

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 ILLINOIS HOLOCAUST MUSEUM AND EDUCATION CEN- TER HUMANITARIAN AWARDS

HON. BRADLEY S. SCHNEIDER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. SCHNEIDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize William J. Brodsky, Linda Johnson Rice and J.B. Pritzker, this year's Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center Humanitarian Awards Dinner honorees. Mr. Brodsky, Ms. Rice and Mr. Pritzker embody what is best about the humanitarian spirit in our community.

The Illinois Holocaust Museum & Education Center has, for 32 years, worked to ensure that we will never forget the unspeakable evil of the Holocaust, and that the world works diligently to prevent such evil in the future. The Museum & Education Center has educated countless students, young and old, on the perils of hate and discrimination, and since its new building opened in 2009, the center has stepped to the forefront of global Holocaust studies.

Each year, the Museum and Education Center recognizes the civic leadership of a select few, and this year's honorees are an outstanding and impressive group, with deep roots in the community and long records of service.

William J. Brodsky is the Chairman and CEO of the Chicago Board Options Exchange, and in more than 15 years in his position, he has successfully guided the company through turbulent economic times and done much on behalf of the Chicagoland community. He is being honored this year for his outstanding commitment to the ideals of promoting human rights and defeating hate through education. His support for the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center has furthered its greater mission and helped elevate the center on a global stage.

Linda Johnson Rice has served as the Chairman of Johnson Publishing since 2010 and before that as CEO beginning in 1987. Throughout her tremendous career, she has maintained a dedication to the causes of women, minorities and, especially, children. Her parents instilled in her beliefs in education and improving society, and she has applied those beliefs to the Holocaust Museum and Education Center. Her continued support of the Museum and Education Center's goal of combating hate, prejudice and indifference is a true inspiration. The side of equal, global human rights is stronger with her as an ally.

My friend J.B. Pritzker, whom I've known for more than 20 years, is a titan not only of industry, but philanthropy. Through the Pritzker Family Foundation and his work as Chairman of the Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center, J.B. has led international efforts to empower the world's children. He spearheaded the efforts to fund and build the Illinois

Holocaust Museum and Education Center. His tireless work on behalf of survivors and in the cause of ending genocide has accomplished remarkable good. The Illinois Holocaust Museum and Education Center would not be what it is today without J.B. Pritzker's efforts. I can think of no one more deserving of the inaugural Survivors Legacy Award. I'm proud to call J.B. a friend, and I'm pleased to see his commitment recognized.

At a time when Congressional gridlock has prevented critical work from being accomplished, seeing people like these three, with deep senses of civic duty, step up and take the lead on important issues is something we can all be thankful for. I congratulate Mr. Brodsky, Ms. Rice and Mr. Pritzker on their awards and wish them continued success. I look forward to following their future philanthropic endeavors.

TEXAS HIGHWAYS OASIS—BUC- EE'S

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, proud Texans naturally believe everything is bigger and better in Texas—because it is. Texas has the nation's biggest and longest highway system with nearly 80,000 miles of Texas highways. It is 880 miles from the Louisiana border to the New Mexico border and 500 miles from the Oklahoma border to the Mexican border. As Texas travelers are packing up and headed out across the great Lone Star State, odds are, they will make a pit stop at a Texas phenomenon—a convenience store called Buc-ee's.

In 1982, Arch "Beaver" Aplin, founder and CEO of Buc-ee's, along with his business partner, Don Wasek, opened their first store in Lake Jackson, Texas. Super size dreams, determination and hard work proved successful for this duo; they now own 27 stores and employ over 1,000 Texans.

At a Buc-ee's, you can always spot an Aggie, either from their personalized license plate, their maroon pick-ups adorned with A&M stickers, or the ring—don't forget the ring! Aplin himself is a proud Aggie. He graduated from Texas A&M in 1980 with a degree in construction science. At the age of 22, newly graduated Aplin began working for the family-owned construction business. Two months later, he got the idea to open the Lake Jackson convenience store. The rich heritage of tradition that sets Texas A&M apart from all the rest is evident in Aplin's approach to owning a convenience store.

Like camels in a caravan, motorists follow the famous billboards to find their own road trip oasis. Buc-ee's are well known for their large and very clean restroom facilities, which earned them the "2012 Cleanest Restroom in America" Award—no wonder the women folk

fancy stopping at Buc-ee's. There is something for the entire brood to enjoy from Beaver Nuggets, breakfast tacos, Bar-B-Que, beef jerky and fudge to T-shirts and Texas proud merchandise—even deer feeders and deer stands for sportsmen.

Nowhere else on earth, but Texas, can you find a gas station bigger than a football field! I am not making this up. They have 5 flagship stores open 24 hours a day located in New Braunfels, Luling, Madisonville, Bastrop and Wharton. These stores are bigger than the average Buc-ee's—maybe we should nickname them the 8th Wonder of the World.

It is truly an honor to recognize this Texas-owned business; not only for its standing as one of the top convenience stores in the State of Texas, but for the great services that it provides to the citizens of our great State. The employees are happy, Texas friendly, and helpful. On behalf of the Second Congressional District of Texas, I commend all Buc-ee's employees on a job well done, not only in our community, but throughout Texas.

And that's just the way it is.

FEDERAL ELECTION LAWS SHOULD APPLY TO ALL FED- ERAL ELECTIONS

HON. GREGORIO KILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing legislation that provides the full protection of federal election law to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, and the United States Virgin Islands. The people of these areas deserve to have their elections protected by the same laws that safeguard elections and voters everywhere else in our Nation.

Because of various anomalies federal election laws do not always apply in the territories as in the states. There are gaps in application from one territory to the next. My legislation simply closes those gaps, so that the laws that govern federal elections apply in the same way throughout our country.

The result will be that voters in the territories will be protected from intimidation, threats, and coercion, when they cast their ballots in federal elections—just as voters are protected in the rest of America.

The result will be that the manipulation of elections for federal office by public officials will be illegal—just as in the rest of America.

By extending federal election law, as it does, my bill makes clear that aliens are prohibited from voting and extends the penalties of fine and imprisonment that apply in the rest of our country.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

By extending federal election law, as it does, my bill makes sure that persons employed in federal or territorial government offices are barred from using their official authority to interfere with the nomination or election process for any federal office and penalizes those who do.

By extending federal election law, as it does, my bill gives voters assurance that their votes will not be diluted with votes cast by persons using false information to register or identify themselves at the polling place, just as federal law assures voters in the rest of America.

My bill simply adds the Northern Mariana Islands and other U.S. territories to those parts of the law where we are not included, in the Voting Rights Act of 1965, for example, and in the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971.

Each and every Member of Congress from each and every State abides by and is protected by these same laws. I believe that Members of Congress from the non-State areas and their constituents must abide by the same standards and deserve these same safeguards in their elections for federal office.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

HONORING FORMER MONROE
COUNTY COMMISSIONER JERRY
STEELE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with sadness that I rise to note the recent passing of a longtime community leader and public servant, former Monroe County Commissioner Jerry Steele. Commissioner Steele was 85.

A lifelong resident of Beatrice, Alabama, Commissioner Steele graduated from Beatrice High School in 1946. He only left for a few years to attend Auburn University from which he graduated in 1951. Jerry loved Beatrice so much that he often told his friends, "If you need me, you can always find me in Beatrice. I never intended to move until I move to the cemetery."

Jerry's love for Monroe County was demonstrated in his many contributions to the community. A supporter of local education, he founded Monroe Academy in 1970, and served as Board Chairman for eight years.

He was a dedicated member of the business community as well. He organized F. S. Steele Timber Company and later Hines, Steele and Steele, Inc. in 1969. He was Vice-President of Peoples Exchange Bank and a former member of the Alabama Cattleman's Association.

He was first elected to public office in the 1950's when he served on the Beatrice City Council. In 1964, he was elected to the Monroe County Commission, a position he held for 24 years. While a commissioner, he earned a reputation as an honest and dependable leader and a devoted shepherd of the people's business. He also had a well-known sense of humor. According to the Monroe Journal, Jerry possessed a wit that seems particularly appropriate in today's political climate. He once said, "I'm telling you the sorriest administrator of money is a government office, and that includes us."

Jerry was a Charter member of the Beatrice Community Church and a member of the Beatrice Baptist Church. He taught Sunday School, served as a Deacon, and held many other offices in each church throughout the years.

An avid sportsman, Jerry loved hunting and fishing with his children and grandchildren, who were the joys of his life.

On behalf of the people of south Alabama, I wish to extend my heartfelt condolences to his wife, Patricia; their two sons, David and Harvel; their seven grandchildren, two great-grandchildren and their many relatives. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

INTRODUCING THE INVASIVE FISH
AND WILDLIFE PREVENTION ACT
OF 2013

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to introduce the Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act. This legislation significantly strengthens the ability of federal regulators to make rapid, science-based decisions on whether non-native fish or wildlife species pose a risk to ecosystems within the United States and cause economic damage or threaten public health.

Invasive species are a persistent and costly thorn in the side of the American taxpayer. In Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011, the federal budget allocated approximately \$120 million to control the Asian carp. Meanwhile the U.S. is spending tens of millions more dollars to control other invaders, such as wetland-destroying nutria and two python species established in south Florida.

Yet, federal regulators are frequently slow to respond to emerging threats. Invasive species are currently regulated by the Lacey Act, a 112-year-old law that gives the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) only limited power to declare non-native animals as "injurious" and prohibit their importation and interstate sales. In fact, it takes the FWS an average of four years to officially list a species as injurious and take appropriate action. Experts and interested parties repeatedly describe this regulatory approach as reactive and ineffective.

Alternatively, the Invasive Fish and Wildlife Prevention Act would give the FWS streamlined authority to prevent invasions using modern scientific approaches. The bill also creates a category of "Injurious II" species, which are not suited as private pets or aquarium species, but can be held safely by qualified zoos, aquaria, research facilities and other institutions without any need for a Federal permit. This exemption is broader than current law, which requires a Federal permit for transactions in all listed species, a requirement that is becoming unworkable as more animals are listed.

We must take critical steps now to prevent the next Asian carp, Burmese python, or red lionfish crisis. These destructive invaders will continue to come into our country via globalized trade until Congress steps in to make a difference.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN
REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. ROYCE. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the Violence Against Women Reauthorization Act. This is important legislation to help protect women and families from domestic violence. I have long championed the rights of crime victims, especially women. So I am glad we are passing this legislation today, and that it will soon become law. This will ensure we continue our efforts to address the issue of violence against women from a variety of angles, including prevention, intervention, and prosecution.

Today I want to address specific aspects of Title XII of this Act, entitled "Trafficking Victims Protection."

Human trafficking is an egregious offense against human dignity that oppresses tens of millions of people around the world, and disproportionately victimizes women and girls. But even those jarring statistics can obscure the depressing reality: the harm of trafficking is probably most clearly seen in the eyes of a girl who is being robbed of her freedom, her youth, and her hope for the unjust benefit of someone else.

As Chairman of the Committee of primary jurisdiction for the original Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) and the three subsequent reauthorization statutes, I am proud of the strong, bipartisan role that the Foreign Affairs Committee and the Congress have played in the global fight against modern-day slavery over the past 13 years.

Title XII of the bill before us today extends and amends those anti-trafficking authorities with language that was not considered under regular order by House committees. I rise to register my concern with certain sections that normally would fall within Foreign Affairs jurisdiction, because I do not want that language to harm the important work already being done by the Department of State, and particularly its Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons, known as the "TIP Office."

While our limited resources must be put to their best uses, I don't understand why the Senate has slashed funding for the TIP Office, in contrast to the funding increases elsewhere in Title XII. That is a mistake. I just hope it is not a mistake that is fatal to the integrity and vitality of anti-trafficking efforts at the Department of State. Within State, the TIP Office has been the Congressionally-authorized anchor that has kept trafficking advocacy and the annual tier rankings from being subordinated to the usual pressures of bilateral diplomacy. That is, the frequent temptation for the State Department to compromise our human trafficking concerns for interests perceived, and often misperceived, as being more important than pressing another country on this crime against humanity. This bill weakens the hand of the TIP Office.

Section 1201 of the bill directs the regional bureaus at the State Department to develop annual, country-specific anti-trafficking goals and objectives in cooperation with the TIP Office. With its deep expertise in implementing and assessing interventions to combat modern

slavery, the TIP Office has the lead role on such issues within the Department, and should maintain that lead. Section 1201 should not provide the basis for a mechanism that is independent from the work of the TIP Office, or from the recommendations set forth in the annual Trafficking in Persons Report. Rather, it should be used to increase regional bureau support for those priorities at the country level.

Furthermore, the host government consultations contemplated by section 1201 should focus on implementation of Department-set goals and objectives, rather than become a bilateral negotiation on their initial formulation in a way that might subvert the purpose of section 110 of the original TVPA, which mandates actions against governments that fail to meet minimum standards.

Section 1204(5) of the bill would change the TVPA "minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking" to include consideration of whether a foreign government has entered into effective partnerships or agreements with other governments, civil society or nongovernmental groups, or others, "that have resulted in concrete and measurable outcomes." I regret that the bill is vague about what those outcomes must be. The numbers of traffickers prosecuted and convicted, and the number of trafficking survivors assisted, should be indispensable components of any concrete, measurable outcomes for purposes of this section. At least the language is clear that such outcomes must already have occurred in order to qualify. This section must not be used to allow a government to avoid a Tier 3 designation by signing a new agreement or MOU promising prospective progress, even if that new agreement is with the U.S. Government. Foreign government promises to take action just don't count.

I appreciate the considerable anti-trafficking work of the TIP Office at the Department of State over the past dozen years, under both Republican and Democrat administrations. During that time, the leadership of the United States has helped to fuel the passage of more than 130 anti-trafficking laws around the world, though much work remains to be done. I hope that the elements of Title XII that I have discussed will not undercut those efforts. The Foreign Affairs Committee will be working to assure that.

DEFENDERS OF THE ALAMO

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the following is the names of the Defenders of the Alamo.

Buchanan, James, Alabama; Fishbaugh, William, Alabama; Fuqua, Galba, Alabama; White, Isaac, Alabama; Baker, Isaac G., Arkansas; Thompson, Jesse G., Arkansas; Warnell, Henry, Arkansas; Jennings, Gordon C., Connecticut; Grimes, Albert (Alfred) Calvin, Georgia; Melton, Eliel, Georgia; Shied, Manson, Georgia; Wells, William, Georgia; Wills, William, Georgia; Lindley, Jonathan L., Illinois.

Bailey, Peter James III, Kentucky; Bowie, James, Kentucky; Cloud, Daniel William, Kentucky; Darst, Jacob C., Kentucky; Davis, John, Kentucky; Fauntleroy, William H.,

Kentucky; Gaston, John E., Kentucky; Harris, John, Kentucky; Jackson, William Daniel, Kentucky; Jameson, Green B., Kentucky; Kellogg, John Benjamin, Kentucky; Kent, Andrew, Kentucky; Rutherford, Joseph, Kentucky; Thomas, B. Archer M., Kentucky; Washington, Joseph G., Kentucky; Despallier, Charles, Louisiana; Kerr, Joseph, Louisiana; Ryan, Isaac, Louisiana; Garrand, James W., Louisiana; Smith, Charles S., Maryland.

Flanders, John, Massachusetts; Howell, William D., Massachusetts; Linn, William, Massachusetts; Pollard, Amos, Massachusetts; Clark, M.B., Mississippi; Millsaps, Isaac, Mississippi; Moore, Willis A., Mississippi; Pagan, George, Mississippi; Parker, Christopher Adams, Mississippi; Baker, William Charles M., Missouri; Butler, George D., Missouri; Clark, Charles Henry, Missouri; Cottle, George Washington, Missouri; Day, Jerry C., Missouri; Tublinson, George W., Missouri; Cochran, Robert E., New Hampshire; Stockton, Richard Lucius, New Jersey; Cunningham, Robert W., New York; Dewall, Lewis, New York; Evans, Samuel B., New York; Forsyth, John Hubbard, New York; Jones, John, New York; Tylee, James, New York.

Autry, Micajah, North Carolina; Floyd, Dolphin Ward, North Carolina; Parks, William, North Carolina; Scurlock, Mial, North Carolina; Smith, Joshua G., North Carolina; Thomson, John W., North Carolina; Wright, Claiborne, North Carolina; Harrison, William B., Ohio; Holland, Tapely, Ohio; Musselman, Robert, Ohio; Rose, James M., Ohio; Ballentine, John J., Pennsylvania; Brown, James Murry, Pennsylvania; Cain (Cane), John, Pennsylvania; Crossman, Robert, Pennsylvania; Cummings, David P., Pennsylvania; Hannum, James, Pennsylvania; Holloway, Samuel, Pennsylvania; Johnson, William, Pennsylvania; Kimble (Kimbell), George C., Pennsylvania; McDowell, William, Pennsylvania; Reynolds, John Purdy, Pennsylvania; Thurston, John M., Pennsylvania; Williamson, Hiram James, Pennsylvania; Wilson, John, Pennsylvania.

Martin, Albert, Rhode Island; Bonham, James Butler, South Carolina; Crawford, Lemuel, South Carolina; Neggan, George, South Carolina; Nelson, Edward, South Carolina; Nelson, George, South Carolina; Simmons, Cleveland Kinloch, South Carolina; Travis, William Barret, South Carolina; Bayliss, Joseph, Tennessee; Blair, John, Tennessee; Blair, Samuel C., Tennessee; Bowman, Jesse B., Tennessee; Campbell, James (Robert), Tennessee; Crockett, David, Tennessee; Daymon, Squire, Tennessee; Dearduff, William, Tennessee; Dickinson, Almeron, Tennessee; Dillard, John Henry, Tennessee; Ewing, James L., Tennessee; Garrett, James Girard, Tennessee; Harrison, Andrew Jackson, Tennessee; Haskell, Charles, M., Tennessee; Hays, John M., Tennessee; Marshall, William, Tennessee; McCoy, Jesse, Tennessee; McKinney, Robert, Tennessee; Miller, Thomas R., Tennessee; Mills, William, Tennessee; Nelson, Andrew M., Tennessee; Robertson, James Waters, Tennessee; Smith, Andrew H., Tennessee; Summerlin, A. Spain, Tennessee; Summers, William E., Tennessee; Taylor, Edward, Tennessee; Taylor, George, Tennessee; Taylor, James, Tennessee; Taylor, William, Tennessee; Walker, Asa, Tennessee; Walker, Jacob, Tennessee.

Abamillo, Juan, Texas; Badillo, Juan Antonio, Texas; Espalier, Carlos, Texas; Esparza, Gregorio (Jose Maria), Texas; Fuentes, Antonio, Texas; Jimenez, Damacio, Texas; King, William Phillip, Texas; Lewis, William Irvine, Texas; Lightfoot, William J., Texas; Losoya, Jose Toribio, Texas; Nava, Andres, Texas; Perry, Richardson, Texas; Andross, Miles Deforest, Vermont; Allen, Robert, Virginia; Baugh, John J., Virginia; Carey, Wil-

liam R., Virginia; Garnett, William, Virginia; Goodrich, John Camp, Virginia; Herndon, Patrick Henry, Virginia; Kenny, James, Virginia; Main, George Washington, Virginia; Malone, William T., Virginia; Mitchasson, Edward F., Virginia; Moore, Robert B., Virginia; Northcross, James, Virginia.

Zanco, Charles, Denmark; Blazeby, William, England; Bourne, Daniel, England; Brown, George, England; Dennison, Stephen (or Ireland), England; Dimpkins, James R., England; Gwynne, James C., England; Hersee, William Daniel, England; Nowlan, James, England; Sewell, Marcus L., England; Starr, Richard, England; Stewart, James E., England; Waters, Thomas, England; Wolfe, Anthony (Avram), England; Wolfe, son age 12, England; Wolfe, son age 11, England; Burns, Samuel E., Ireland; Duvall, Andrew, Ireland; Evans, Robert, Ireland; Hawkins, Joseph M., Ireland; Jackson, Thomas, Ireland; McGee, James, Ireland; Rusk, Jackson J., Ireland; Rusk, Jackson J., Ireland; Ward, William B., Ireland; Courtman, Henry, Germany; Thomas, Henry Germany; Ballentine, Richard W., Scotland; McGregor, John, Scotland; Robinson, Isaac, Scotland; Wilson, David L., Scotland; Johnson, Lewis, Wales.

Brown, Robert, Unknown; Day, Freeman H.K., Unknown; Garvin, John E., Unknown; George, James, Unknown; McCafferty, Edward, Unknown; Mitchell, William T., Unknown; Mitchell, Napoleon B., Unknown; Roberts, Thomas H., Unknown; Smith, William H., Unknown; Sutherland, William Depriest, Unknown; White Robert, Unknown; John (Free Black), Unknown; Joe, Travis' slave.

NATIONAL SLEEP AWARENESS WEEK

HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the millions of Americans affected by sleep disorders and insufficient sleep in observance of National Sleep Awareness Week, March 3rd–10th. National Sleep Awareness Week is a week-long campaign to celebrate and bring awareness to the health benefits of sleep.

I am proud to represent the nation's foremost organization on sleep research, the Sleep Research Society (SRS), which is based in Darien, Illinois. The Sleep Research Society, established in 1961, is composed of scientists whose research contributions extend to all areas of sleep. The SRS promotes continued research and plays an important role in the National Center on Sleep Disorders Research within the National Institutes of Health's National Heart Lung and Blood Institute.

Sleep disorders affect every age group, from infants to the elderly, and are often an indicator of, or a precursor to, other major diseases and disorders. 50–70 million Americans suffer from chronic sleep disorders, while 5% of the population suffers from sleep apnea. Sleep apnea results in excessive daytime fatigue, increased frequency of road traffic accidents, and arterial hypertension. Prior to diagnosis, patients with sleep apnea also tend to incur higher costs in their overall health care.

I urge my colleagues to reflect on the work that needs to be done to ensure that Americans with sleep disorders or suffering from insufficient sleep can expect to see sustained

and meaningful improvements in their health and healthcare. I urge my colleagues to stand with me and recognize National Sleep Awareness Week.

HONORING REVEREND HECTOR
VILLEGAS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the life of a beloved leader in the Newman Community, Reverend Hector Villegas, and to recognize his tireless work as the Pastor of St. Joachim's Catholic Church. Ministering to thousands, Reverend Villegas earned the respect of fellow clergy and civic leaders alike.

The Rev. Hector Villegas of Newman passed away March 1 at the age of 48, only days from his 49th birthday. The Rev. Villegas was known for serving the parish with compassion and devotion, a spiritual leader whose own life was guided by his deep faith.

He was born and raised in Tijuana, where he was surrounded by many friends and enjoyed childhood adventures with his older sister Patricia. He had a lifelong passion for exercise, and through adulthood could often be found working out at a gym. His participation in a youth ministry camp inspired him to become a priest.

After graduating from the Tijuana Diocese Seminary with a degree in philosophy, the Rev. Villegas came to California in 1998 as a seminarian at St. Jude's parish in Ceres. He attended St. John's Seminary in Camarillo and St. Patrick's Seminary in Menlo Park before being ordained June 29, 2002, by Bishop Stephen Blaire at the Cathedral of the Annunciation.

The Rev. Villegas served at St. Stanislaus in Modesto from 2002 to 2007, serving as a parochial vicar and later administrator pro tem.

He is survived by his mother, Evangelina Villegas of San Diego; and two sisters, Patricia Hernandez of Chula Vista and Adriana Quiroz Villegas of San Diego.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Reverend Villegas for his unwavering leadership, and recognizing his accomplishments and contributions as Pastor of St. Joachim's Catholic Church. The life of Reverend Hector Villegas serves as an example of excellence to those in our community, and his legacy will not be soon forgotten.

CANCEL THE SEQUESTER ACT OF
2013

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to raise my voice against the set of across-the-board cuts—known as “the sequester”—currently taking effect across the country.

These devastating cuts are unique among American public policies for a simple reason: they were purposefully designed to be a bad idea.

During the debt ceiling standoff of 2011, the “sequester” was designed as a default option so revolting to both Democrats and Republicans that it would force the bipartisan “Super Committee” to adopt a workable budget plan. While that Committee failed at this objective, the American people have been left to pay the price.

The sequester, if fully implemented, will put more than 2 million jobs at risk—more than half of which are associated with small businesses:

The sequester will also create tremendous uncertainty in financial markets and among consumers, ultimately contributing to an estimated one-half of one percent drag on economic growth this year;

These cuts will also undermine military readiness, educational quality, and research output while leaving us with longer airport security lines, more untreated mental illnesses, more hunger, more homelessness, and fewer federal criminal prosecutions.

It should come as no surprise that, according to a Wall Street Journal/NBC News Poll, Americans oppose the sequester by a more than 2-to-1 margin.

If Congress is unable to craft a bipartisan agreement that takes sequestration off the table, this body has a duty to avert these catastrophic cuts by any means necessary. This is why I introduced the “Cancel the Sequester Act,” a one-sentence bill that would repeal the section of the Budget Control Act of 2011 that created these senseless, job-destroying cuts.

Please consider cosponsoring the “Cancel the Sequester Act,” so that we can prevent Washington's dysfunction from inflicting further harm on the American people.

TRIBUTE TO GENERAL WILLIAM
LYON

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Congressman DARRELL ISSA, Congressman JOHN CAMPBELL and Congressman DANA ROHRBACHER, and on behalf of the entire California Republican Congressional Delegation, to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to our country and state are exceptional. We have been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities, and country, a better place to live and work. General William Lyon is one of these individuals. General Lyon's many accomplishments are wide ranging, as he has made his mark as a successful businessman, a decorated member of the military and an active supporter of the community. On March 9, 2013, General Lyon will be celebrating his 90th birthday.

General Lyon was born in 1923 in Los Angeles, California. Prior to entering the United States Army Air Corps in 1943, he attended the University of Southern California and the Dallas Aviation School and Air College. He completed the Air War College in 1971 and the Air National Guard and Air Force Reserve Senior Officers Orientation Course in 1972 and 1974. Additionally, he attended the Indus-

trial College of the Armed Forces National Seminar in 1973. In 1943, General Lyon enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps as a reservist and continued serving as a civilian flight instructor until he received a direct appointment as a flight officer in June 1944. During World War II, he was assigned to the 6th Ferrying Group and ferried aircraft to the Pacific and European theaters. In 1945 he was assigned to the North African Division of the Air Transport Command and returned to the United States in 1946.

In 1947, General Lyon was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and participated in various Reserve assignments until his voluntary recall to active duty in 1951. He was then assigned to Headquarters Air Training Command as a staff pilot and was later transferred to the Military Air Transport Service, flying air evacuation and ferrying missions. In 1953 he volunteered for a tour of duty in Korea and flew 75 combat missions in the C-46 and C-47. From 1954 to 1963, General Lyon was assigned to various positions in the Reserve and served as a flight commander and operations officer. In 1963 he was named Commander of the 929th Tactical Airlift Squadron, March Air Force Base, California, and subsequently served as Commander of the parent unit, the 943d Tactical Airlift Group.

In June 1970, General Lyon was assigned as mobilization assistant to the commander, Sacramento Air Materiel Area, McClellan Air Force Base, California, and in February 1972, he became mobilization assistant to the Commander, Fifteenth Air Force at March Air Force Base. He was promoted to the grade of Major General on April 24, 1974, with date of rank May 24, 1972. In March 1974 he was appointed mobilization assistant to the commander in chief, Strategic Air Command, Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska, where he was involved in the planning of the transfer of designated KC-135 units to the Reserve Forces. In 1975, General Lyon was appointed by President Gerald R. Ford to serve as Chief of Air Force Reserve Headquarters at the Pentagon, where he was responsible for managing a \$700 million budget as well as the activities of some 53,000 Air Force Reservists. Four years later, on April 16, 1979, he retired from military service.

General Lyon's many military decorations and awards include the Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Air Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Presidential Unit Citation, Air Force Outstanding Unit Award, Combat Readiness Medal, Armed Forces Reserve Medal with hour glass device, and the Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citation.

More than 50 years ago, General Lyon started building homes for returning military personnel and others who wanted to make a life in California. This modest effort evolved to become William Lyon Homes, which is now one of the nation's largest private homebuilders. Headquartered in Newport Beach, California, William Lyon Homes has constructed more than 100,000 new residences in Arizona, California and Nevada.

General Lyon's business success isn't limited to homebuilding. In 1981 he and a partner purchased AirCal, a regional air carrier based in Newport Beach, California. General Lyon served as the Chairman and Chief Executive Officer until 1987 when AirCal was purchased by American Airlines. His love of flying then led him to acquire Martin Aviation, a fixed

based operator, at John Wayne Airport in Orange County, California and in 2009 he established the Lyon Air Museum to preserve and promote the memory of WWII and "The Greatest Generation."

It is hard to imagine that General Lyon would have any free time on his hands yet he always found time for his community. He currently serves as a Director on the Segerstrom Center for the Arts Board, having been a former Chairman of that Board. General Lyon is the founding Chairman of the Orangewood Children's Foundation, and past Chairman of Boy Scouts of America, Orange County Council. Additionally, he has served as Board Chairman of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society of The United Way.

Throughout General Lyon's incredible life he has been loved and supported by his wonderful family including his wife Willa Dean Lyon, and children, Christine Lyon Rhoades, Mary Susan Lyon Isola, William H. Lyon, Marcia Stone and Byron Russell.

We have come to know General Lyon well through many years working together on a variety of projects in California. We can all personally attest to General Lyon's incredible work-ethic, professionalism, and positive attitude. In light of all General Lyon has done for southern California and our country, it is only fitting that he be honored as he celebrates his 90th birthday. General Lyon's honorable service to our country and tireless passion for public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our country, state and community. We are proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many people are grateful for his service and salute him on this great milestone.

SUPPORTING PUBLIC SCHOOL
WEEK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Public School Week. This weeklong series of events is designed to inform and transform the civic conversation around public education. In order for America to lead in the 21st century, our foremost social and economic imperative should be to provide a quality education to all of our students.

In my city of Dallas, four magnet schools were identified as Blue Ribbon schools. These four Dallas Independent School District (ISD) schools are the Environmental Science Academy, the Townview School of Science and Engineering Magnet High School, the Rosie M. Collins Sorrells School of Education and the Social Services Magnet High School and Irma Lerma Rangel Young Women's Leadership School. Being identified as a Blue Ribbon school means they are among the finest schools in the country, and I am proud of these four stellar institutions and others like them.

Townview Magnet is one of the most diverse schools in Texas, with minorities representing over half of the student population. Townview is a gem in my Congressional district and home to some of the Nation's best and brightest students. Newsweek Magazine

has consistently rated Townview's Science and Engineering Magnet as one of the top high schools in the Nation. Townview serves as a model for other institutions of learning across the country.

Mr. Speaker, many of our best and our brightest students attend public schools and with encouragement and support from their principals and teachers they are capable of achieving remarkable success. We cannot allow our schools to lose the critical funding they need to operate simply because we as a Congress cannot work together to solve sequestration. Texas is poised to lose approximately \$67.8 million for primary and secondary education, putting around 930 teacher and aide jobs at risk. In addition about 172,000 fewer students would be served and approximately 280 fewer schools would receive funding.

Mr. Speaker, supporting our Nation's public schools will help us out-educate, out-innovate, and out-build the rest of the world. We must identify ways to help improve schools like these that provide educational excellence to our communities. We must not waver in our commitment to our children and the future of this country.

HARROWISM! IN HONOR OF TEAM
LEADER CAPTAIN BENJAMIN
CONRAD HARROW 7TH SPECIAL
FORCES GROUP THE UNITED
STATES ARMY

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 6, 2013

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Team Leader Captain Benjamin Harrow of The United States Army, 7th Special Forces Group, Green Berets. On May 15, 2012 while out on patrol, an IED explosion almost left Benjamin mortally wounded. Losing both of his legs and sustaining numerous other life threatening injuries he has come back from the dead. Already in such a short time his recovery is at full speed ahead. With the help of his and her family and his lovely wife Gina and son Peyton, he has found the strength and inspiration to heal. Spend a little time with Ben, and you will understand why he became Team Leader of one of our Nation's elite members of The Special Forces Group 7. Ben is a graduate of The United States Military Academy at West Point. He was a star lacrosse player for Army. I submit this poem penned in his honor by Albert Caswell.

HARROWISM!

A hero!
And from where do they all so come?
Men of honor,
who so walk upon battlefields of death . . .
as Thy Kingdom Come!
And all of those who from out of the ashes,
rebuild their lives with not much left who
have begun . . .
As when they come back home all in this
most magnificent quests!
Indeed, these are but America's most heroic
of all sons who so bless!
Who so go off to war where angels so fear to
tread . . .
Who for all of us heroically have so died,
and bled!
And come back home so very close to death!

To somehow lift up their fine heads!
All in what their most magnificent hearts
have so said!
Armed, with but only their Harrowism which
so beats within their chests!
As from out of all of this darkness,
they must now so pass that test!
To so summon up,
all of the courage and the strength To But
Be The Best!
Oh what A Special Force this is no less!
As they come back home so cheating death!
As we so watch all in such awe as we lose our
breath!
As they rise up to so teach us all about
Harrowism no less!
As high above all others they now stand so
yes!
Heroes!
Because, Heroes come in all shapes and sizes!
But, it's what's within their great hearts
that which so comprises!
But who they are!
Moving all out into that darkness of death
all at light speeds,
as their fine hearts so crest!
As out across a nation,
a mother now so weeps in her sorrow . . .
All because for us,
her most precious son gave up his tomor-
row's yes!
For they lead!
And we will follow!
And ah yes,
for these are but such a special breed who in
pity will not so wallow!
And then there is a special breed,
The Special Forces!
A SPECIAL FORCE of nature so complete!
As all throughout their veins their most he-
roic blood beats!
The ones who the enemy so fears,
and so heed's!
Who upon battlefields of honor bright,
come all at them fast breaking all at such
speeds!
The ones who can not so be checked,
by any enemy!
Whose most selfless souls,
now so make the angels weep!
As we so pray to our Lord,
to watch over them to keep!
And for all of those ones,
who must now come back home on this night
. . .
Who must now begin their new most gallant
of all fights . . .
All on that hard road to recovery,
as we watch their brave hearts so ignite!
Men without arms and legs,
who so teach us all about faith!
Whose families,
so give to them the strength to meet each
new coming day!
Who now so stand with tears in eyes!
As before them all in pieces their loved ones
lie!
As these Heroes so touch our hearts and
souls,
with but all of their most amazing grace as
we behold!
To so show to this our world how Angels are
made!
For these are men of such courage and con-
viction!
And of such undying faith we are so wit-
nessing!
Rising up from the ashes,
Who All In The Game of Life so lead the way
. . .
All in what their most precious lives have to
say!
And, from out of all our Nation's Academes
. . .
But, have come our Nation's very best!

Magnificent men and women,
 who all so live and die to so make a difference no less!
 Fast breaking on battlefields of honor and in hospital beds,
 all at light speeds with their fine hearts and heads which can not so be checked!
 Whose Harrowism, our hearts so bless!
 And whose fine families must bare the greatest of all burdens so yes!
 Because, The Special Forces . . .
 are but everything that Superman so wishes he could be!
 Who come back home without arms and legs, to so teach us how men of honor behave!
 As we so watch them rebuild their lives, when they but lie just moments away from the grave!
 As ever onward they so stride,
 with but tears in their eyes!
 As their gaits have gotten stronger, as their days have gotten longer!
 Reaching for the highest of all heights, as do they!
 Benjamin, an American Harrow!
 And as a Captain and a Team Leader of Special Forces,
 whose heart and soul runs so very deep as through him so course's!
 A man who is Army Strong!
 Whose fine life is but like a song!
 A song of God and Family,
 and all about his beloved Country Tis of Thee . . .
 To a place where valor and faith all so meet!
 As West Point,
 would so anoint such a hero who lives on!
 The kind of man that General Mahollen,
 would so love to march along!
 Whether, on fields of green . . .
 or as a lacrosse player you were seen!
 Or on battlefields of honor bright,
 Big Ben would always lead!
 For he was built for honor,
 and he was built for speed!
 As a winner In the Game of Life,
 and in all of his deeds!
 The kind of man that even General MacArthur,
 as a hero would so concede!
 As Big Ben,
 America's son you live by such a fine heroes creed!
 A Real American Harrow,
 who upon all of us your light we so see . . .
 As it was on that fateful day,
 when IED Ben almost took your most heroic life away . . .
 As when you awoke,
 as what to your most heroic heart spoke!
 As upon your face,
 your most heroic tears were invoked to fight on that day . . .
 All for the love of your life . . .
 your lovely devoted wife Gina,
 and that future lacrosse player son Peyton you chose to stay!
 Rising up from the ashes as would you so Green Beret!
 As once again,
 your strong heart is leading out in front the way!
 All out on that rocky road to recovery!
 All in what your Harrowism has so to say!
 To So Teach Us!
 To So Beseech Us!
 To So Reach Us,
 and Grab Our Hearts in every way!
 Because, Real Heroes Hearts Never Fade!
 Oh, what a Special Force Ben you are in so every way!
 And if ever I had a son,
 I wish he could be as half as courageous as this one . . .
 Who so stands more than a man in today!

Because Big Ben you've got the ball,
 and you are fast breaking to recovery . . .
 So we better clear out,
 and get out of your way!
 As we so watch this Special Force called Harrowism,
 and so see of what you are made!
 Showing us all,
 that arms and legs we all need!
 But, we can get by!
 But,
 without a most heroic heart we will so surely die!
 Better To Die For Something,
 or lose your strong arms and legs . . .
 Then, live for nothing in regret in your last days!
 Better To Be An American Harrow In Life,
 and Lead The Way!
 Because in Heaven,
 you need not arms or legs . . .
 And that's where Big Ben you are going one day!
 In these, the moments of our lives . . .
 what have we've so done and so strived?
 Will we be the ones to courage find?
 Will we have the right stuff to go so very deep down inside?
 To walk through the valley of death,
 or come back home with but not much left . . .
 And somehow new mountains so climb!
 Could we be a Hero's Hero?
 And be the ones to such Harrowism find?
 As Big Ben,
 an American Hero who so shines!

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.
 As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 7, 2013 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 12

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 To hold hearings to examine the U.S. Strategic Command and U.S. Cyber Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session. SD-G50

10 a.m.
 Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Richard Cordray, of Ohio, to be

Director, Bureau of Consumer Financial Protection, and Mary Jo White, of New York, to be a Member of the Securities and Exchange Commission.

SD-538
 Select Committee on Intelligence
 To hold hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-216

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation
 To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Federal Communications Commission. SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
 Subcommittee on Employment and Workplace Safety
 To hold hearings to examine Job Corps budget shortfall, focusing on safeguarding workforce training for America's disconnected youth. SD-430

MARCH 13

10 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Personnel
 To hold hearings to examine sexual assaults in the military. SH-216

Committee on Foreign Relations
 To hold closed hearings to examine strategic counterterrorism, focusing on meeting current and emerging challenges. TBA

Committee on the Judiciary
 To hold hearings to examine fulfilling the promise of open government five years after the "OPEN Government Act". SD-226

Committee on Veterans' Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine Veterans' Affairs (VA) claims process, focusing on a review of Veterans' Affairs transformation efforts. SR-418

2 p.m.
 Special Committee on Aging
 To hold hearings to examine Jamaican phone fraud targeting seniors. SD-562

2:30 p.m.
 Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
 To hold hearings to examine the costs and impacts of crisis budgeting. SD-342

MARCH 14

10:30 a.m.
 Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship
 To hold hearings to examine helping small businesses weather economic challenges and natural disasters, focusing on a review of legislative proposals on access to capital and disaster recovery. SR-428A

2:30 p.m.
 Select Committee on Intelligence
 To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters. SH-219

MARCH 19

9:30 a.m.
 Committee on Armed Services
 To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command, U.S. Northern Command, and U.S. Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization

Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SH-216

10 a.m.

Committee on the Judiciary
Subcommittee on Antitrust, Competition Policy and Consumer Rights
To hold hearings to examine the American Airlines/US Airways merger, focusing on consolidation, competition, and consumers.

SD-226

APRIL 9

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine U.S. Pacific Command and U.S. Forces Korea in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the

possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

APRIL 11

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Air Force in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

APRIL 23

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Army in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-106

APRIL 25

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services
To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-106

MAY 8

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services
Subcommittee on Airland
To hold hearings to examine Army modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2014 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222