

Virgil Johnson, Richard Matthew Kahlhamer, John Thomas Keefe, Rodney Clark Kenyon, Ronald Eugene Krebs, Willard Harvey Krueger, Marvin Virgil Kumpula, Ernest Dominic Lewandowski, Ervin Daniel Lewandowski, Vernon George Maslow, Aloys Herman Meyer, Francis Charles Mortier.

Robert Howard Fellow, Roger Jerome Robeck, Gerald Sylvester Roering, DuWayne Herbert Sabrowsky, Allen Dale Simonson, Lester Reynold Thies, Richard Arlen Underdahl, Chauncey Edward Van Hatten, Dayle Jacob Von Holdt, Joseph Frank Wallschlaeger Sr., Cornelius Ni Warzecha, Ronald Duane Weiss, Richard Jake Wolf, Charles Wood Wright, Norbert Joseph Zahler, Donald Bernard Zahler.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. EDWARD R. ROYCE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. ROYCE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and not present for rollcall vote 194. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

UKRAINE'S ELECTIONS—
LEGITIMATE AND HEROIC

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, in a little more than two weeks, Ukraine will be holding presidential elections while Russia continues its campaign of aggression and destabilization. The evidence overwhelmingly indicates that the pro-Russian separatist militants that have been operating in parts of eastern Ukraine act at the behest and direction of the Russian government. President Putin has already said that the Ukrainian elections are illegitimate.

Yesterday Putin softened his tone with respect to the May 25 elections. Yet at this point words mean little unless they are matched by deeds. Putin has also claimed that the tens of thousands of troops deployed on Ukraine's border are being pulled back, yet so far there is no evidence that this is happening.

The upcoming elections are legitimate—more than legitimate. They are heroic—many people will be taking real risks of future reprisals in voting. Yet according to a recent IRI poll, an overwhelming 84 percent of Ukrainian citizens said they will definitely or are likely to vote in the elections, including a substantial majority in the two regions in which the militants are active. The vast majority of Ukrainians do not support the separatist movement, and wish to remain in a united Ukraine. It is up to the Ukrainian people—and only the Ukrainian people—to decide their own future through democratic means. It is not up to Russia—whose President famously said that the collapse of the Soviet Union was a "major geopolitical disaster . . . a genuine tragedy". These are views shared by few of the people living in Ukraine, whether they consider themselves Ukrainian or Russian, and few of the people living in the other non-Russian former Soviet republics.

The real tragedy here is the suffering of so many innocent people at the hands of militants, extremists, and hooligans—including the OSCE military monitors who were held hostage by the pro-Russian militants for more than a week. The militants have murdered a number of pro-Ukrainian activists and have kidnapped, threatened and intimidated others, including journalists who simply favor democracy and free speech. Some 40 people are in captivity in the separatist hotbed of Sloviansk alone. Minorities also have reason to be concerned—militants have attacked the Roma community and among Russian special forces in Ukraine are members of neo-Nazi and anti-Semitic groups. And over the weekend, we saw the terrible clashes in Odessa that resulted in the deaths of more than 40 people.

We must not forget Crimea, where the Russians are consolidating power and taking measures against Crimean Tatars and ethnic Ukrainians. The revered long-time Crimean Tatar leader and former Soviet political prisoner, Mustafa Dzhenilev, has been banned from returning to his homeland. Other activists have been attacked and threatened.

An overwhelming majority of Ukrainian citizens, even in the two regions where the pro-Russian separatists are most active and where most of the violence is taking place, don't wish to join Russia, and certainly don't want war.

I welcome U.S. and international assistance to Ukraine's democratic and economic development, including for the upcoming elections. Especially important is helping Ukraine strengthen the rule of law and overcome the devastating legacy of corruption left in the wake of the ruinous Yanukovich regime.

The U.S. and international community should redouble efforts to counter Russian aggression and to support the Ukrainian people's overwhelming aspirations for peace, freedom, democracy and economic well-being. We must stand shoulder-to-shoulder with those who want dignity, peace and freedom, in solidarity against those seeking to impose foreign autocracy and imperial rule.

HONORING SALLY D. CHESTER

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Sally D. Chester, a truly inspiring nurse from my district and recipient of the Palm Beach County Medical Society's 2014 Heroes in Medicine Humanitarian Award.

Throughout her career Sally has provided outstanding service to those in her local community. As chair of the Palm Beach County Medical Society, she united physicians in improving the community's health and as president of Leadership Palm Beach County, she educated and united leaders in building a better community.

In 2004, when her husband, Don, became a quadriplegic following a devastating accident, she stood by him as his primary caregiver and became involved with service dog training. As a cofounder of Genesis Assistance Dogs and board member of New Horizons Service Dogs, she works to transform the lives of people with disabilities, including our veterans, through the training and placement of assistance dogs.

In honor of her inspiring service for our community, I am pleased to recognize Sally D. Chester, R.N., and wish her continued success in all of her endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 204, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

AUTHORIZING USE OF EMANCIPATION HALL TO CELEBRATE BIRTHDAY OF KING KAMEHA-MEHA

SPEECH OF

HON. COLLEEN W. HANABUSA

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2014

Ms. HANABUSA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my strong support of House Concurrent Resolution 83, authorizing the use of Emancipation Hall in the Capitol Visitor's Center for the lei draping ceremony on June 8, 2014 to celebrate the birthday of King Kamehameha the Great. For more than forty years, the Hawai'i Congressional delegation and the Hawai'i State Society have hosted a lei draping ceremony which coincides with the celebration of King Kamehameha Day in the State of Hawai'i on June 11th.

King Kamehameha the Great, also known as King Kamehameha the first, was born in North Kohala on the island of Hawai'i and grew to become one of the most powerful figures in Hawaiian history. He was a superior warrior and was the only man in the history of the Hawaiian people to unite the Islands after nearly a decade of warfare.

According to Hawaiian legend, on the day King Kamehameha was born, a new star appeared in the heavens, signaling the birth of a great chief. At the time of his birth, the Hawaiian Islands were in a state of chaos, with rival chiefs constantly at odds with each other. King Kamehameha utilized western advisors and technology, such as muskets and cannons, to aid him in combat during his quest to unify the Hawaiian Islands. In 1810, King Kamehameha fulfilled his goal of uniting the Kingdom with the surrender of the Chief from Kauai.

With his forward thinking and vision for Hawai'i, Kamehameha ensured that the newly united Hawaiian Kingdom would not crumble after his death by establishing a uniform legal system and promoting a fruitful trade with Western powers. He is noted for Kanawai Mamalahoe, or the Law of the Splintered Paddle. It is said that when King Kamehameha led a raid, his foot got caught in between two rocks. A couple of local fishermen, who were fearful of the warrior, not realizing that it was