

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent on Wednesday, June 11, 2014. On rollcall vote No. 302, on the amendment offered by Mr. ROYCE, providing \$10 million for local and regional purchase for international food aid programs, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall vote No. 307, had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall votes No. 298, 299, 300, 301, 303, 304, 305 and 306, had I been present, I would have voted "no."

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF JENNIFER FOSTER

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month, to recognize Jennifer Foster. The daughter of Edward and Linda Foster, Jennifer was born and raised in Hicksville, Ohio. She attended the University of Cincinnati where she earned an Associates Degree in Criminal Justice. Jennifer went on to the University of Michigan where she graduated Summa Cum Laude, with a Bachelors of Arts Degree in Business Administration.

In 1999, Jennifer founded Foster Productions, Inc. after years of freelancing in the Detroit, Michigan video production industry. Jennifer relocated the company to Orlando, Florida in 2001. She has written, produced and directed both industrial and broadcast projects for many of the most prestigious corporations in the world. Jennifer has produced a wide range of media including commercial, documentary, learning development, marketing, animation, and broadcast media. Her award-winning work can be seen everywhere, including Fortune 500 companies, museums, the worldwide web, broadcast television programs, and commercials.

In March of 2013, Jennifer founded Kids' Wellness Alliance, LLC (KWA!), a children's health and wellness "edutainment" company. KWA! is expected to launch its first program, YogaDog!, in the fall of 2014. Jennifer is the Chief Executive Officer and oversees all business and creative aspects of KWA!'s development projects.

Jennifer is a long-time member of the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) and the Co-Founder of the local Orlando HRC community. During her eight years of volunteer leadership, Jennifer helped create one of the most vibrant and politically effective local HRC volunteer communities in the country. Serving on the Board of Governors for the national organization, Jennifer earned numerous awards during her time with HRC including the prestigious Founder's Award.

Jennifer is also a long-time member of the Metropolitan Business Association (MBA) of Orlando, Central Florida's LGBT Chamber of

Commerce. She was honored with the 2011 Debbie Simmons Community Service Award and named the 2014 Business Woman of the Year award recipient.

An active member of her community, Jennifer was twice nominated for the Orlando Business Journal "Women Who Mean Business" award. She supports a variety of local non-profit and political organizations including Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Florida, Florida Little Dog Rescue, Hope and Help of Central Florida, Libby's Legacy Breast Cancer Foundation, Planned Parenthood of Central Florida, and the Zebra Coalition.

Jennifer's greatest achievement is her marriage to her long-time life partner, Mary Anne Metaxas. They were legally wed in Washington, D.C. on December 13, 2013—their 10 year anniversary. They reside in Orlando, Florida with their three dogs, Matti, Maci, and Patrick, two cats, Graci and Kevin, and occasionally rescue puppies that they are temporarily fostering. I am happy to honor Jennifer Foster, during LGBT Pride Month, for her contributions to the Central Florida Community.

AGRICULTURE, RURAL DEVELOPMENT, FOOD AND DRUG ADMINISTRATION, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4800) making appropriations for Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to using the appropriations process to weaken federal child and school nutrition programs. Following the passage of the Healthy, Hunger Free Kids Act of 2010, the United States Department of Agriculture proposed rules regarding implementation of meal standards in schools. Unfortunately, House Republicans are playing politics with our children's health.

The Agriculture appropriations bill now contains a proposal that would allow schools to take a waiver to opt-out of school nutrition programs. House Republicans say that schools are having financial trouble meeting new standards, but data show that 90% of schools are currently meeting these updated standards.

In a meeting with First Lady Michelle Obama, school officials from across the country stated that they have been successful in implementing these standards and serving students more grain rich products, fruits, and vegetables. The USDA and local officials have relied on feedback from students and school officials to formulate new menus.

Even though some schools cite financial troubles in meeting new nutritional standards, we should not allow any and all schools to abandon implementing new standards with a waiver. The majority of schools has implemented these changes and seen success.

For decades, Congress has based decisions regarding federal nutrition programs on science. I strongly believe that we must continue this practice for the benefit of our children. I urge my colleagues to oppose this provision and instead to support Congressman SAM FARR's amendment to strike the waiver from the bill.

THANKING CORPORAL KYLE CARPENTER

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following in honor of the presentation of the Medal of Honor on June 19, 2014, by President Obama at the White House to Corporal Kyle Carpenter the United States Marine Corps, a poem in his honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

IN HONOR, IF?

(By Albert Carey Caswell)

In . . .
 In Honor, if?
 No greater gift!
 Then all of this!
 To lay down one's life. . .
 No brighter light!
 So sacrifice!
 I but ones life!
 The greatest treasure!
 That Last Full Measure!
 Whenever brave hearts endeavor!
 To turn the dark into the light!
 Oh this most brilliant sight!
 So sacred rite!
 I Honor, if?
 As you Devil Dog,
 shone bright!
 Willingly to give up your life!
 As Kyle,
 your great heart took flight!
 When, who lived and died. . .
 so all depended on you!
 As the angels cried!
 While, watching your courage rise!
 All in honor your so divine!
 As yours grew!
 All in your most brilliant shades of green
 this hue!
 Oooh. . . rah. . .
 you one fine United States Marine!
 Right at the crossroads of death,
 as your fine heart would crest!
 And grew and grew!
 As upon that grenade yourself you threw!
 But for the greater good!
 In all you could!
 All in Honor's Light,
 You Devil Dog so bright!
 And what child may be born?
 From your love now so warmed. . .
 Who might save the world,
 all in your love unfurled!
 In Honor, If?
 We choose this gift!
 Because, moments are all we have!
 Minutes, to turn the good from bad!
 To make a difference with it all,
 and answer that clarion call!
 America's son,
 on earth in Heaven as thy will be done!
 And why on this day,
 upon your strong shoulders this Medal of
 Honor we proudly place!
 All In Honor's grace!
 For all you saved. . .
 For your Valor so ready to die this day!
 While, all In Honor you so led the way!

Could we?
Would we? . . .
But such gifts so give?
In Honor, If?
Ooooh. . . Rah!

HONORING BOB TRUSELA

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Bob Trusela, a distinguished restaurateur in San Pedro who passed away on June 6, 2014. As a longtime resident of the Los Angeles Harbor Area, Bob was well-known in the community for his exceptional Italian dishes, his unforgettable smile, and his unique ability to make every customer feel like they were part of the Trusela family. The community's praise of his delicious cuisine attests to the lasting imprint that his positive character will leave on those within the Los Angeles Harbor Area community and beyond.

When he was a young man, Bob's desire to enter the restaurant industry led him to pursue a job as a busboy in Scottsdale, Arizona. He later worked at various restaurants in Nevada and California. In 1992, Bob's love for the restaurant business ultimately led him to meet his wife, Josephine. That year, both were working at Josephine's uncle's restaurant in San Pedro. In 2007, the couple opened Trusela's restaurant on the same spot where they met sixteen years earlier, a restaurant where I enjoyed countless fabulous Italian meals and memories. Just a few months ago, Bob and Josephine opened their new restaurant in San Pedro, Otto Trattoria, which has already proven to be a local favorite for many residents. Los Angeles is famous for its cultural diversity, which is reflected in the wide array of restaurants that feature cuisines from across the globe. I am proud to say that Bob played a major role in this part of the community while touching so many lives in the process.

He is survived by his wife, Josephine, as well as his five children: Bobby, Louis, Tony, Dominic, and Isabella.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that all Members of the House join me in a moment of silence to commemorate the life of Bob Trusela.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. JOSEPH W. GREENE, SR. FOR HIS DEDICATED CAREER AT KANSAS CITY POWER AND LIGHT

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize an outstanding dedicated employee of Kansas City Power & Light. On Friday, June 13, Mr. Joseph W. Green, Sr. will officially retire from the electric utility, having served for sixty-eight years. His commitment to the service of KCP&L is unparalleled, as he is the company's longest serving employee. Mr. Greene is a trailblazer, civil rights activist, a devoted family man, and a community leader who has devoted his life to the fight for justice and equal rights for everyone.

Greene, affectionately known as "Mean" Joe Greene, was born in Kansas City, Missouri, in 1925. When he was just sixteen years old, he joined the Masonic Lodge where he ascended to the rank of Wisdom Master, 30 degree. Four years later, he joined KCP&L, in 1945, and began as janitor. Through his years he has worked as a machinist, apprentice mechanic, tool room attendant at Hawthorne Station, and Union Steward for IBEW Local 412. An investor-owned, regulated electric utility, Kansas City Power & Light serves more than 800,000 customers in 47 Missouri and Kansas counties. Mr. Greene helps to serve approximately 18,000 square miles, with more than 3,000 miles of transmission lines, 24,000 miles of distribution lines, and more than 400 substations to deliver power to their customers.

Greene joined the NAACP in 1963 where he served in various capacities, including on their Board of Directors and as a delegate to many of the annual conventions. For many years, he was the top membership recruiter for the NAACP. Greene also served on the Board of Kansas City's Southern Christian Leadership Conference.

"Mean" Joe Greene has never been afraid to speak up and fight for his beliefs. Of his activism, he once said, "It's been a struggle and I hope I've been able to help lay the groundwork for the acceptance of minorities to come into mainstream America and be given equal opportunities to do what they can and to the best of their abilities." One of the highlights of his life was the election of President Barack Obama, the nation's first African American President.

Greene was married to the late Thelma C. Greene for 56 years. He is the father of three sons, Joseph Greene, Jr., Earl Greene and Dr. Wesley E. Greene, and one deceased daughter, Joan Greene. He also has several grandchildren, including two medical doctors, one attorney, one completing law school, a former NFL football player and an aspiring film producer. He says of his family, "I am going to do everything I can while I'm alive for my family, my community and my people."

Mr. Greene has been a lifelong proponent of education and, in conjunction with KCP&L and the University of Missouri—Kansas City, supported an annual Spelling Bee for fourth and fifth-grade students from an inner city school.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and our colleagues in recognizing and honoring Mr. Joe Greene for a lifetime of devoted commitment to Kansas City Power & Light and our community. While he embraces this next phase of life in retirement, I wish to thank him for his tireless service over the last 68 years. His life's motto, "We will get along fine as long as you respect and treat me right," will continue to guide his colleagues and all of us in the days ahead. Demonstrating unparalleled dedication, Joe serves as an inspiration and role model for our community.

IN HONOR OF LGBT PRIDE MONTH

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize and celebrate the

month of June as Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Pride Month. As the proud sponsor of H. Res 416, Encouraging the Celebration of the Month of June as LGBT Pride Month, along with my fellow LGBT caucus members, this is an issue near and dear to my heart.

Too often have the contributions and the struggle of LGBT individuals for full recognition and equal protection under the law been intentionally ignored. That is why I join with my LGBT brothers and sisters this June in celebrating the positive progress we have seen across the country toward full recognition and equal protection for LGBT individuals. I also join with them to recognize the multitude of positive LGBT role models and public figures who are able to live their lives in such a way as to prove it really does "get better" to those around the world who struggle with their LGBT status.

I firmly believe everyone should be treated fairly and equally regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity. I believe that Dr. King's words are as true now as they ever were in light of the continued invidious discrimination, hate, and bias we see against LGBT individuals in our world community: 'Injustice anywhere is a threat to justice everywhere.' An injustice against a member of the LGBT community is a threat to justice in every community.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, as we recognize and celebrate the month of June as LGBT Pride Month, let us recognize the LGBT trailblazers that have made this month possible and let their example guide us as we continue to seek equal protection under the law for all.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, during rollcall vote number 273 on the Broun Amendment H.R. 4745, I mistakenly recorded my vote as "yes" when I should have voted "no."

ISLAMIC STATE OF IRAQ AND SYRIA (ISIS)

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 12, 2014

Mr. WOLF. Mr. Speaker, as the author of the legislation that created the Iraq Study Group, also known as the Baker-Hamilton Commission, which helped lay the groundwork for the successful "surge" strategy that restored security to Iraq in 2007 and 2008, I am deeply troubled by what is unfolding in Iraq today on the Obama Administration's watch.

The rapid fall of multiple Iraqi cities to the terrorist Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) brings the militant group notably closer to its declared aim of establishing a caliphate that spans the northern sections of Syria and Iraq.

In essence, this jihadi extremist group, with origins in al Qaeda, is effectively carving out a terrorist state in the heart of the Middle East before our eyes and the Obama Administration appears to have no plan to respond.