

scripture is 2 Corinthians 5:7, which reads "For we walk by faith, not by sight." And the Lady Hornets affirmed their faith by painting the numbers 5 and 7 on their faces.

This recognition of their accomplishment is extended to all of the athletic staff, including Coach Jimmy Eby, and Assistant Coaches Wes Capps, Tanner Hines and Amanda Malone, as well as Hudson High School Principal John Courtney and Superintendent Mary Ann Whiteker.

The team members responsible for bringing the second championship title home to Hudson included Freshmen Alyssa Pierce, Katelyn Hanks, and Cortny Luna; Sophomores Madison Jeffrey, Bryli Lee, Maria Mireles, and Adriana Mosley; Juniors Kaylee "KK" Parker, Ashley Davis, and Madison Selman; and Seniors Cassidy Brasuell, Alyssa Dotson, Kelsey Selman, and Haley Willson.

The Hudson Independent School District staff and the community of Hudson have devoted countless hours to support and encourage these young ladies in the pursuit of their dream.

It is my most esteemed honor to congratulate everyone involved with this endeavor. May God continue to bless these young women, their families and friends, and all those individuals who call Hudson home.

Congratulations to the 2013 State Champion Hudson Lady Hornets, as their back to back championship legacy is now recorded in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD that will endure as long as there is a United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, due to a death in the family I was unable to cast the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows: rollcall vote 458—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 459—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 460—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 461—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 462—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 463—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 464—I would have voted "yes," rollcall vote 465—I would have voted "yes."

I would have voted in favor of H.R. 2775 because I believe there needs to be protocols in place to verify eligibility of taxpayer funded benefits. Without these practical verifications in place there will be billions of dollars in fraud that will go undetected. We need to do everything we can to protect the hard earned dollars of the taxpayers and that's why I support this commonsense piece of legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF REP. DEMETRIUS NEWTON

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 18, 2013

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of Alabama State Representa-

tive and Civil Rights Attorney Demetrius Newton, a beloved Alabamian remembered for his remarkable display of leadership and civil rights activism.

Rep. Newton passed away on Wednesday, September 11 at the age of 85. While I am deeply saddened by his passing I am comforted in knowing that his legacy is one that will live on through his contributions to the Civil Rights Movement and the State of Alabama.

Rep. Newton was born on March 15, 1928 in Fairfield, Alabama. In 1949, he received a degree from Wilberforce University in Wilberforce, Ohio. Rep. Newton received a law degree from Boston University in 1952. But while Rep. Newton understood the power of education, he is most remembered for his lifelong commitment to justice and Civil Rights.

Upon receiving his law degree from Boston University in 1952, Rep. Newton served in the United States Army. Following his time in the military, he returned to Birmingham, Alabama where he fought segregationist laws in courtrooms across the state as a private practice attorney.

In 1986, Rep. Newton was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives, representing District 53, Jefferson County. He held this position for 27 years until his death. From 1998 to 2010, Rep. Newton served as Alabama's first black speaker pro tempore. Rep. Newton worked as a judge for the city of Brownville, Alabama from 1972-1978 and served as Birmingham's City Attorney from 1991-1999. He was also a law professor at Miles College.

Rep. Newton paved the way for many black lawyers and elected officials across the State of Alabama. As an attorney, he played an instrumental role in the Civil Rights Movement representing icons such as Rosa Parks and Martin Luther King Jr. As a black attorney in segregated Alabama, Rep. Newton faced many struggles fighting court battles before all white judges and juries. He courageously dedicated his career to strengthening the rights for blacks in Alabama's courtrooms at a time when it wasn't safe to do so.

Rep. Newton was instrumental in fighting for the inclusion of blacks on juries in Bessemer, Birmingham and Etowah County. On behalf of his friend Dr. Martin Luther King, Rep. Newton was involved in a legal battle for the rights of those who marched in the 1965 Selma to Montgomery marches.

Rep. Newton filed many lawsuits throughout his career challenging segregation in public places, specifically interstate and intrastate travel. Rep. Newton is responsible for filing the first fair employment case, McKinstry v. U.S. Steel, under Title VII of the 1964 Voring Rights Act.

Until his death, Rep. Newton took his role as an Alabama state legislator very seriously. He was an outspoken opponent of the 1901 Alabama Constitution. Throughout his legislative career, he introduced legislation calling for a constitutional convention to rewrite the outdated document. Rep. Newton remained committed to his cause and continued to introduce amendments to the legislation throughout his legislative career.

As a veteran of the Alabama State House of Representatives, Rep. Newton gained the respect of his colleagues from both sides of the aisle. When the Republicans gained control of the State Legislature in 2010, they reserved

his seat on the front row although it is traditionally reserved for the majority's leadership. His Republican colleagues have noted that when Rep. Newton walked to the podium to speak, members from both parties would pause their otherwise uninterrupted conversations and direct their attention to the podium. His presence and his legacy demanded respect.

Rep. Newton has been described by his colleagues in the legislature as a fine gentleman, a true statesman, and a scholar who was "always prepared and always articulate."

His instrumental role in the Civil Rights Movement and his 27 years of service in the Alabama Legislature has made an indelible mark on the State of Alabama. Today we honor him for his role in the story of Alabama. As the first black woman elected to congress from Alabama I am humbled to stand before the nation and share his story of strength, compassion and courage.

Saying thank you to Rep. Newton seems woefully inadequate. But, we are truly grateful for the life of this extraordinary public servant. On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and legacy of Rep. Demetrius Newton.

PROVIDING FOR ESTABLISHMENT OF SPECIAL ENVOY

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 17, 2013

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I am an original co-sponsor of this legislation and look forward to its passage by the House.

One of the most important services our State Department Special Envoys perform is to help highlight the concern of the American people for specific, often troubling, developments beyond our shores. Such is the case and the need where issues of the persecution of religious minorities are concerned.

During my tenure in Congress, I have heard from many of my constituents on the scope and brutality of state-sponsored or state-sanctioned persecution of religious minorities. Whether it has been Coptic Christians in Egypt, Baha'i in Iran, Falun Gong in China, or Muslims in Burma, the story is always the same: a violent element of the majority religion—or in China and Iran, the state itself—commits the most horrific acts of violence against religious minorities in their midst, including the destruction of the sacred places of those religious minorities. Our government must do more to help combat this insidious evil, and one mechanism for doing so is creating and properly funding this position.

As a nation founded by religious minorities seeking a safe haven in a new land, we have both a history and an obligation to do all in our power to protect the rights and the lives of religious minorities around the world. Creating the position of Special Envoy to Promote Religious Freedom of Religious Minorities in the Near East and South Central Asia is one important step in making good on that commitment. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this bill.