds sequestration's deficit reduction over 10 years. The Motion would also provide that such subsequent deficit reduction legislation be balanced by requiring upper income taxpayers pay their fair share, protecting middle class tax cuts, and including targeted spending cuts.

Rollcall vote 577: I would have voted against H.R. 6365 that would irresponsibly have offered a cuts-only approach to deficit reduction and placed the enormous burden of those cuts solely on the non-defense discretionary budget and, by extension, squarely on the backs of the most vulnerable.

Rollcall vote 578: I would have voted in favor of the Barber motion to recommit that would add a provision to the bill that extends the funding for Military, Reserve, and National Guard personnel for the full fiscal year, as well as extending coverage of disability examinations and the treatment and additional services for homeless and mentally ill veterans.

Rollcall vote 579: Despite certain reservations, I would have voted in favor of H.J. Res. 117—Continuing Appropriations Resolution, 2013 to continue funding the government's operations for six additional months.

Rollcall vote 580: I would have voted in favor of S. 3245 bill to extend by 3 years the authorization of the EB-5 Regional Center Program, the E-Verify Program, the Special Immigrant Nonminister Religious Worker Program, and the Conrad State 30 J-1 Visa Waiver Program.

Rollcall vote 581: I would have voted in favor of the DeGette Amendment to make changes to the findings section of the bill, demonstrating that the loan restructuring complied with the law and highlighting that the projects funded to date are expected to create 60,000 jobs.

Rollcall vote 582: I would have voted in favor of the Waxman Amendment allowing the program to continue to provide financing to innovative energy projects.

Rollcall vote 583: I would have voted in favor of the Motion to Recommit, which would require that 75 percent of any materials used in projects receiving funding under the Incentives for Innovative Technologies program be produced in the United States. In addition, the Motion to Recommit would require the enactment of H.R. 6213 to be contingent on extension of the Production Tax Credit, which would further stimulate the clean energy economy.

Rollcall vote 584: I would have voted against H.R. 6213, the No More Solyndras Act, which arbitrarily picks winners and losers in the alternative energy field. By setting a cutoff date of December 30, 2011, House Republicans are prioritizing older technologies—those most likely to fail—at the expense of newer, more innovative projects.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Ms. MOORE. Mr. Speaker, I was absent for one vote in the House of Representatives on Thursday afternoon (September 13).

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall No. 575—H.R. 1775—Stolen Valor Act of 2011.

HONORING MARSHALLS DISTRIBUTION CENTER

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, we encourage viable businesses in our community to provide our citizens with the goods and services they need to survive and thrive; and

Whereas, in 1982, Marshalls Distribution Center set up shop in Decatur, Georgia to serve the citizens of DeKalb County, Georgia and communities far and near; and

Whereas, the lives of thousands have been touched by this good corporate citizen which is an active partner in the community; and

Whereas, Marshalls Distribution Center continues to be a resource for citizens in DeKalb County with excellent service, providing employment opportunities and providing products that contribute to the local and national economies; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia is officially honoring and congratulating Marshalls Distribution Center on their 30th Anniversary as a business anchor in our District;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR. do hereby proclaim September 14, 2012 as Marshalls Distribution Center Day in the 4th Congressional District of Georgia.

Proclaimed, this 14th day of September, 2012.

A TRIBUTE TO IOWA'S RED BULLS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Iowa National Guard's own Red Bulls for being awarded the Citizen Patriot Unit Award by the U.S. Department of Defense. The Citizen Patriot Award for Distinguished Service is a prestigious award that is given annually to only one individual and one military unit across the entire Department of Defense.

The Iowa National Guard's Red Bulls, formally known as the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 34th Infantry Division, set themselves above the rest through their substantial contributions to the security and defense of the nation while serving in Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The Red Bulls have a storied history as some of the most dependable soldiers in the Army, and the Citizen Patriot Award truly reflects the nation's gratitude for what they have accomplished together.

In July 2010, the Red Bulls' unit departed Iowa in one of the largest single deployments since World War II. After arriving in Afghanistan in November of that year, Task Force Red Bulls conducted comprehensive counter insurgency operations and also partnered with the Afghan National Security Forces. These men achieved the mission goals they were assigned at the highest possible standard amidst the painful loss of four servicemembers who gave the ultimate sacrifice for their country. Sergeant Brent M. Maher of Honey Creek, Specialist Donald L. Nichols of Shell Rock, Staff Sergeant James A. Justice of Grimes, and Sergeant 1st Class Terry L. Pasker of Cedar Rapids are Iowan heroes who will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, I am in awe of the Red Bulls' commitment and sacrifices in order to make our country safer. Each and every member of this elite unit represents the best of Iowa's work ethic and patriotism. They make me proud to be an Iowan, and I thank them from the bottom of my heart. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating the Red Bulls on attaining the Citizen Patriot Unit Award and welcoming them home. We will forever appreciate their extraordinary service.

HONORING VIRGINIA CHAMBLEE'S 40 YEARS OF PUBLIC SERVICE

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 14, 2012

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Virginia Chamblee for her 40 years of service as a City of Bedford employee. It is an honor for me to celebrate Ms. Chamblee's remarkable career with my fellow colleagues in Congress.

Virginia Chamblee began her career with the City of Bedford on May 5, 1972, working at the city library. In 1982, the City of Bedford opened a new senior center located at 2819 R.D. Hurt Parkway. Prior to the opening of the senior center, the Bedford city leadership