

I would also have voted in favor of H. Res. 447, Supporting the democratic and European aspiration of the people of Ukraine, and their right to choose their own future free of intimidation and fear. I am glad that so many of my colleagues also stood up for these principles of basic human rights.

DR. DAVID WELCH

HON. KATHY CASTOR

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Ms. CASTOR of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate Black History Month and to honor the life of an extraordinary leader of the Tampa Bay community, Dr. David Welch. His remarkable career in public service and his many contributions to our community stand as a testament to his tremendous character.

Dr. Welch was born in St. Petersburg, Florida. As a young man, Dr. Welch served his country in the U.S. Army Airborne during the Korean War. After the war, Dr. Welch graduated from Florida A&M University and later obtained a doctorate in education from Nova University. Teaching was a lifelong passion for Mr. Welch, who inspired countless young minds during his time as a teacher at Gibbs Junior College and later on at St. Petersburg Vocational-Technical Institute.

Once Dr. Welch began his career, he quickly emerged as a business and community leader. He founded Welch Tax Services and Accounting which assisted numerous local entrepreneurs and helped foster a thriving business environment in downtown St. Petersburg. As Director of Fiscal Affairs at St. Petersburg Vocational-Technical Institute, he used his adept diplomatic skills to resolve the 116-day sanitation workers' strike of 1968. He would continue to employ his ability to bring people together as the co-chair of the biracial Community Alliance, an organization dedicated to relieving racial tensions in the area.

In 1981, Dr. Welch became the second African American to serve on the St. Petersburg City Council. As a three-term council member, Dr. Welch championed development projects, and was one of the driving forces behind what are today some of St. Petersburg's most prominent landmarks. His efforts were instrumental in the development of Tropicana Field, the Pier, and the Bayfront Center. Dr. Welch was also a strong supporter of municipal interest-free loans for housing which led to major renovations in St. Petersburg. His outgoing nature and diplomatic manner earned him respect and results throughout his tenure as a council member.

While working diligently as a public servant, Dr. Welch continued to remain active in education and supporting local businesses through his office. Dr. Welch was always eager to mentor aspiring leaders and took an active interest in the youth of the community.

On September 16, 2013, Dr. Welch passed away at the age of 85. His legacy of service and leadership are an inspiration for all people throughout this great nation. His commitment to education, economic development, and equality will be forever remembered and appreciated. Mr. Speaker, I join the Tampa Bay community in thanking Dr. David Welch for his lifelong service to the State of Florida.

HONORING ROSE CONRY FOR RECEIVING THE 2014 OVERALL JAX CHAMBER'S SMALL BUSINESS LEADER OF YEAR AWARD

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Rose Conry, the Chief Executive Officer of StaffTime on receiving the 2014 overall JAX Chamber's Small Business Leader of Year Award.

StaffTime is a minority-owned staffing solutions company located in the 4th Congressional District of Florida. In addition to the Small Business Leader of the Year Award, StaffTime has also been named one of the 50 fastest growing companies of North Florida by the Jacksonville Business Journal. As historical high numbers of Americans are finding themselves unemployed for longer periods of time, I commend StaffTime for leading the temporary staffing industry and providing a full-service approach, specializing in administrative, accounting, legal and customer service positions. Established only four short years ago, StaffTime has grown to a \$2 million company employing four full-time employees with 20 consultants.

Before becoming a small business owner, Conry worked in human resources for Jacksonville Surgery Center and CSX. She earned a bachelor's degree from Jacksonville University and is currently pursuing her master's degree in human resources at Webster University. She continues to be heavily involved in the community with memberships in the Society for Human Resource Management, Leadership Jacksonville, Women Business Owners of North Florida, and JAX Chamber.

Small businesses are crucial to our nation's well being and the leaders who are paving the way during these difficult economic times need to be recognized. Conry's mission is helping connect individuals with meaningful employment; she is the American dream and she is helping others to live it as well.

Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House to join me in this very special congressional salute to this Small Business leader, Rose Conry.

HONORING BERNEL ARTHUR RICHARDSON

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, as the Nation readies to observe the 50th Anniversary of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, I rise today to honor Mr. Bernel Arthur Richardson. Born in St. Croix, Mr. Richardson has been an activist, resident, lecturer, consultant, and economic development leader in Bronx County since 1969.

As an active member of the Civil Rights movement, Mr. Richardson understood the vital need to end the economic and political inequities facing the African-American community. After graduating from Howard University, Mr. Richardson began working alongside many of the South Bronx's renowned trans-

formative figures to develop programs and initiatives that would create new economic opportunities for South Bronx residents.

Mr. Richardson started his public sector career in 1970 when he was appointed by Bronx Borough President Robert B. Abrams to sit as a member of the Community 3 Planning Board. His successes as a member of the Planning Board led him to become a part of the Mayor's Violence Against Women Task Force and to be asked to serve as a consultant on several citywide anti-poverty programs. He recently stepped down as Chairman of the Board at the Bronx Overall Economic Development Corporation but is still very active as the Executive Director of the Black United Leadership of the Bronx.

Mr. Richardson has served as a leader in my borough for many years and has helped make the Bronx a better place through his tireless efforts. As I reflect on the more than four decades of Mr. Richardson's public service to the residents of the Bronx and to the constituents of the 15th Congressional District, it fills me with hope that today's young African American leaders have mentors in the community to look to for guidance as they continue to champion social justice issues in our neighborhoods.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all my colleagues join me in recognizing the past, present, and future accomplishments of Mr. Bernel Richardson.

THE SERVICE OF MR. JACOB GILLISON

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Jacob Gillison, who served as office manager and scheduler in my Washington, DC office for nearly 14 years.

For over a decade, Jacob served as a member of my staff, friend, confidant, and counselor to many in what we call Team Lewis, our office family. Jacob recently joined the staff of Senator BERNIE SANDERS as the administrative director and scheduler. I would like to congratulate him on his new position, and thank him for his many years of service to my office and constituents.

I first met Jacob many years ago when he was a member of the United States' Air Force (USAF) Air Traffic Control Field. During his nearly two decades of service in the U.S. Air Force, Jacob was recognized repeatedly for his dedication and commitment to excellence. When I learned that he was considering a transition to a different branch of government, I was pleased to invite him to join my Washington, DC staff as scheduler and office manager. If he was able to keep military planes safe and on-time, I believed he might be able to keep me and my staff on schedule.

When he joined my office, I learned even more about his total commitment to service. As a member of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Jacob was handpicked by the president of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. to serve as deputy assistant to the international president of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity focusing on governmental and civic affairs. In this capacity, Jacob conceptualized and coordinated "Sigma

Day on the Hill," which brought local high school students to Capitol Hill to lobby on the behalf of legislation affecting high school students and their local communities. This experience enlightened and exposed young people in learning how their Congress works and inspiring them to move from the sidelines to the frontlines.

During his spare time in the evening and on weekends, Jacob advises and counsels young men in the local community. His selfless efforts did not go unrecognized as the leadership of Nu Sigma Sigma Chapter of the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. voted and honored him as "Mentor of the Year 2010." As an additional testament to Jacob's long and exceptional service, the Free Masons bestowed on him their 33rd Degree, an honorary title granted to those Masons who distinguish themselves.

A native of Beaufort, South Carolina, Jacob graduated from Battery Creek High School and continued his education by earning dual Bachelor of Science degrees in Business Administration and Economics from Benedict College and an additional degree in Aeronautical Science from Embry Riddle Aeronautical University.

Over the years, I had the pleasure of visiting Beaufort, South Carolina and even attending the beautiful Gullah Festival. I was particularly proud to meet and become an honorary member of Jacob's welcoming family. He is truly a loving and dedicated family man—a proud brother, father, and grandfather. Jacob's son, Dexter, and daughter-in-law, Nikita, continue the family tradition of service as members of the U.S. Air Force. His lovely daughter, Mekala, is a high school honor roll student, ROTC member, athlete and dancer, and Jacob's handsome first grandchild, Brice, is the apple of his eye.

As you can see, Mr. Speaker, I cannot say enough about how great a member of my staff and family Jacob Gillison was. I will truly miss him, his children, grandson, twin brother Esau, and brothers-in-spirit—Tyson and Glenn—but I wish him continued success in his new position and this exciting, next stage of his outstanding career.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "ACCESS TO HEARING HEALTHCARE ACT OF 2014"

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Access to Hearing Healthcare Act of 2014. This important legislation will allow Medicare beneficiaries the option of going directly to a qualified audiologist for hearing and balance diagnostic tests. Medicare presently requires that beneficiaries with hearing loss or balance disorders obtain a physician referral before seeing an audiologist.

This referral requirement differs from other federal health agencies, including the Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and the Office of Personnel Management, which allow patients to directly access audiologists. Hearing impairment is one of the most common conditions affecting older Americans, with approximately 33 percent of adults aged 60 and over

and 40–50 percent of those aged 75 and over with hearing loss. Hearing loss among senior citizens, if left untreated, can result in isolation and depression.

We need to ensure that Medicare beneficiaries can obtain audiology services in a timely manner. I ask that my colleagues support this important legislation.

HONORING THE GREATER BEACHES VETERANS OF FOREIGN WARS POST 3270 ON THEIR 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 75th anniversary of the Greater Beaches Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3270.

Created in 1939, Post 3270 is Jacksonville's oldest continuous veterans organization. The First Coast is honored to have such a commendable organization that is committed to serving veterans, military families, and their communities.

The Veterans of Foreign War can trace its roots back to 1898, when the veterans of the Spanish American War and the veterans of the Philippine Insurrection joined forces and founded local organizations to secure rights and benefits for their members who returned wounded and sick after serving their country. At a time when there was no medical care or pensions, our country's heroes were often left to fend for themselves. As such, these individuals were compelled to do something about it. Taking matters into their own hands, they banded together to form what is now known as the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States. Starting out with only three chapters, the Veterans of Foreign War continued to grow over the years with more than 2,000,000 members today. They have been instrumental in establishing the Veteran's Administration, creating the GI Bill for the 20th century, and developing a National Cemetery system.

I am honored to have such brave men and women in the 4th Congressional District of Florida. Not only have they served their country abroad, but they continue to serve their communities at home. Such service deserves praise and I wish them many more years of success. Mr. Speaker, I ask you and Members of the House to join me in this very special congressional salute honoring the Greater Beaches Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 3270.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN McCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mrs. McCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent during the week of February 3, 2014. If I were present, I would have voted on the following:

rollcall No. 32—On final passage of H.R. 1791—"yea";

rollcall No. 33—On final passage of H.R. 357—"yea";

rollcall No. 34—Motion on ordering the previous question on the rule—"nay";

rollcall No. 35—H.Res.470—"nay";

rollcall No. 36—On ordering the previous question on the rule—"nay";

rollcall No. 37—H.Res.472—"nay";

rollcall No. 38—DeFazio Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 39—Holt Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 40—On motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3590—"yea";

rollcall No. 41—On final passage of H.R. 3590—"nay";

rollcall No. 42—Napolitano Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 43—Matsui Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 44—Bera Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 45—Capps Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 46—Huffman Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 47—McNerney Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 48—Peters (CA) Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 49—On the motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 3964—"yea";

rollcall No. 50—On final passage of H.R. 3964—"nay";

rollcall No. 51—Grijalva Amendment—"yea";

rollcall No. 52—Labrador Amendment—"nay";

rollcall No. 53—On the motion to recommit with instructions on H.R. 2954—"yea";

rollcall No. 54—On final passage of H.R. 2954—"nay."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on rollcall vote No. 60 on an amendment to S. 25 to clarify that the reduction in the cost of living adjustment for military retirees applies only to those members or former members of an armed force who became a member of a uniformed service on or after January 1, 2014. Had I been present for the vote, I would have voted "aye" and ask consent that my statement be included in the RECORD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 14, 2014

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 56—H. Res. 447—Supporting the democratic and European aspirations of the people of Ukraine, and their right to choose their own future free of intimidation and fear, had I been present, I would have voted "yes";

on rollcall No. 57—JOURNAL—On Approving the Journal, had I been present, I would have voted "yes";

on rollcall No. 58—H. Res. 475—On Ordering the Previous Question, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3193) to amend the Consumer Financial Protection Act of 2010 to