

As the former Senior Vice President of Workforce and Economic Development and General Counsel at Ivy Tech, I was especially proud to be part of the college's Accelerating Greatness 2013 strategic plan, which succeeded in changing lives while making Indiana great. I look forward to an even brighter future for Ivy Tech Community College and the students it serves. Congratulations on 50 years of dedicated service to the citizens of Indiana!

INTRODUCTION OF THE CHARITABLE DRIVING TAX RELIEF ACT OF 2013

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Charitable Driving Tax Relief Act of 2013 to remove a serious disincentive to participation in charitable activities. Private charitable activity plays an important role in our society, and it is important that Congress not stand in the way by penalizing those who wish to offer their services to these groups.

Under current law, individuals that volunteer their time and energy by driving their personal vehicles on behalf of a charitable group can end up with an unpleasant surprise in the form of an unanticipated tax bill. Specifically, volunteer drivers receiving reimbursement for the use of their vehicle are taxed on these payments to the extent that they exceed 14 cents per mile. This treatment stands in stark contrast to the allowance for reimbursement for the business use of that same vehicle, 56 and one-half cents per mile in 2013.

The Charitable Driving Tax Relief Act will equalize the tax treatment of charitable reimbursements with those received for business driving because the point of the payment is essentially the same, that is, to cover the cost of operating a personal vehicle while performing an important service in the pursuit of a greater good.

To achieve this end, my legislation would exclude from gross income any reimbursement received for the use of a volunteer's car while assisting a charitable group, limited only by the cap the Internal Revenue Service sets regarding business driving. This treatment would be available only for services provided without compensation and drivers would be required to maintain sufficient records to substantiate the charitable use of their vehicles. Finally, this bill drops the requirement that charitable groups report these reimbursements to the IRS, removing an administrative and paperwork burden that takes resources away from a charity's larger purpose.

Each day, thousands of Americans lend a hand in providing transportation services to a multitude of organizations engaged in good works. These activities include assisting individuals with their routine grocery shopping, providing the use of a four-wheel drive vehicle to transport home-visit nurses during inclement weather, delivering meals as part of a holiday food drive, helping individuals to keep their medical appointments, and many more similar activities.

These volunteer drivers are donating their time and their talents, not their vehicles, and accepting reimbursement for the use of that

car, incidental to their time and talent donation, is a reasonable act, which should not result in an additional tax liability. Today, when it comes to driving a personal vehicle, our tax code makes a distinction between business and charitable uses. This distinction is a mistake; it is a serious disincentive to charitable activities, and it should be corrected. I encourage my colleagues to support the continued efforts of our charity-minded constituents by cosponsoring the Charitable Driving Tax Relief Act of 2013.

HONORING JACKSON ISMERT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Jackson Ismert. Jackson is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Jackson has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Jackson has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Jackson has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Jackson Ismert for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO ERIN BEMIS

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Erin Bemis for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Erin Bemis is the Senior Vice President of Logistics and Operations at IronWorks, which provides individualized training solutions for various fitness goals. At IronWorks, Erin is tasked with managing many of the company's operations, including billing, communications, and organizing board meetings. Outside of work, Mrs. Bemis is heavily involved in her community through her role as assistant community vice president with Junior League of

Des Moines and organizing numerous fundraisers, including the Salvation Army's Red Kettle Run, which she chaired. Erin is also planning a mission trip in June to assist orphans living in Rwanda. In all aspects of her life, Erin is an example of hard work and service that our state can be proud of.

Mr. Speaker, it is a profound honor to represent leaders like Erin in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize and applaud Ms. Bemis for utilizing her talents to better both her community and the great state of Iowa. I invite my colleagues in the House to join me in congratulating Erin on receiving this esteemed designation, thanking those at Business Record for their great work, and wishing each member of the 2013 Forty Under 40 class continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARK CASPER BEING NAMED MAN OF THE YEAR BY THE GREATER PITTSSTON FRIENDLY SONS OF ST. PATRICK

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Casper, who will be named Man of the Year by the Greater Pittston Friendly Sons of St. Patrick on the evening of March 17 at that organization's 99th annual St. Patrick's Day banquet.

Mark Casper was born in Pittston, the son of Eileen Brogan Casper and the late Robert Casper. A graduate of St. Mary's Assumption grade school and Seton Catholic high school, Mark attended Luzerne County Community College. He has been employed by Medico Industries for the past 27 years, holding various positions, and he is currently the service manager in the Wilkes-Barre location.

Mark is a member of Our Lady of the Eucharist parish in Pittston where he serves as chairman of the parish finance council and a member of the parish pastoral council. He is a member of the Exeter borough zoning board and a varsity assistant coach for the Pittston Area Lady Patriots basketball team.

Mark previously served as a member of the Holy Redeemer system school board and the Region 7 school advisory board. He was a coach for the Wyoming Valley boys' 8th grade catholic school basketball league and served as the league president for six years. He also served as a coach and board member for seven years in the Exeter little league program. And Mark was even a coach for the Pittston Area Stoners soccer team.

Prior to the closing of St. Mary's Assumption school, Mark served as the head basketball coach there for 27 years. He coached over 400 young men in 750 games, and his St. Mary's teams won 10 league championships and numerous tournament championships. He finished his head coaching career in 2012 as the boys' varsity basketball coach at Wyoming Area Catholic, where he reached the 500-win mark.

Mark's dedication to his parish and his school sports teams reflect a level of volunteerism and community spirit to which we should all aspire. I offer Mark my sincere congratulations and thanks on this momentous occasion.

THE BASEL III CAPITAL IMPACT
STUDY ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Basel III Capital Impact Study Act. This legislation requires the federal banking agencies to perform a thorough quantitative impact study (QIS) of the Basel III proposed rulemakings, taking into account the impact Dodd-Frank provisions will have on financial institutions in the United States, and report their findings to the Senate Banking Committee and House Financial Services Committee. The bill would also amend the International Lending Supervision Act of 1983 (ILSA) by requiring the federal banking agencies to ensure that differences in rules that implement capital requirements do not give competitive advantages to any one group of financial institutions.

The federal banking agencies have sufficient authority to perform a QIS for Basel III without Congressional action, but they have not conducted and publicly shared the results of any QIS specific to U.S. financial institutions. I am introducing the Basel III Capital Impact Study Act because we need more information about the effects of Basel III implementation. In my district, banks of all sizes have come to me with serious concerns about Basel III. While I appreciate that we want all banks to be as financially sound as possible, we must also be cognizant of homebuyers, small businesses, and families who need loans. We need to let banks do what banks do best, loan money. I don't want to see implementation of Basel III curtail business lending and slow our already weak economy.

Capital rules must be set in a manner that strikes the proper balance between safety and soundness and economic growth. The best way to determine whether such a balance is struck is to test new rules by examining the impact they will have on bank balance sheets and credit decisions prior to new capital rules taking effect. The QIS provides banking regulators with data that they can use to gauge the impact of proposed capital rules. This kind of pre-testing has been the model that was followed throughout the Basel process.

In the case of Basel III, the new rules require more than 7,000 U.S. depository institutions to make changes to their capital for the first time since the original Basel I rules took effect in 1992. The only review of the new Basel III rules was conducted through a "macro" level analysis conducted by the Bank for International Settlements. There has been no individualized analysis conducted in the U.S. This is problematic because there are thousands of U.S. banks that vary in size and business models covered under Basel III. Additionally, the lack of domestic scrutiny of the proposal means unique characteristics of the U.S. lending market, such as housing finance, have not been closely examined. Finally, the Dodd-Frank Act made a number of significant changes that will affect the capital and risk taking activities of U.S. institutions. These changes were not considered as part of the "macro" level review and should be factored in as part of some U.S. focused review of the new Basel III proposal.

We must make sure that financial institutions in the United States can continue to lend and do business with American families before moving forward with the implementation of Basel III.

HONORING DR. JAMES E. JOHNSON

HON. SANDER M. LEVIN

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a long-time leader in the health care field, Dr. James E. Johnson, who is being honored by the McLaren Macomb Healthcare Foundation at their 28th Annual Crystal Ball on Saturday, March 16, 2013.

Dr. Johnson is a 1975 graduate of the Midwestern University Chicago College of Osteopathic Medicine. He completed his internship at the Detroit Osteopathic Hospital and a general surgery residency program at McLaren Macomb Hospital located in my Congressional District.

Throughout his career, excellence in surgical care and surgical education has been Dr. Johnson's top priority. He currently serves as program director for McLaren Macomb Hospital's vascular surgery fellowship program and was also program director of the hospital's general surgery residency program for 17 years. Dr. Johnson also served as the hospital's chief of staff in 2011 and is currently a member of the McLaren Macomb Board of Trustees.

As a leader in the osteopathic profession, Dr. Johnson was instrumental in creating the first osteopathic consortium of general surgery residency programs in the nation through the Michigan State College of Osteopathic Medicine, where he is a clinical professor of surgery. For 10 years, he served as the director of the consortium, which became the model for the Osteopathic Postdoctoral Training Institution for general surgery currently in operation throughout the United States.

Dr. Johnson has been a member of the American College of Osteopathic Surgeons (ACOS) since 1982. He was awarded the designation of Fellow by the ACOS in 1990 and became a life member in 2008. He also served on the College's board of governors for nine years, as secretary-treasurer, and president in 1999-2000.

In 2012 the ACOS honored Dr. Johnson with the Orel F. Martin Medal, the organization's highest award. This recognition was designated to pay tribute to his outstanding career as an osteopathic surgeon, educator, mentor and leader.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. James Johnson. I thank him for his commitment to caring for those in need, and I am pleased to join with the entire community in paying tribute to him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on February 28, 2013, due to illness. If I

was present that day, I would have voted "yes" for Rollcall vote 54 and "no" for Rollcall vote 55.

I was unable to vote on March 6, 2013, due to illness. If I was present that day, I would have voted "yes" for Rollcall vote 62.

HONORING JOSEPH PARISI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joseph Parisi. Joseph is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 601, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joseph has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Joseph has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Joseph has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joseph Parisi for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN LOZIER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 15, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize John Lozier for being named a 2013 Forty Under 40 honoree by the award-winning central Iowa publication, Business Record.

Since 2000, Business Record has undertaken an exhaustive annual review to identify a standout group of young leaders in the Greater Des Moines area who are making an impact in their communities and their careers. Each year, forty up-and-coming community and business leaders under 40 years of age are selected for this prestigious distinction, which is based on a combined criteria of community involvement and success in their chosen career field. The 2013 class of Forty Under 40 honorees join an impressive roster of 560 business leaders and growing.

Dr. John Lozier literally changes the lives of young Iowans every day as the Pediatric Interventional Cardiologist at Pediatric Cardiology P.C. After receiving his Bachelor of Science in Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry from Yale University, John pursued and obtained his medical degree from the University of Iowa. Today in Des Moines, Dr. Lozier utilizes his highly skilled medical specialty to assist children by assessing and repairing a wide variety of cardiac conditions. Outside of Pediatric Cardiology, John is involved with multiple professional organizations that research cutting-edge techniques to treat congenital heart disease. Dr. Lozier also volunteers his time and expertise each year in Mexico to provide life-saving medical care for children. At home,