

delivery of veterans' health care services, grants to state veterans homes, and funding for the VA's Office of Inspector General. In fact, this bill represents a \$6.2 billion reduction in funding for the VA compared to the bipartisan MilCon/VA appropriations bill passed overwhelmingly earlier this year.

So H.J. Res. 72 is not a vote to fund our veterans; it is a vote to cut veterans funding. In addition, it would leave their children and grandchildren behind without funding for programs like Head Start or medical research to cure the diseases that harm our veterans and every other citizen. Taken together, these two bills fail to equip and train our troops or build housing for their families.

The fact is that we do have a way to solve this issue today. If we take up the Senate's clean continuing resolution, we can send it to the President for his signature tonight. The clean CR also provides \$6 billion more in funding for the VA and veteran's programs compared to the piecemeal bill offered today. That is why I call on my colleagues to bring up the clean CR so we can end this shut down and pave the way for full and immediate funding for our National Guard, our military reserves, and our veterans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PETE P. GALLEGO

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. GALLEGO. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 527 on the Motion to Table the Appeal of the Ruling of the Chair, I am not recorded because I was absent due to attendance at the funeral of Deputy Sheriff Billy "Bubba" Kennedy from Upton County who was killed in the line of duty after 14 years as a committed peace officer. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 528 on H.J. Res. 77, the Food and Drug Safety Act, I am not recorded because I was absent due to attendance at the funeral of Deputy Sheriff Billy "Bubba" Kennedy from Upton County who was killed in the line of duty after 14 years as a committed peace officer. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO CLARIFY CERTAIN DUE PROCESS RIGHTS OF FEDERAL EMPLOYEES SERVING IN SENSITIVE POSITIONS

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, as hundreds of thousands of our federal workers face furloughs and a third year of pay freezes, I introduce a bill to clarify certain due process rights of federal employees serving in sensitive positions. The bill would overturn a recent, unprecedented federal court decision, *Kaplan v. Conyers and MSPB*, that strips many federal employees of the right to independent review of an agency decision removing them from a job on grounds of ineligibility.

The case was brought by two Department of Defense (DOD) employees, Rhonda Conyers, an accounting technician, and Devon Northover, commissary management specialist, who were permanently demoted and suspended from their jobs after they were found to no longer be eligible to serve in noncritical sensitive positions.

Specifically, the decision prevents federal workers who are designated as "noncritical sensitive" from appealing to the Merit Systems Protection Board (MSPB) if they are removed from their jobs. Noncritical sensitive jobs include those that do not have access to classified information. The decision would affect at least 200,000 DOD employees who are designated as noncritical sensitive. Even more seriously, most federal employees could potentially lose the same right to an independent review of an agency's decision because of a pending rule by the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) and the Office of the Director of National Intelligence (ODNI) that would permit agency heads to designate most jobs in the federal government as noncritical sensitive.

The Kaplan decision undercuts Title 5, section 7701 of the Civil Service Act, which ensures due process rights for federal workers required by the United States Constitution. Stripping employees whose work does not involve classified matters of the right of review of an agency decision that removes them from their jobs opens entirely new avenues for unreviewable, arbitrary action or retaliation by an agency head and, in addition, makes a mockery of whistleblower protections enacted in the 112th Congress. My bill would stop the use of "national security" to repeal a vital component of civil service protection and of due process.

I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

COMMEMORATING AUGUST 2013 AS THE 110TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST KOREAN IMMIGRANTS ARRIVING IN AMERICA

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to join with Korean-American immigrants in my district and through the nation in celebrating August as the 110th anniversary of the first Korean immigrants arriving here in the United States. The Institute for Corean-American Studies (ICAS) is hosting its summer symposium on this very topic: *The Korean Diaspora: Challenges facing the Korean-American Community*.

The first Korean immigrants—102 men, women, and children—arrived in Honolulu, Hawaii, in 1903 to work as laborers on sugar plantations. Since then, Korean Americans have settled across America, which is now home to the second largest Korean population outside of Korea itself. More than 80,000 Korean-Americans live in the National Capital Region, making this the third largest Korean community in the United States. In the 11th Congressional District of Virginia, which I represent, is home to a thriving Korean-American community. Asian-Americans comprise the largest ethnic group in our District, which is

more than 40% minority and in which more than 1-in-4 is foreign born.

Earlier this spring, I was pleased to join my colleagues in welcoming President Park Geun-hye of the Republic of Korea, who addressed a joint session of Congress. She spoke eloquently about her long-term hope for restoring trust across the Korean peninsula and fostering a shared sense of economic vitality across Asia. As a co-chair of the Congressional Korea Caucus, I and my colleagues are committed to preserving and further growing the strong relationship we have enjoyed with South Korea for the past 60 years.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the countless contributions of Korean-Americans and in commemorating the 110th anniversary of the arrival of the first Korean immigrants here in America. I wish ICAS success with its upcoming symposium.

KEVIN O'DONNELL, CAN DO, INC.

HON. LOU BARLETTA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. BARLETTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Kevin O'Donnell for 40 years of service with CAN DO, Inc. in Hazleton, Pennsylvania.

Mr. O'Donnell joined CAN DO in 1973 as assistant director. CAN DO, Inc. is a private, non-profit industrial/economic development corporation serving Greater Hazleton in Northeastern, Pennsylvania. Mr. O'Donnell quickly rose through the ranks of this organization, becoming a project manager for the area's first synthetic fuels plant in 1974 and in 1984, becoming director of the organization. In 1995, that title changed to president, the position he has held since that day. Under Mr. O'Donnell's leadership, CAN DO received the Arthur D. Little Environmental Excellence in Economic Development Award in 1993, the U.S. Green Building Council's Energy and Environmental Design Award in 2006, and the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association's "Large Agency of the Year" title in 2007.

A native of Greater Hazleton, Mr. O'Donnell's success extends beyond his work with CAN DO. In 1984, he was selected by the Pennsylvania Economic Development Association (PEDA) as the first-ever "Developer of the Year." In 2006, he was awarded the Ben Franklin Innovation Award "Special Achievement" for his contribution to the creation of the Great Valley Technology Alliance (GVTA). In 2009, Mr. O'Donnell was inducted into Northeast Pennsylvania's Business Hall of Fame for his numerous achievements and contributions to Greater Hazleton and Northeast Pennsylvania. Locally, he has received numerous awards for his work as a former officer and member of several educational institutions and community and civic groups.

Mr. Speaker, for 40 years Kevin O'Donnell has served as an integral member of CAN DO, Inc., bringing thousands of jobs and hundreds of millions of dollars to the Greater Hazleton economy. Therefore, I commend him for his service to the economic development of Pennsylvania's 11th District.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JOYCE BLACK

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend Joyce Black, who passed away on Friday, October 4, 2013. I wish I could be at the funeral today to be with her husband Stanley and the rest of her family, but my congressional responsibilities keep me in Washington.

Joyce lived a truly remarkable life. She was involved with numerous charitable and civic organizations, including the American Diabetes Association, City of Hope, Stop Cancer, Vista Del Mar, Israel Bonds, the Jewish Federation, the L.A. Jewish Home, the L.A. Opera, Cedars Sinai Medical Center, and the Temple of the Arts. In fact, earlier this month, Joyce and Stanley made a special donation to Children's Hospital Los Angeles that will fund research and clinical care programs at the hospital. Joyce was devoted to providing the best medical care to our children.

I extend my sincerest condolences to Stanley, her son Jack, and daughters Jill and Janis. Married for 57 years, Stanley and Joyce's partnership was truly inspirational. Joyce leaves behind a remarkable legacy of kindness and generosity that will impact not only those who were lucky enough to meet her, but future generations to come.

RECOGNIZING MARTY WHITE FOR
HIS FORTY YEARS OF RADIO EXCELLENCE

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Northwest Florida's Marty White for having spent forty years on the radio, over thirty of which have been spent waking up the people of the greater Pensacola area. I am pleased to acknowledge his success and great achievement.

Mr. White grew up in Northwest Florida and attended J.M. Tate High School in Cantonment. After graduation, he joined the United States Air Force where he served our Nation before he ever thought about a career on morning radio. Following his military service, Mr. White used his connections to secure an interview at a local radio station in 1973. He landed the job and has been on the radio ever since, entertaining the people of the Gulf Coast.

The radio industry has changed drastically over the years that Mr. White has been on the air. Many radio personalities have come and gone in the wake of advancing technology and station buyouts. Mr. White, however, has adapted to these changes and remained a local radio mainstay due to his massive popularity.

Over twenty of his years on the radio have been spent on 102.7 WXBW. What once started as a small station in Chumuckla has moved to Pensacola under the umbrella of the second largest radio station operator in the

country, Cumulus Media. Whereas this change could have resulted in the hiring of a new staff altogether, Mr. White has remained as the voice that the people of Northwest Florida enjoy waking up to in the morning or listening to during their drive to work.

On behalf of the United States Congress, I congratulate Marty White for reaching forty years on the radio. My wife Vicki joins me in offering our best wishes to Mr. White, his wife Donna, and their son Cody. We look forward to many more mornings listening to Marty on "Your Hometown Morning Show" in the years to come.

HONORING THE LIFE AND LEGACY
OF LILLIAN BERNICE VARNADO
WATKINS

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mrs. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to the life and legacy of educator and homemaker, Mrs. Lillian Watkins, a beloved educator and homemaker.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins passed away on Sunday, October 6 at the age of 96. While I am deeply saddened by her passing, I am comforted in knowing that her legacy is one that will live on through her involvement in public education, the values she instilled in her children and the foundation of her husband's success.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins was born on March 13, 1917 in Canton, Mississippi as the fourth of Reverend Willie L. Varnado and Mrs. Etta Pearl Varnado's five children. She attended elementary, primary and secondary schools in Canton and Jackson, Mississippi. Mrs. Watkins earned her bachelor's degree from Lane College in Jackson, Tennessee where she graduated cum laude.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins taught civics and home economics at Burt High School in Clarksville, Tennessee following graduation. She later married one of her fellow teachers, Mr. Levi Watkins Sr. After marrying in 1940 the couple moved to Parsons, Kansas where she gave birth to five of their six children. In 1948, the family moved to Montgomery, Alabama where the sixth child was born.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins raised six children, all of which have broken racial barriers in the South by holding leadership positions in the arts, business, education, government and medicine.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins' husband is known for his transformational leadership as the president of Alabama State University. He took the university from a small teacher's college to a destination university accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools upon his departure in 1981. Although her husband is highly respected for his legacy at Alabama State University, Mrs. Watkins' children give her the credit for their successes in life. She was the personality of the family giving her children the rock-solid confidence they would need to achieve their goals.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins' son, Dr. Levi Watkins, Jr. was the first African-American graduate of Vanderbilt University and the first cardiac surgeon in the country to perform a human im-

plantation of the automatic implantable defibrillator. Another son of Mrs. Watkins' is a retired surgeon while one of her daughters is a concert pianist.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins' son Donald Watkins, Sr., Esq., was Montgomery's first black city attorney and one of the first African-Americans on the City Council. Watkins describes his mother as the "rock" of the family. He said that because of the love and respect she provided to all of her children they never had to look outside of the home for validation.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins' daughter Doristine Minott was the principal of Southlawn Middle School until her retirement in 2007. Mrs. Minott remembers her mother for teaching her children to be humble and "to see beauty in the simplest things." She remembers, "My mom was the quiet giant behind my dad's success . . . It was she who quieted the storms during the difficult times."

Mrs. Lillian Watkins is remembered as one who fully embraced her roles of wife, mother and homemaker and later, as aunt, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins had a passion for music, sewing, art, decorating and traveling. In her later years, she developed a gift for writing poetry. She participated in poetry readings at Art Festivals in her community and at church while living in Ohio with her daughter. Several of her poems were later published in two books.

Mrs. Lillian Watkins' legacy will live on through the lives of her six children. All six of her children have broken tremendous racial barriers not only in Alabama but across the country. The success of her children is only a reflection of the integrity and humility that she instilled in each of them.

Saying thank you to Mrs. Lillian Watkins seems woefully inadequate. But, we are truly grateful for the life of this extraordinary public servant, educator, mother and homemaker. 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 Mrs. Lillian Watkins.

HONORING SMITHSONIAN
SECRETARY WAYNE CLOUGH

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 8, 2013

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Smithsonian Secretary Wayne Clough for his long and distinguished career in Academia, and as caretaker of the Smithsonian legacy since 2008.

Secretary Clough announced this month that he would retire in October, 2014 after what will be six unforgettable years at the helm of this historic institution.

Since Clough's tenure began, his unprecedented leadership has taken the Smithsonian in new directions—setting bold new educational goals that built on the institution's core strengths. As a part of this process, the Smithsonian has now become a world leader in new digital communications and imaging technology. To reach new audiences, Clough oversaw the first-ever online branding and advertisement campaign across all 50 states, and has put renewed emphasis on collaborations with universities and outside organizations. More than 400 exhibitions have been