

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO HON. WILLIAM ENGLE III

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of eastern Kentucky's toughest leaders, both in and out of the courtroom, Chief Circuit Judge for Kentucky's Thirty-Third Judicial Circuit, the Honorable William Engle III, upon his upcoming retirement.

Judge Engle made a profound impression on Kentucky's Perry County when he first won a special election in 2004 to take the bench. He was determined to restore dignity and honor to the court that was mired by countless drug-related cases. One year earlier, our region was dubbed the nation's "Painkiller Capital," and Judge Engle was determined to implement changes that could save the lives of people who entered his courtroom, and curb the tide of prescription drug abuse in Eastern Kentucky.

Fulfilling his pledge, Judge Engle established a Drug Court in Perry County in 2005, volunteering his own time to oversee the program. Drug Courts are designed to reduce the relapse rate of drug abusers and drug-related crime through substance abuse education, treatment, drug-testing, and counseling. With strict oversight, four participants made it to the first graduation ceremony in 2006. Since then, some 60 people have successfully graduated from this impressive treatment-alternative program in Perry County. Additionally, Judge Engle had the foresight to partner with a local workforce center to help Drug Court participants re-enter the workforce and build a career. His work has helped restore thousands of dollars in child support payments, as well as restitution and fines owed by the individuals. Most importantly, dozens of families have been transformed through the program and at least eleven drug-free babies have been born, giving them all a wonderful new beginning.

As he passes the gavel, Judge Engle leaves behind a legacy of fortitude in the law, yet humility in his service. His wisdom and passion will undoubtedly be sought after as the people of Perry County choose his successor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring a champion for drug-free communities, the Honorable William Engle III. I wish him all the best in the years to come.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE WISSAHICKON SKATING CLUB AND THE MERRITTON ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the skaters and families, current and past, of the Wissahickon Skating Club in Chestnut Hill, Pennsylvania and the Merritton Athletic Association in St. Catharines, Ontario. This third weekend in February marks the 50th anniversary of the Wissahickon Skating Club—Merritton Athletic Association Hockey Exchange. For five decades without interruption, the organizations have taken turns hosting players and even entire families in their homes for a long weekend of festivities. The exchange culminates in a youth hockey tournament for which trophies are awarded to the victorious teams. It is understood to be the longest uninterrupted exchange of its type in international competition.

This tournament would not be possible without the vision of former Wissahickon hockey coach Walter Jewell and Merritton Athletic Association President, Walter Baum. Walter Jewell had been taking hockey teams to Canada since 1962. Looking to start his own tournament with a team from Canada, the Merritton Athletic Association was recommended to him. In November of 1964, the Merritton Athletic Association and Walter Baum received a letter written by Walter Jewell from the Wissahickon Skating Club seeking to arrange an exchange trip between the two organizations.

In March 1965 two teams from the Wissahickon Skating Club arrived as guests of the Merritton Athletic Association. The first games were a Pee Wee-Bantam double-header, taking place at the Thorold Arena in St. Catharines, Ontario, the home of the Merritton Athletic Association. The tournament trophies for this exchange were donated by the Wissahickon Skating Club for the Bantam level and the Kaupp Electric Trophy for the pee wee level. Each organization was victorious that weekend with the Merritton Pee Wees accepting the Kaupp Electric Trophy and the Wissahickon Bantams taking home the Bantam Trophy. No one had any idea at the time that 49 exchanges were to occur without ever missing a single year.

Mr. Speaker, this tournament brings back special memories for me. As an 11-year-old I can recall the adventurous bus ride, for the first of numerous visits to Canada, and the warm hospitality of the Greenough and Isherwood families who welcomed my older brother Mike and me into their homes. We visited Niagara Falls, learned how a cargo ship navigates a river lock and walked the floor of a paper mill, all the while growing closer to the same boys we would be skating against that evening. Lifetime bonds were formed. It was

then and still remains so much more than a hockey game. It represents the warm and genuine affection Americans and Canadians have for each other and it is expressed through the rich tradition of friendly competition and the great game of ice hockey. The friendship endures through generations as fathers are reunited watching their sons skate on the same ice they remember playing on as children.

The 50th anniversary of this very special engagement of camaraderie and sportsmanship will be celebrated the weekend of February 13–15, 2014 in Chestnut Hill, Philadelphia. The two "Walters" would be proud of their legacy. I hope that this wonderful tradition can continue for the children of the children who will compete on this special 50th anniversary.

SPORTSMEN'S HERITAGE AND RECREATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 5, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3590) to protect and enhance opportunities for recreational hunting, fishing, and shooting, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to H.R. 3590, the SHARE Act of 2013. This bill contains a harmful provision that chips away at the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) by retroactively allowing the import of sport-hunted polar bear trophies as Title IV of the bill. I submitted an amendment to the bill which would have struck Title IV, however the Rules Committee denied the members of this body an opportunity to vote on this issue. I am disappointed this legislation was not brought to the floor under an open rule which would have allowed consideration of my amendment so members could debate this precedent-setting provision.

Polar bears are protected from sport hunting in the United States, including the polar bear population in Alaska. In 2008 the Bush Administration listed the polar bear as a threatened species under the Endangered Species Act and the 1972 MMPA protects polar bears and other marine mammals. To allow American hunters to kill them for trophies in other countries is irresponsible and inconsistent with the bipartisan commitment to conserving the polar bear population.

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the polar bear is a "vulnerable" species based on a projected population reduction of more than 30 percent within three generations (45 years) due to a decrease in distribution and habitat quality. It is estimated there are fewer than 20,000 to 25,000 polar bears remaining in the wild.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Title IV of this bill exempts 41 trophy hunters who had proper notice of the impending prohibition on import of polar bear trophies. These 41 individuals hunted these bears after the Bush Administration proposed the species for listing as threatened under ESA, and all but one continued to hunt polar bears more than a year after the listing was proposed. Despite repeated warnings from hunting organizations and government agencies that they were hunting at their own risk because trophy imports were unlikely to be allowed as of the listing date, these individuals sport hunted polar bears anyway.

An example of warnings regarding the prospects of importing polar bear trophies comes from hunting rights organization Conservation Force. The group wrote to hunters in December 2007: "American hunters are asking us whether they should even look at polar bear hunts in light of the current effort by the U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service to list this species as threatened . . . The bottom line is, no American hunter should be putting hard, non-returnable money down on a polar bear hunt at this point." The group also noted in January 2008: "We feel compelled to tell you that American trophy hunters are likely to be barred from importing bears they take this season. Moreover, there is a chance that bears taken previous to this season may be barred as well. American clients with polar bear trophies still in Canada or Nunavut need to get those bears home."

Conservation Force again reminded hunters that the ESA listing "will stop all imports . . . immediately" in April 2008. Later that same month, Safari Club International informed hunters: "If some or all of the polar bear populations are listed, the FWS has indicated that imports of trophies from any listed populations would be barred as of that date, regardless of where in the process the application is."

Congress should not change a law just because a few people did not heed clear and ample warnings. It is an affront to the millions of hunters and sportsmen who followed the law and observed the warning of government agencies and hunting organizations. The hunters that chose to travel to the Arctic to sport hunt polar bears should not receive special treatment. Doing so creates a moral hazard and establishes a dangerous precedent that could encourage rushes to sport hunt imperiled species prior to their formal listing as an endangered species. Those who wish to sport hunt imperiled species should understand they do so at their own risk and cannot rely on allies in Congress to bail them out with a retroactive waiver of critical conservation law.

Congress first carved out a loophole in the MMPA and allowed for more than 900 sport-hunted polar bear trophies to be imported into the United States from Canada in 1994. In 1997, Congress amended the MMPA to allow imports of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before April 1994, regardless of what population the bear was taken from, and despite the strict prohibition on trophy imports in place prior to 1994. In 2003, Congress amended the MMPA to allow imports of polar bear trophies taken in sport hunts in Canada before February 1997. This allowed imports regardless of what population the bear is taken from, and as long as the hunter proves that the bear is "legally harvested in Canada."

Today with H.R. 3590, we have yet another effort to allow polar bear imports. This time we are asked to approve an additional 41 trophies

on top of the more than 1,000 already Congress previously sanctioned for import. How many times are we going to provide these "one-time" import allowances? Doing this repeatedly undermines the restrictions on killing rare species.

At a time when Congress should be working in a bipartisan basis to address many of the critical issues facing American families, more special treatment for wealthy sport hunters should not be a priority. I am disappointed that my amendment to strike Title IV was not made in order and that the House did not have an opportunity to further debate this matter.

RECOGNIZING THE 12TH ANNUAL
BLACK HISTORY MONTH BRUNCH
HOSTED BY THE GENESEE DISTRICT
LIBRARY

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating the Genesee District Library as they celebrate their 12th Annual Black History Month Brunch on Saturday, February 8th in Flint, Michigan.

Formed in 2002, this Black History Month Brunch has become a staple in our community, and is regarded as one of Genesee County's signature events. A portion of the proceeds raised will go to support the Genesee District Library's Summer Reading Program.

During this special Black History Month Brunch, the Genesee District Library will honor Carolyn Nash, Retired Executive Director, Genesee District Library; Louis Hawkins, Community Relation Administrator, HealthPlus of Michigan; Lawrence E. Moon, Owner, Lawrence E. Moon Funeral Home; and Bruce Bradley, CEO/Founder, Tapology, all for their unwavering commitment and significant contribution to our community. The event will also feature a performance from four-time Grammy Award and Academy Award winning vocalist, Regina Belle.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the Genesee District Library for providing this opportunity for the community to join hands, recognize, and celebrate the contribution of local African Americans. This event captures the essence of Black History Month, and inspires residents to celebrate all year long.

HONORING 2013 FELLOWS OF THE
NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 143 inventors who will soon be recognized at the United States Patent and Trademark Office and inducted as the 2013 Fellows of the National Academy of Inventors by the United States Deputy Commissioner of Patent Operations, Andrew Faile. In order to be named as a Fellow, these men and women were nominated by their peers and have un-

dergone the scrutiny of the NAI Selection Committee, having had their innovations deemed as making significant impact on quality of life, economic development and welfare of society. Collectively, this elite group holds more than 5,600 patents.

The individuals making up this year's class of Fellows include individuals from 94 research universities and non-profit research institutes spanning not just the United States but also the world. This group of inductees touts 26 presidents and senior leadership of research universities and non-profit research institutes, 69 members of the National Academies, five inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, six recipients of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, two recipients of the National Medal of Science, nine Nobel Laureates, and 23 AAAS Fellows, among other major awards and distinctions.

The contributions made to society through innovation are immeasurable. I commend these individuals, and the organizations that support them, for the work that they do to revolutionize the world we live in. As the following inventors are inducted, may it encourage future innovators to strive to meet this high honor and continue the spirit of innovation.

The 2013 NAI Fellows include:

Patrick Aebischer, Ecole Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne; Rakesh Agrawal, Purdue University; Dimitris Anastassiou, Columbia University; David E. Aspnes, North Carolina State University; Michael Bass, University of Central Florida; David J. Bayless, Ohio University; Kurt H. Becker, New York University; Carolyn R. Bertozzi, University of California, Berkeley; Rathindra N. Bose, University of Houston; David E. Briles, The University of Alabama at Birmingham; Richard D. Bucholz, Saint Louis University; Mark A. Burns, University of Michigan; Anne K. Camper, Montana State University; Lisa A. Cannon-Albright, The University of Utah; Charles R. Cantor, Boston University; Dennis A. Carson, University of California, San Diego; Carolyn L. Cason, The University of Texas at Arlington; David M. Center, Boston University; Vinton G. Cerf, National Science Foundation; Stephen Y. Chou, Princeton University.

Christos Christodoulatos, Stevens Institute of Technology; Benjamin Chu, Stony Brook University; Aaron J. Ciechanover, Technion-Israel Institute of Technology; Graeme M. Clark, The University of Melbourne; Leon N. Cooper, Brown University; Carlo M. Croce, The Ohio State University; William W. Cruikshank, Boston University; Brian T. Cunningham, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Jerome J. Cuomo, North Carolina State University; Narendra Dahotre, University of North Texas; William S. Dalton, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center; Rathindra DasGupta, National Science Foundation; Paul L. DeAngelis, The University of Oklahoma; William F. DeGrado, University of California, San Francisco; Peter J. Delfyett, University of Central Florida; Lawrence J. DeLucas, The University of Alabama at Birmingham; Steven P. DenBaars, University of California, Santa Barbara; Joseph M. DeSimone, The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Spiros S. Dimolitsas, Georgetown University; Michael P. Doyle, The University of Georgia.

James A. Dumesic, University of Wisconsin-Madison; David A. Edwards, Harvard University; T. Taylor Eighmy, The University of Tennessee, Knoxville; John G. Elias, University of