

named Superintendent in 2012. Mrs. Luciano is the first Latina superintendent in the Florida public school system.

As Superintendent, Mrs. Luciano provides leadership for the district and school administration, as well as facilitates continuous improvement, educational accountability, and community support through partnerships with stakeholders. She works collaboratively with students, parents, faculty and staff, administrators, community residents, and School Board Members to annually develop an annual strategic plan focused on the district's vision for student success.

In June 2014, the Florida Department of Education recognized the Osceola School District as one of only five Florida counties to improve in all seven assessment areas in reading, mathematics, and science.

Mrs. Luciano has a strong sense of leadership, an unrivaled sense of professionalism, and a passion for community involvement and collaboration. In March 2013, she was awarded the National Association for Bilingual Education's Citizen Award.

I am happy to recognize Melba Luciano, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for her passion for education and commitment to improving the Central Florida community.

#### HONORING JOLIET JUNIOR COLLEGE'S TUTORING AND LEARNING CENTER

##### HON. BILL FOSTER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. FOSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the ribbon cutting of Joliet Junior College's Tutoring and Learning Center in Joliet, Illinois.

Joliet Junior College was the first public community college in the nation, and since its founding in 1901 it has provided students with excellent educational opportunities. This tradition will continue with the opening of the Tutoring and Learning Center.

The Tutoring and Learning Center will provide students with free access to tutoring services such as drop-in math assistance, presentation training, online tutoring, and writing assistance, all under one roof. These services will give Joliet Junior College students the skills they need to succeed not only in their education, but after graduation as well.

Again, I would like to congratulate Joliet Junior College on the opening of the Tutoring and Learning Center and thank the college for its hard work on behalf of our students.

#### DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AND THE NFL'S ACTIONS

##### HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following letter regarding domestic violence and the NFL's actions:

SEPTEMBER 9, 2014.

ROGER GOODELL,  
*Commissioner, National Football League,*  
*New York, NY.*

DEAR COMMISSIONER GOODELL: Today I called for the NFL to take immediate action

in announcing a major effort on fighting national domestic violence. It would be appropriate for the NFL to initiate major funding effort to stop domestic violence now. Domestic violence hits every sector of the Nation without respect to race, religion, wealth and/or gender. Many Americans have lost their lives at the hands of domestic violence. The NFL can collaborate with other professional sports organizations and produce a major gift to provide resources to anti domestic violence groups, health clinics, law enforcement and faith organizations to stop the crisis of domestic violence.

As a Senior Member of the House Judiciary Committee and the Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus who helped reauthorize the most recent Violence Against Women's Act (VAWA), I think it's imperative that we deal with this situation now. Statistics show that one in every four women will experience domestic violence in her lifetime. An estimated 1.3 million women are victims of physical assault by an intimate partner each year. 85% of domestic violence victims are women.

It is imperative that we come together in strong support of a national, broad and comprehensive strategy to address the causes and effects of domestic violence. Weighing heavily on our conscience is the fact that an estimated 46 million children in our country are exposed to violence each year through crime, abuse and trauma. The gravity of the current situation with Ray Rice and the NFL cannot be overstated.

Domestic violence is the willful intimidation, physical assault, battery, sexual assault, and/or other abusive behavior perpetrated by an intimate partner against another. It is an epidemic affecting individuals in Houston, regardless of age, economic status, race, religion, nationality or educational background. Violence against women is often accompanied by emotionally abusive and controlling behavior, and thus is part of a systematic pattern of dominance and control. Domestic violence results in physical injury, psychological trauma sometimes death. The consequences of domestic violence can cross generations and truly last a lifetime.

Since coming to Congress I have spearheaded efforts to ensure women have equal opportunity and are treated fairly. I have fought year after year for adequate funding to make shelters and supportive services more accessible to victims of family and domestic violence. It is now time for the NFL to place some of their resources into these shelters and programs that work to alleviate domestic violence in our society. The scourge of domestic violence cannot be silenced or covered up. It is real and the NFL, after all the talk is done, can have a visible, constant and long term impact by providing this major funding initiative. We must take on this challenge with the recognition that changing the pervasive culture of domestic violence will not happen overnight. While we can act now and pass legislation to ameliorate some of causes of the domestic violence epidemic, this problem is larger than our laws. That is why we must make an enduring commitment to our families and children suffering from domestic violence.

To respond or ask any questions about this letter, please contact my Chief of Staff Glenn Rushing at 202-225-3816. A prompt response to this letter would be appreciated.

Very truly yours,

SHEILA JACKSON LEE,  
*Member of Congress.*

#### IN RECOGNITION OF NAROPA UNIVERSITY'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

##### HON. JARED POLIS

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 17, 2014*

Mr. POLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Boulder, Colorado's own Naropa University, in celebration of its 40th anniversary. Naropa University is this nation's leader in contemplative education and is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission.

40 years ago, a Tibetan-born Buddhist leader named Chögyam Trungpa Rinpoche, who as a young man led hundreds of Tibetans on foot from a besieged homeland, assembled a collection of students and guest faculty for the first summer session in Boulder at what is now called Naropa University. Trungpa's vision was to create a university that would combine contemplative studies with traditional Western scholastic and artistic disciplines.

The first classes at Naropa University (then called the Naropa Institute) were held in a summer session in a vacated bus garage, now the site of the Alfalfa's supermarket. The organizers expected around three hundred people to show up. Instead, more than 1,300 students flocked to Boulder, and in the process, transformed Boulder into an energetic center of learning, culture, and the performing arts.

As the leader in contemplative education, an approach to learning and teaching that integrates Eastern wisdom studies with traditional Western scholarship, Naropa has always been a magnet for great minds, intellectual curiosity, and those who search for greater meaning. Indeed, Naropa is renowned for its ability to attract spiritual leaders, such as His Holiness the Dalai Lama, political and business leaders, and global thought leaders. And through Naropa's vaunted Summer Writing Program, generations of writers, performers, and activists have come of age and worked side-by-side with some of our nation's greatest poets, authors, and performers.

Naropa is now firmly embedded in the cultural, academic, and economic fabric of Boulder. Each year, 1000 undergraduate and graduate students seek degrees that will enable them to transform the world around them. Programs in counseling psychology, performing arts, art therapy, writing and poetics, early childhood and K-12 education, environmental leadership, peace studies, religious studies and pastoral counseling and traditional eastern arts are training a new generation of leaders. Thousands of Naropa alumni are changing the world for the better through work in nonprofits, small business and social enterprise start-ups, therapy, counseling, teaching and writing. They studied with a distinguished faculty who are nationally and internationally recognized for their scholarship and contemplative teaching techniques. And finally, Naropa was recently named both a "College of Distinction" and one of the "8 Greenest Colleges" in the United States.

Naropa University is truly a Colorado treasure. I'm so proud to join my fellow Boulderites, as well as the thousands of Naropa alumni around the world, in congratulating Naropa University on its 40th Anniversary.