

metal detector and was referred to the secondary area for additional screening. The passenger promptly let herself out of the holding area and collected her accessible property. It was three minutes before an employee of the private screening company noticed that she was missing.

More needs to be done to prevent security breaches at SPP airports.

Similarly, given that the documented mishandling of sensitive information can have tragic consequences, more needs to be done to prevent such violations as well.

Today, TSA does not have a process in place for ensuring that all employees of corporations with contracts for screening services receive training on the proper handling of sensitive information.

This is the case despite several instances of sensitive security information having been mishandled by employees of corporations with contracts for screening services under the SPP.

For example, on July 18, 2010, a new hire training manual containing sensitive security information (SSI) about screening practices was stolen after a private security company employee in possession of the manual removed it from SFO. In response, TSA sent a letter to the company that conducts screening services for SFO, as well as to all other SPP contractors, directing that any SSI materials be retained in a secure fashion at the airport and only removed with expressed, written permission of a TSA Contracting Officer.

I understand that similar incidents have occurred at other SPP airports. However, since TSA has not always taken action or documented their actions to correct the mishandling of the SSI information, reports on such incidents are currently unavailable.

Regarding workforce protections, the bill would protect workers' pay and benefits by requiring that when an airport privatizes, the private screening company provide Transportation Security Officers employed at the time of the switch the right of first refusal to screening jobs and offer compensation and benefits equal to or greater than what they received at the time the contract was awarded.

No worker on the front lines in securing our aviation system should lose their job, see a reduction in pay, or lose benefits because an airport opts to utilize a private screening company.

As all of my colleagues can attest to, customer service at airports, and in particular in the security screening lanes, is an issue that evokes passionate reactions from constituents all across the country.

Currently, there is no requirement that private screening companies report customer complaints regarding their screening experience to TSA or Congress. The bill would provide the public an avenue for expressing concerns with screening at airports with contract screeners, thus ensuring that the flying public's concerns can be addressed.

In the wake of the deadly attacks of September 11, 2001, TSA was created to secure all modes of transportation so that a terrorist attack on the scale of 9/11 would never happen again.

Since TSA's earliest days, it has struggled to fulfill its mission, but, with every passing year, it matures and improves as a security agency. Opponents of TSA have not forgone any opportunity to exploit a misstep to ad-

vance their ultimate goal—the dismantling of TSA. At the same time, they have willfully turned a blind eye to lapses, breaches, and problems at airports secured by contract screeners.

Just as we must act to strengthen TSA's security operations, it is imperative that we address SPP's glaring security challenges.

It is my hope that the "Contract Screener Reform and Accountability Act" be enacted to ensure that we do just that.

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#### HONORING THE 80TH BIRTHDAY OF ARTHUR EVE

### HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 10, 2013*

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the former Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly, and my former colleague, Arthur O. Eve, on the occasion of his 80th birthday. A Korean war veteran, factory worker, national political activist, and tireless advocate for all those forced to occupy the margins of society, Art's selfless public service inspires me to this day.

Born in New York City and raised in Florida during segregation, Art arrived in Buffalo in February 1953. Having just earned his Bachelor's of Science from West Virginia State College, he enlisted in the United States Army. Art honorably served our country, fighting in the Korean War from 1953 to 1955. While serving his tour of duty in Germany, he managed a program for orphans, foreshadowing his legacy of advocacy for children, the elderly, the homeless, the poor, and all others who suffer discrimination.

In 1955, Art completed his service and returned to Buffalo, securing a job at a local Chevrolet plant. It was there he first observed the desperate plight Buffalo's youth. Due to a complete absence of role models and guidance, young people often succumbed to drugs and other criminal activities. A former All-High basketball player in Florida and an All-European player in Germany, Art intimately understood the immeasurable benefits of role models and organized activities in children's lives.

Art became inspired to quit his job at Chevrolet to seek a position in parks and recreation. He found civil service jobs, the foundation of our city, were rarely awarded based on merit. Determined to transform the system from within, Art joined the local Democratic Party and soon earned his position in the Parks Department.

A true reformer, Art was the sole ward leader who remained separate from the political establishment by 1958. He became known for his courageous independent activism and civil rights advocacy, which led to his election to the New York State Assembly in 1966.

Art dedicated his extraordinary tenure in the Assembly to representing those who others ignored. During his first term, he pioneered efforts to secure \$500,000 to begin the State University of New York system's SEEK/Educational Opportunity Program. The program provides financially disadvantaged students with academic support and supplemental funding to facilitate their pursuit of higher education. As of 2013, the program had \$3.5 million worth of funding.

Art's reputation as a champion of equality spread. Ahead of his time, Art supported many issues that remain relevant today, including legislation in favor of expanded access to healthcare and against hate crimes. By the 1970s, colleges in New York had established the Arthur O. Eve Higher Education Opportunity Program to aid students without scholastic or financial resources. In 1988, the Kennedy Center recognized Art's legacy with their prestigious Distinguished Leadership in Arts and Education Award.

In 1979, Art became Deputy Speaker of the New York State Assembly. His tireless work towards equality and human rights brought national attention to the New York State Assembly. As Deputy Speaker, he was the highest ranking African American in the New York State Legislature. He was a founding member of the New York State Black and Puerto Rican Legislative Caucus, and served on the committee of public officials who attempted to quell the conflict at Attica State Prison. He remained Deputy Speaker until his retirement from the State Assembly in 2002.

Art's rise to political prominence demonstrated great strides for the African-American community. In Buffalo, Art became the first African American to win the Buffalo Mayoral Democratic Primary. During his campaign, he led a historic voter registration drive, registering thousands of new African-American voters. Nationally, Art served as an adviser to Jesse Jackson's 1984 presidential campaign.

I feel highly privileged to have served with Art in the State Assembly from 1999 to 2002. During my time there, I valued Art's advice and counsel. As a new legislator in Albany, I treasured the wisdom and companionship of my colleague and fellow advocate for Western New York. To this day, I feel extremely fortunate to have shared time in the New York State Legislature with Art.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for allowing me to celebrate Arthur Eve's extraordinary work in honor of his 80th birthday. I am profoundly grateful for his service and friendship, and continue to be inspired by his incredible legacy.

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#### IN OBSERVANCE OF HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY

### HON. HENRY A. WAXMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 10, 2013*

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember those who perished during the Holocaust and to honor those who survived.

This week, when the world observes Yom Hashoah, Holocaust Remembrance Day, we recall the 6 million who died at the hands of the Nazis. We remember their stories—as sons, daughters, mothers, fathers. Whole communities have been lost.

This week, Congress will assemble for a memorial service for the Days of Remembrance to pay our respects to the victims of the Holocaust.

In Washington, DC, Yom Hashoah is commemorated as part of the Days of Remembrance sponsored by U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum in Washington, DC. The theme of this year's event is "Never Again: Heeding the Warning Signs." The theme raises questions:

When faced with opportunities to stop the Nazis, why did we miss the warning signs? How could we have failed to act? These questions speak to us today about our responsibility to act—even when others don't.

I would also like to acknowledge the work of the Los Angeles Museum of the Holocaust. This year, they convened an intergenerational walk with Holocaust survivors to bring awareness to the community. Pan Pacific Park was transformed into a timeline of the events of the Holocaust so that participants could learn more about the deep tragedy of Nazi atrocities. This event also shows survivors that they are not alone. They have a community around them to support them.

It is my honor to represent the Los Angeles area, which is home to approximately 10,000 survivors. This week—and every week—we honor their courage and their strength. At a time when fewer and fewer survivors are alive to tell their stories, we must all bear witness to their tremendous legacy.

RECOGNIZING THE 27TH ANNUAL NATIONAL ALCOHOL AWARENESS MONTH

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 10, 2013*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, April marks the 27th annual National Alcohol Awareness Month.

As co-chair of the House Addiction, Treatment and Recovery (ATR) caucus, I rise today to talk about the importance of this milestone and to applaud the National Council on Alcoholism and Drug Dependence (NCADD), which since 1987 has sponsored Alcohol Awareness Month to increase public awareness and understanding, reduce stigma and encourage local communities to focus on alcoholism and alcohol-related issues.

Alcohol abuse is one of the leading causes of death in this country and is a huge contributor to other pressing health care problems like hypertension, high blood pressure, heart disease and stroke. Not a day goes by that we as a Caucus don't hear another story about the tragedy wrought by the abuse of alcohol. Some have even gone so far as to call the abuse of alcohol and other drugs the number one public health crisis facing this country.

This year, National Alcohol Awareness Month is highlighting the important public health issue of underage drinking, a problem with devastating individual, family and community consequences. With this year's theme, "Help for Today, Hope for Tomorrow," the month of April will be filled with local, state, and national events aimed at educating people about the treatment and prevention of alcoholism. Local NCADD Affiliates as well as schools, colleges, churches, and countless other community organizations will sponsor activities that create awareness and encourage individuals and families to get help for alcohol-related problems.

Alcohol use by young people is extremely dangerous—both to themselves and to society, and is directly associated with traffic fatalities, violence, suicide, educational failure, alcohol overdose, unsafe sex and other problem behaviors. Annually, over 6,500 people under the age of 21 die from alcohol-related injuries.

Additionally:

Alcohol is the number one drug of choice for America's young people, and is more likely to kill young people than all illegal drugs combined.

Each day, 7,000 kids in the United States under the age of 16 take their first drink.

More than 1,700 college students in the U.S. are killed each year—about 4.65 a day—as a result of alcohol-related injuries.

25% of U.S. children are exposed to alcohol-use disorders in their family. Underage alcohol use costs the nation an estimated \$62 billion annually.

And yet, these statistics don't fully convey the danger of underage drinking. The more we learn about the human brain, the more we learn how dangerous early drinking is for underage drinkers.

Reducing underage drinking is critical to securing a healthy future for America's youth and requires a cooperative effort from parents, schools, community organizations, business leaders, government agencies, the entertainment industry and alcohol manufacturers/retailers. Underage drinking is a complex issue, one that can only be solved through a sustained and cooperative effort. As a nation, we need to wake up to the reality that for some, alcoholism and addiction develop at a young age and that prevention, intervention, treatment and recovery support are essential for them and their families. We can't afford to wait any longer.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to highlight this important issue with a National Alcohol Awareness Month event in their districts. This is a problem that plagues all of our communities but working together, we can restore hope to our young people and their families.

GEORGIA NATIONAL GUARD WINS TOP ACOE AWARD

**HON. PHIL GINGREY**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 10, 2013*

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the Georgia National Guard on being selected as the winner of the National Guard Special Category in the 2013 Army Communities of Excellence (ACOE) awards competition.

It is a source of pride to see Georgia's own National Guard recognized for excellence. These servicemen and women have gone above and beyond the call of duty to earn this prestigious award.

The yearly ACOE competition reviews leadership, strategic planning, customer focus, and performance criteria to rank installations on their overall Army readiness and quality management. The U.S. Army chief of staff chooses National Guard installations that best exemplify these qualities.

As this year's deserving winner, the Georgia National Guard's prize will include funding towards installation upgrades that will improve facilities, and boost morale of soldiers, retirees, and civilians serving there.

Mr. Speaker, this is a momentous occasion for the State of Georgia, and it is with sincere gratitude that I would like to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation to the Georgia National Guard for the sacrifice and hard work

that ensures America's safety and won them this esteemed award.

HONORING FRANCIS B. GIBBS

**HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER**

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 10, 2013*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the achievements and the unwavering commitment to public service of Francis B. Gibbs.

It seems like yesterday that Francis came to Washington to work for his hometown congressman, Ander Crenshaw. He went on to be a trusted aide and friend to U.S. Rep. Connie Mack. Francis spent over five years by Congressman Mack's side, and his fingerprints could be found on legislative matters concerning government expansion, protection of our Constitution and the principles of federalism.

Francis is a man rooted in principle. From his work on the Patriot Act to defending freedom for people in Venezuela and around the Western Hemisphere, Francis served as a tireless advocate for making this government a "more perfect Union" by protecting people's individual rights and liberty.

After his son Couper was born, Francis and his wife LeAnne—who worked for Congressman Mike Pence—decided to leave Washington to raise their new family in the Sunshine State. Francis took his drive and passion back to the Florida Department of Transportation, where he serves as the chief of staff, leveraging his experience in Washington with his knack for building consensus to get the right things done for the right reasons.

Mr. Speaker, we know all too well that the political arena can be viewed as a cold and cynical process. Francis's approach has always been different. He builds bridges and more importantly, he creates enduring friendships that remind us that there is a way to serve honorably.

Francis is now facing a fight with colon cancer. He has fought this with the same tenacity he exuded during his congressional days when he battled legislative threats to the Constitution—with passion and grace.

LeAnne, has been a constant source of strength, compassion and grace. Ernest Hemingway had somebody like LeAnne in mind when he wrote "courage is grace under fire." Their anchors are two beautiful children, Couper and Riley.

Francis has a long-term view of what America can and should be. He believes that ultimately America promises a better life for the next generation. He embodies everything that this promise stands for, and his children will live out this American Dream that their dad shaped. Over the years, legislative achievements are forgotten by the public and often become footnotes in a textbook. However, the difference that Francis made—the issues he worked on—will carry on. More importantly, the way he treated people will not be forgotten by those of us fortunate enough to spend time in these hallowed halls.

Mr. Speaker, let us today celebrate Francis Gibbs, honor his wife LeAnne, and tell his children that America will be a better place for them because of the work, love and devotion of their parents.