

a tangible influence on electoral outcomes, some communities may respond by adopting measures that violate principles of fair and equal treatment.

Such measures may include:

1. Changes from single-member to at-large election districts;
2. Changes to jurisdictional boundaries through annexation; or
3. Changes to multilingual voting materials requirements.

I think we can all agree that language minorities and those residing in emerging communities deserve protection from any such retaliatory election changes. The question is how this can best be achieved consistent with the overriding goal of bringing to the floor a bill that can pass both houses of Congress.

Mr. Speaker, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is no ordinary piece of legislation. For millions of Americans, and many of us in Congress, the Voting Rights Act of 1965 is sacred treasure, earned by the sweat and toil and tears and blood of ordinary Americans who showed the world it was possible to accomplish extraordinary things. In 2006, during the floor debate on the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act, I said:

With our vote today on H.R. 9, each of us will earn a place in history.

Therefore, the question before the House is whether our vote on the Voting Rights Act will mark this moment in history as a “day of infamy,” in FDR’s immortal words, or will commend us to and through future generations as the great defenders of the right to vote, the most precious of rights because it is preservative of all other rights.

For my part, I stand with Fannie Lou Hamer and Rosa Parks and Coretta Scott King, great Americans who gave all and risked all to help America live up to the promise of its creed.

I will vote to reauthorize the Voting Rights Act for the next 25 years.

I am as committed to the preservation of the Voting Rights Act today as I was then and will not rest until the job is done. As I stated during the historic 2006 debate:

I stand today an heir of the Civil Rights Movement, a beneficiary of the Voting Rights Act. I would be breaking faith with those who risked all and gave all to secure for my generation the right to vote if I did not do all I can to strengthen the Voting Rights Act so that it will forever keep open doors that shut out so many for so long.

This is why I intend to work with my colleagues and others as H.R. 3899 works its way forward and to do all I can to protect the voting rights of all Americans.

DIANA ARANDA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Diana Aranda for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Diana Aranda is a 12th grader at Arvada High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Diana Aranda is exemplary of the type of achieve-

ment that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Diana Aranda for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ALEXANDRIA TRANSIT COMPANY AND DASH BUS SYSTEM

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in the honoring of the 30th anniversary of the Alexandria Transit Company’s (ATC) and the initiation of the city’s DASH bus system.

Mayor Charles “Chuck” Beatley was the champion and father of DASH, and had a vision over 30 years ago of a bus system that would serve the local transit needs of the community and provide high quality transit service to the residents, workers, and visitors of the City of Alexandria. The ATC Chairman of 22 years, Mr. William “Bill” B. Hurd shared the Mayor’s vision and helped to create the organization that became so successful under his leadership; and who fostered a back-to-basics approach of operating safe and reliable service with clean buses and friendly and courteous drivers.

The DASH transit plays a vital role in the city of Alexandria by providing clean, safe, affordable, and reliable transportation service every day to thousands of commuters, city residents, workers, and visitors. The total ridership over the past 30 years has increased by over 360%, with a total annual ridership of over four million, an average of 14,500 passengers riding DASH every weekday and 12,000 passengers riding on the weekends; and expanded service from 582,000 miles in the first full year of service to over 1.6 million miles today.

I am pleased to say that DASH contributes to the quality of life and preserving the livability of Alexandria by mitigating traffic impacts, improving circulation and mobility throughout the city, and providing easier access to local businesses, retail and employment centers, residential developments, and to the regional Metrorail and the Virginia Railway Express commuter rail systems. Over the past four years, DASH has been purchasing environmentally friendly and low-floor hybrid electric buses and trolleys, which have provided great benefits including: reduced air pollutant emissions, reduced fuel consumption, increased transmission and brake life, and reduced engine noise, while improving accessibility and dwell times, and providing a smoother ride overall.

Metro Magazine named DASH one of the “10 Great Transit Systems to Work For,” and the Alexandria Commission for Women recognized the DASH General Manager, Sandy Modell, with the Salute to Women Leadership in Business and Career Development Award.

On behalf of the residents of the 8th Congressional District of Virginia, I congratulate the entire DASH bus system, its employees, and the Board of Directors, for their efforts and significant contributions to the Alexandria community to improve mobility and accessibility throughout the city, and for their achievements that have been recognized both nationally and by the Commonwealth of Virginia, in providing the highest quality of transit service to Alexandria residents, workers, and visitors, and in helping to make Alexandria a truly Livable, Green, and Prospering City.

DANIA HERNANDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Dania Hernandez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Dania Hernandez is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Dania Hernandez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Dania Hernandez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON BARBER

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. BARBER. Mr. Speaker, due to a meeting with members of the House Armed Services Committee, I missed one recorded vote on March 6. I would like to indicate at this point how I would have voted had I been present for that vote.

On rollcall No. 110, agreeing to the amendment offered by Mr. NADLER of New York to exempt from the bill any construction project for a nuclear facility planned in an area designated as an earthquake fault zone, I would have voted “aye.”

EDGAR HERNANDEZ

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Edgar Hernandez for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Edgar Hernandez is a 12th grader at Jefferson High

School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Edgar Hernandez is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Edgar Hernandez for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of his future accomplishments.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 69, I had to depart DC to fly to Georgia in order to attend the visitation of a funeral for a longtime friend. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

COZBI ESCOBAR

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cozbi Escobar for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Cozbi Escobar is a 12th grader at Jefferson High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cozbi Escobar is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cozbi Escobar for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING WHITICAR BOAT WORKS FOR THE 50-YEAR CELEBRATION OF THE "ELEGANTE"

HON. PATRICK MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. MURPHY of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Whiticar Boat Works on the occasion of the 50-year celebration of their 1961 Motor Yacht *Elegante*, built in the same location that this family-run business still resides at in Stuart, Florida. Founded in 1947 by Curt Whiticar, who just celebrated his 103rd birthday last month, this renowned business has expanded but still remains family-run by Curt's son John Whiticar, and nephew Jim Dragseth.

Fifty years ago, Whiticar built the *Elegante* on the very location where they now celebrate the motor yacht's anniversary. Originally called *Aphrodite*, the yacht was built for Fishers Island, New York resident John Hay "Jock" Whitney, a U.S. Ambassador to the United Kingdom and publisher of the New York Herald Tribune. For many years, Jack Whiticar, a brother of the company's founder, served as the captain of the yacht for Mr. Whitney. The yacht, now known as the *Elegante*, is currently owned by Pat and Bill Anton and remains the sole motor yacht ever produced by Whiticar Boat Works.

I am extremely proud of Whiticar for the great work they have done for so many years on the Treasure Coast. From its founding over 66 years ago to the present day, Whiticar has demonstrated a commitment to excellence in serving the boating community and producing excellent custom sport fishing boats. Passed from fathers to sons, Whiticar is a testament to hard work and dedication, a reminder of the important role family-owned businesses play in strengthening our economy. But not only has Whiticar Boat Works contributed greatly to our local economy and boating industry, but has played an integral role in our community, supporting coastal cleanups and efforts to clean our local waterways, encouraging boating safety, and benefiting local organizations such as the Boys & Girls Club. We are so very lucky to have Whiticar as part of our Martin County community.

Mr. Speaker, I again congratulate Mr. Whiticar and Whiticar Boat Works for the 50-year celebration of the *Elegante*, and I am honored to recognize the work they have done over these many years. I am proud that such a terrific organization has made its home in my district, and I wish them continued success and many more milestones to celebrate.

CASSIDY OSBORNE

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Cassidy Osborne for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Cassidy Osborne is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Cassidy Osborne is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Cassidy Osborne for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all of her future accomplishments.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA COURTS, PUBLIC DEFENDER SERVICE, AND COURT SERVICES AND OFFENDER SUPERVISION AGENCY ACT OF 2014

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 10, 2014

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce an important bill for the administration of justice in the District of Columbia. The bill would make minor, technical changes to the authorities of the District of Columbia Courts (Courts), the Public Defender Service for the District of Columbia (PDS) and the Court Services and Offender Supervision Agency for the District of Columbia (CSOSA), placing these entities in the same position as their federal counterparts for more effective management and operation.

This bill would allow the Courts to collect debts owed to it by its employees (e.g., debts from loss or damage to property, improper credit card payments, erroneous payments to employees). The Executive Officer of the Courts would have to provide employees with at least 30 days' written notice regarding the debt collection, and employees would have the right to a hearing conducted by an independent officer. The bill would also give the Courts the authority to purchase uniforms to ensure the safety of its building engineers, facilities maintenance workers and mail personnel. These service employees must regularly access buildings run by the Courts at all hours. The increase in the number of security incidents in courthouses throughout the country and the location of the Courts in the nation's capital require visual security and uniformity of staff to help ensure that unauthorized persons do not enter secure areas.

The bill would expressly allow PDS to accept and use public grants, voluntary and uncompensated services, such as unpaid law clerks and interns, and private contributions made to advance PDS's work. It would also allow PDS board members to be treated as PDS employees for purposes of liability. Apparently, a drafting oversight in the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 makes PDS's volunteer board of trustees District of Columbia employees for purposes of any action brought against board members. This bill would rectify this oversight.

Finally, the bill would allow CSOSA to develop and implement incentive-based programming to accompany its current sanction policies. Combining both sanctions and incentives has been proven to be more effective in improving compliance with supervision. The bill also would authorize CSOSA to solicit, receive and use gifts for the purpose of advancing its work, and would require the Director to keep detailed records on the use of CSOSA's gift authority. It would also permit the Director to enter into cost-reimbursable agreements with the D.C. government for space or services provided. The D.C. government is a frequent partner of CSOSA due to its location in D.C. and CSOSA's mandate to assist in the reintegration of D.C. code offenders into society. Giving CSOSA the authority to enter into reimbursable agreements with the District is necessary to assist CSOSA in its daily work.

I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.