Morton H. Abramowitz. I ask my colleagues to join me in offering our sincere condolences to the family he leaves behind.

## IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL PREECLAMPSIA AWARENESS MONTH

### HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the end of the first Preeclampsia Awareness Month.

Preeclampsia is a life–threatening disorder that can occur during pregnancy or the postpartum period and is one of the leading causes of maternal mortality and morbidity. Each day hundreds of women and babies are affected by this condition, which is marked by a rapid rise in blood pressure that can lead to seizure, stroke, organ failure or death. Any pregnant woman is at risk, but symptoms are often dismissed as typical pregnancy complaints. Knowing the warning signs can help lead to more timely diagnoses and improve health outcomes for both the woman and her child.

Unfortunately, few people are adequately aware and informed of the risks. That is why I worked with my colleagues Representative ROYBAL-ALLARD and Representative MOORE to add Preeclampsia Awareness Month to the National Health Observances Calendar.

We must improve the full scope of maternal health and need continued research to advance the field and improve the standard of care. In the meantime, we must build awareness to ensure women understand preeclampsia and are prepared to appropriately respond to warning signs.

Together we can eliminate preventable maternal death and disability by aligning resources, tools, and knowledge to address our most troublesome challenges. And this is exactly what the California Maternal Quality Care Collaborative is doing in my home state. Just this year the Preeclampsia Collaborative began to help hospitals manage preeclampsia, reduce complications, and improve care for patients. I hope that as preeclampsia awareness grows this will be one of many initiatives across the country focused on helping providers deliver comprehensive, high quality maternal healthcare.

Thank you to the Preeclampsia Foundation and the many groups who worked tirelessly on behalf of women across the country to secure a national recognition. I am proud to be able to help commemorate the end of the first ever Preeclampsia Awareness Month and excited to see what the future brings.

## HONORING RABBI ZVI DERSHOWITZ

### HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rabbi Zvi Dershowitz of Los Angeles, on the occasion of his 85th birthday. On this happy occasion, it is a privilege for me to honor Rabbi Dershowitz, who I came to know through his leadership in the Los Angeles Jewish community and whose life–long contributions have made their mark in so many areas—Jewish youth and adult education, the struggle to free Soviet Jewry, advocacy on behalf of Iranian Jewish immigrants fleeing Iran, and more. Through his years as teacher, camp director, rabbi, counselor, and human rights advocate, he has touched many thousands of lives.

Perhaps it was his own experience as a refugee that influenced so much of the work Rabbi Dershowitz would later engage in on behalf of those fleeing oppression. When Zvi, whose Czech name was Hugo, was 10 years old, Germany invaded Czechoslovakia. Young Zvi's grandfather Sholem gathered the family and said, ''Hitler is different. You have to leave.'' The family left the country on the last day of 1938, thirty–three days before Hitler's forces marched into the industrial city of Brno, the city where he was born and enjoyed his childhood. On February 2nd, 1939, with his parents Aaron and Ruth and sister Lili, the family moved to Williamsburg, a neighborhood in the Brooklyn borough of New York City. There he grew up, learning English, studying, and playing kickball.

Zvi spent his spare time working to support the nascent State of Israel. In 1949, he spent a year of leadership training, working and studying in Jerusalem. Zvi helped refugees from Yemen and elsewhere settle into the newly independent State of Israel.

Inspired by his parents' love for Israel and Judaism, Zvi came back to Brooklyn and attended Mesivta Torah Vodaath and received his rabbinical ordination in 1953.

Rabbi Dershowitz is married to Tova. He met his bride of nearly 60 years recruiting for staff for Camp Soleil in Ithaca, New York. Guitelle Tova Russekoff, originally from Scranton, Pennsylvania, was a student at Jewish Theological Seminary Teacher's Institute at the time they met. They married and settled in Morristown, New Jersey.

Rabbi Dershowitz held several pulpits, at Congregation Beth Shalom in Kansas City and Temple of Aaron in St. Paul, Minnesota. During that period, Rabbi Dershowitz was recruited to become director of Herzl Camp in Wisconsin. One of his campers was Bobby Zimmerman, who later changed his name to Bob Dylan. Rabbi Dershowitz laughs when he recalls telling the teenage Bobby to ''stop banging on the piano.'' Years later, Dylan would become a guest at Rabbi and Tova Dershowitz's family Passover seder.

At camp, Rabbi Dershowitz's philosophy was to focus on creating an atmosphere in which campers would feel the joy of Judaism. The number of campers at Herzl Camp doubled during his tenure. In 1961, he accepted an appointment from renowned educator Shlomo Bardin to direct the Brandeis–Bardin Institute in Simi Valley.

Once in California, Rabbi Dershowitz pursued his love of Jewish education particularly with young people, at Camp Ramah in Ojai, where he served as director from 1963 to 1973. During that period, he was invited to build the adult education program at Sinai Temple in Los Angeles, one of the most well known synagogues in the country. He eventually became Associate Rabbi at Sinai Temple, a post he held for some three decades and where he now serves as Rabbi Emeritus. Rabbi Dershowitz's tenure there witnessed much growth and vibrancy, but also leadership transitions. Throughout these challenging years for the synagogue, Rabbi Dershowitz was the glue that held the congregation together and he saw it through many achievements.

Rabbi Dershowitz has contributed to Jewish communal life in diverse ways, including serving often neglected populations. For several years he led services, singing and discussions with Alzheimer patients at an old age home, bringing joy and meaning to a special population. To this this day, Rabbi Dershowitz conducts religious services at a home for the elderly while maintaining a hectic schedule, which includes teaching weekly classes at the University of Judaism, now American Jewish University.

Rabbi Dershowitz and Tova have traveled to many places around the world. At each place, they would meet with the Jewish community, become enriched by their experiences and seek to do whatever they could to be helpful. One visit to the former Soviet Union was different from their other travels, however. It was on this trip that they were able to take in a large load of books that would help Jews in Russia learn Hebrew, something that at the time was not permitted. Rabbi Dershowitz's advocacy in support of Soviet Jews continued for many years thereafter.

During his time at Sinai Temple, the synagogue witnessed an influx of Jews fleeing the Iranian Revolution. Many Jews had difficulty getting out of Iran but Rabbi Dershowitz worked with Congress and the Executive Branch and helped secure visas for countless Jews who today make up a significant and wonderful part of the synagogue. For the work he did to help them enter this country and for the work he continued to do to help integrate them into the Los Angeles community, he has become well–known and well–loved among the Persian Jewish community.

Rabbi Dershowitz remains highly engaged with Sinai's membership, officiating at the lifecycle events of many of its members.

While his professional work is rich and rewarding, his wife, children, grandchildren and great grandchild remain the top priority for Rabbi Dershowitz—and he and Tova consider them to be their greatest achievements.

It is a privilege to pay tribute to Rabbi Dershowitz, who has been an inspiration to so many in his community and around the country.

## HONORING COACH DOUG WILLIAMS, HEAD FOOTBALL COACH AT GRAMBLING STATE UNIVERSITY

### HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 4, 2013*

Mr. ALEXANDER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and commend Coach Doug Williams on his 25th anniversary as the first African American quarterback to start and also win a Super Bowl. During this historic game, Williams also received the recognition of the Most Valuable Player for his performance that led to the Washington Redskins victory over the