

18, United States Code, with respect to fraudulent representations about having received military declarations or medals” due to a funeral. Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.” In addition, I also missed a vote on H.R. 1073, “To amend title 18, United States Code, to provide for protection of maritime navigation and prevention of nuclear terrorism, and for other purposes.” Had I been present, I would have voted “yea.”

RECOGNIZING MAY AS NATIONAL  
FOSTER CARE MONTH

**HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2013*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today in recognition of May as National Foster Care Month. National Foster Care Month provides an opportunity to raise awareness for the hundreds of thousands of children and youth who are in our nation’s foster care system. Each one of these individuals is part of a network of dedicated professionals, foster parents, and advocates who work 365 days a year, and for that they must be commended.

Furthermore, I believe that it is imperative we focus on the day-to-day successes of these children and their allies. In March 2012, I was proud to host a listening tour through Broward and Miami-Dade counties to bring greater attention to the efforts of local communities striving to improve our foster care system.

As a member of the Congressional Caucus on Foster Youth, I am distinctly aware of the issues facing our child welfare system. Currently, there are over 400,000 children in our nation’s foster care system, many of whom have serious emotional or medical problems. On average, these children wait three years for permanent families, with many aging out of foster care without the love and support from family. These children deserve permanent loving families, and it is our responsibility as legislators to create policy that will help to that improve their outcomes.

At times, the frailties and stark statistics of the foster care system can seem overwhelming. However, as I have seen from my own experience, when given a voice and a chance, foster youth are resilient, capable, and yearning for success. It is up to all of us to nurture the greatness in these youth.

Investing in our children’s future is an investment in the future of our nation, and that is why I remain committed to working with my colleagues in Congress to move this country forward on issues critical to their success.

A TRIBUTE TO CAPTAIN GAVIN  
KEITH SANDVIG

**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2013*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Army National Guard Captain Gavin Sandvig for being named a recipient of the 2013 General Doug-

las MacArthur Leadership Award by the United States Army. Captain Sandvig is one of only six National Guard Officers nationwide to receive this prestigious award.

The United States Army’s General MacArthur Leadership Award is reserved for the most exemplary company grade officers in the nation who consistently demonstrate the ideals of “duty, honor, and country.” The winners of this great distinction are invited to an award ceremony at the Pentagon in Washington, DC. There they are presented with a bronze bust of General MacArthur, an engraved timepiece, and a Commendation Memorandum by the Army Chief of Staff.

Before joining the Iowa Army National Guard in 1993, Captain Sandvig was raised in Eagle Grove, Iowa by his parents Wayne and Penny. He would go on to obtain his Bachelor of the Arts from Buena Vista University in Storm Lake and a Master’s of Education from Graceland University in Lamoni amid his 20-year military career. In 2004, after 11 years as an enlisted soldier and attaining the rank of Staff Sergeant, Captain Sandvig accepted his officer commission and was sworn in as a 2nd Lieutenant before completing Ordnance Officer Basic Course in 2005 and his Captain’s Career Course in 2008. Through his time with the Guard, he has supported his state and country in multiple roles overseas, including a 2010 deployment to the rough terrain of north-eastern Afghanistan. Captain Sandvig has earned numerous decorations for his service over the last two decades, including the Bronze Star, the Army Commendation Award, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Army Achievement Award.

Beyond his normal service duties, Captain Sandvig has been involved in numerous organizations and activities to benefit several charitable organizations across Iowa. A resident of Ankeny with his wife Shannon and their sons Ben, Sam, and J.J., the Sandvig family has donated much of their time and money to organizations such as Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation, United Way, Families of Iowa’s Fallen, the American Legion, the American Cancer Society, Cub Scouts, Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, and various sport leagues in Ankeny. The Sandvig family has also donated financially to two separate families planning to adopt.

Mr. Speaker, it is clear that Captain Sandvig’s professional and private conduct truly reflects the General MacArthur Leadership Award’s emphasis on duty, honor, and country. In the words of General MacArthur: “Those three hallowed words reverently dictate what you ought to be, what you can be, what you will be. They are your rallying point to build courage . . . to regain faith . . . and to create hope . . .” I can think of no better recipient for this great award than Captain Sandvig. His efforts embody the Iowa spirit, and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him for this achievement, thanking him and his family for their service and sacrifice, and wishing him continued success in the future. May God continue to watch over all of our soldiers and their families, across the world and here at home alike.

THE U.S. CONTRIBUTION TO THE  
FIGHT AGAINST MALARIA

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 21, 2013*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week, I chaired a hearing of the Subcommittee on Africa, Global Health, Global Human Rights, and International Organizations that examined the United States’ contribution to the global fight against malaria.

Leadership matters. In 2005, President George W. Bush established the President’s Malaria Initiative (PMI) and targeted several African malaria endemic countries to receive over a billion dollars to mitigate and someday eradicate this killer disease. The positive consequences of that bold and compassionate initiative include over a million lives saved over the last decade.

The global impact of this disease is severe—yet we are making progress. The World Health Organization estimates that in 2010 there were 219 million malaria cases and 660,000 deaths. While still unconscionably high—every life is absolutely precious and of extraordinary importance—loss of life has declined from approximately 985,000 deaths in 2000.

Not surprisingly, malaria has a particularly devastating impact on the most vulnerable. Nearly 86% of those who die are children under five years of age living in Sub-Saharan Africa. Dr. Mark Dybul, Executive Director of the Global Fund to Fight AIDS and President George W. Bush’s extraordinarily effective Global AIDS Coordinator, said that in “Africa alone, Malaria take the life of a child every minute” and pregnant women are also disproportionately afflicted with the disease. WHO emphasizes in its World Malaria Report 2012 that malaria is strongly associated with poverty. Countries in which a larger percentage of the population lives in poverty also have higher mortality rates from malaria. Children living in poorer populations and in rural areas have the highest parasite prevalence rates.

It is also important to note the extent to which the prevalence of malaria is concentrated. Eighty percent of malaria deaths occur in just 14 countries and almost 80% of cases occur in 17 countries. Over 40% of malaria deaths occur in two countries—the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Nigeria, and 40% of malaria cases are in the DRC, Nigeria, and India.

These high morbidity and mortality rates are not necessary—malaria is both preventable and treatable. We heard about the cost effective measures that are currently available and already having an impact or that are in the development process. And the United States, despite the current financial constraints, is making a significant contribution to the global fight against malaria. In addition to our contribution to the Global Fund to Fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, the United States provided \$871 million in anti-malaria assistance in FY2012, and the request for FY2014 is \$893 million.

But these levels, even when combined with contributions from other donors, fall short of the global need. So our question last week was: what are the major challenges going forward, and how we can best use our resources