

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

Delaware; Ronald L. Elsenbaumer, The University of Texas at Arlington; Todd S. Emrick, University of Massachusetts Amherst; Liang-Shih Fan, The Ohio State University; Nariman Farvardin, Stevens Institute of Technology; Henry C. Foley, University of Missouri System; Ophir Frieder, Georgetown University; Fred H. Gage, Salk Institute for Biological Studies; Tillman U. Gerngross, Dartmouth College; George W. Gokel, University of Missouri-St. Louis; Clifford M. Gross, University of South Florida; Robert H. Grubbs, California Institute of Technology; Theodor W. Hänsch, Max-Planck-Institut für Quantenoptik Germany; Jeffrey H. Harwell, The University of Oklahoma; Jason C. Heikenfeld, University of Cincinnati; Benjamin S. Hsiao, Stony Brook University; Stephen D. H. Hsu, Michigan State University.

Lonnie O. Ingram, University of Florida; Tatsuo Itoh, University of California, Los Angeles; S. Sitharama Iyengar, Florida International University; Richard Jove, Vaccine and Gene Therapy Institute of Florida; Biing-Hwang Juang, Georgia Institute of Technology; Vistasp M. Karbhari, The University of Texas at Arlington; Joachim B. Kohn, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; George P. Korfiatis, Stevens Institute of Technology; Michael R. Ladisch, Purdue University; David C. Larbalestier, Florida State University; Cato T. Laurencin, University of Connecticut; Kam W. Leong, Duke University; Frank L. Lewis, The University of Texas at Arlington; Ping Liang, University of California, Riverside; Charles M. Lieber, Harvard University; Stephen B. Liggett, University of South Florida; Dennis C. Liotta, Emory University; Dmitri Litvinov, University of Houston; Michael R. Lovell, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee; Richard J. Mammone, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey.

Michael A. Marletta, The Scripps Research Institute; Edith Mathiowitz, Brown University; Krzysztof Matyjaszewski, Carnegie Mellon University; Constantinos Mavroidis, Northeastern University; Robert M. Metcalfe, The University of Texas at Austin; Gary K. Michelson, Twenty Million Minds Foundation; Robert H. Miller, Case Western Reserve University; Chad A. Mirkin, Northwestern University; Samir Mitragotri, University of California, Santa Barbara; Shanta M. Modak, Columbia University; Marsha A. Moses, Harvard University; Ferid Murad, The George Washington University; Hameed Naseem, University of Arkansas; Laura E. Niklason, Yale University; Santa J. Ono, University of Cincinnati; Sethuraman Panchanathan, Arizona State University; P. Hunter Peckham, Case Western Reserve University; Gholam A. Peyman, Tulane University; Glenn D. Prestwich, The University of Utah; Stephen R. Quake, Stanford University.

Dabbala R. Reddy, Carnegie Mellon University; Zhifeng Ren, University of Houston; Darrell H. Reneker, The University of Akron; John A. Rogers, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign; Bernard Roizman, The University of Chicago; Arye Rosen, Drexel University; Joseph C. Salamone, University of Massachusetts Lowell; W. Mark Saltzman, Yale University; Yoshiaki Sato, Kaatsu International University; Martin Schadt, Nanjing University; Vern L. Schramm, Yeshiva University; Sudipta Seal, University of Central Florida; Venkat Selvamnickam, University of Houston; Wei-Heng Shih, Drexel University; Mary Shire, University of Limerick, Ireland; Henry I. Smith, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; George F. Smoot III, University of California,

Berkeley; Thomas C. Südhof, Stanford University; Subra Suresh, Carnegie Mellon University; Theodore F. Taraschi, Thomas Jefferson University.

Arthur J. Tipton, Southern Research Institute; Satish S. Udpa, Michigan State University; Kathryn E. Uhrich, Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey; Akos Vertes, The George Washington University; Vitaly J. Vodyanoy, Auburn University; John N. Vournakis, Medical University of South Carolina; Jay S. Walker, Cornell University; David R. Walt, Tufts University; Donald P. Weeks, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Sherman M. Weissman, Yale University; James E. West, The Johns Hopkins University; Wayne C. Westerman, University of Delaware; George M. Whitesides, Harvard University; H. Kumar Wickramasinghe, University of California, Irvine; David J. Wineland, National Institute of Standards and Technology; Carl T. Wittwer, The University of Utah; Jerry M. Woodall, University of California, Davis; Mark S. Wrighton, Washington University in St. Louis; James J. Wynne, University of South Florida; Ralph T. Yang, University of Michigan; Frederic Zenhausern, The University of Arizona; Shuguang Zhang, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Harald zur Hausen, German Cancer Research Center.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 55–56. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on rollcall votes 55 and 56.

HONORING ADA LUCILLE WILLIAMS UPON THE OCCASION OF HER 90TH BIRTHDAY

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the accomplishments of a virtuous woman, a professional homemaker, positive role model, counselor, proud mother, grandmother of nineteen grandchildren, fourteen great-grandchildren, and three great-great grandchildren, Ada Lucille Williams on the occasion of her 90th Birthday.

Ada Lucille Williams was born on February 29, 1924, in Vicksburg, Mississippi to her proud parents, Robert and Flora (Bass) Williams. Raised by her maternal grandmother, Hettie Bass, Ada grew up in the segregated South. She often recounts the life and struggles of African Americans during this time, noting that she and other black children walked to school, while white children rode past them on the school buses. Black children were responsible for purchasing their own books, while white children were provided with school books by their district. It was then she learned the valuable lessons about team work. She shared her textbooks with other children who were not fortunate enough to have them.

This was an early lesson in creatively making ends meet.

Ada married the late James Louis Williams on September 2, 1942. They had nine children. Lucille and James migrated from Vicksburg to Niagara Falls, New York. Lucille joined the New Hope Baptist Church where she participated in the Missionary Society. Besides raising her children and grandchildren, Lucille participated in the March of Dimes, Muscular Dystrophy campaigns, and the Center Avenue Parent Teachers Association.

Affectionately called, “Ma Williams,” she is a founding member of Mt. Zion Missionary Baptist Church, where she serves as Church Mother, Kitchen Committee Chairperson, Missionary Society President, Youth Choir Advisor, willing worker and provider of religious instruction.

Ada’s favorite Scripture is Proverbs 22:6, “Train up a child in the way he should go, and when he is old, he will not depart from it.” Her devotion to serving others is inspired by her deep spirituality.

Mr. Speaker, I thank you for allowing me a few moments to honor this special lady, an incredible citizen who commits her life to the betterment of others. I am thankful for Ada’s many years of service to the community and I wish her many more good and prosperous years.

COMMEMORATING NORMAN AND NORMA BURMAH’S 83 YEARS OF MARRIAGE

HON. VANCE M. McALLISTER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 11, 2014

Mr. McALLISTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with great pride and pleasure to commemorate Norman and Norma Burmah on the occasion of their 83rd wedding anniversary.

Norman and Norma were introduced at the “Roof Garden Dance Hall” in New Orleans during a performance by the legendary Louis Armstrong, and were married on January 26, 1931.

Inspired by their Creole heritage, Norman and Norma created a livelihood by starting a successful catering business. They were blessed with two children, six grandchildren, and thirteen great grandchildren. They have stood steadfast in their faith over the years, still beginning each day in prayer. Norma’s love for parties and traveling is what she claims have kept her young at heart. They enjoy the simple things in life: old movies, game shows, watching the New Orleans Saints and entertaining guests at their home. Until 2005, the Burmahs lived in New Orleans, where they met, until they sadly lost their home in Hurricane Katrina. The Burmahs now reside in Marksville, LA, and continue to exemplify a strong character of dedication, compassion and devotion to one another.

I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Norman and Norma Burmah, the longest married couple in Louisiana, as they celebrate 83 years of dedication to one another which serves as an inspiration to all.

[From the Louisiana Family Forum]

Introduced by a close friend, Norman and Norma Burmah met at the “Roof Garden Dance Hall” in New Orleans during a live