

everlasting heritage of the Albuquerque Dukes baseball team, the famous “Duke” logo strewn across their dirt-stained jerseys and its rich cultural representation of our great state of New Mexico. I would also like to extend my gratitude to trademark owners Fred Matteucci and Steve Palmisano for recognizing the rich historical significance of this iconic symbol and bringing it back to our community.

In 1915, the Albuquerque Dukes became the first recognized professional baseball team, and joined the Class D Rio Grande Association featuring the Spanish conquistador as their symbol and mascot; they called him the “Duke”.

The symbol of the Duke had far reaching ties to the identity and narrative that defines the city of Albuquerque. It derived from Francisco Cuervo y Valdez who wrote to Francisco Fernández de la Cueva, a viceroy of New Spain, later known as The Duke of Albuquerque to inform him of their newly founded villa. The “r” would later be dropped, but that site still remains and now features our beautiful Albuquerque metropolis of over 500,000 people.

It is remarkable how much the Dukes baseball team impacted our community. From the Great Depression, to the Manhattan Project, to the Cold War, and to the countless other events in our nation’s history the Albuquerque Dukes were always there.

For 88 years, the Dukes took the field. Most New Mexicans still remember the smell of the grass, the pop of the ball when it met the wood of the bat, and preparing a fresh hot dog on the back of a pick-up truck parked above the lava rocks beyond the outfield fence. The Dukes became a cultural identity, a representation of what it is to be New Mexican and a sense of pride for everyone in Albuquerque. Families and friends celebrated victories and mourned the losses, but through it all they never lost faith in their team.

Although the Dukes no longer play, their legacy endures. Each spring, The Duke City and the Albuquerque Isotopes renew this commitment. Many fans still sport the Spanish-influenced red and gold jerseys and remember back to the excitement of the first pitch of every game. Thanks to individuals like Fred and Steve and the countless Albuquerqueans who continue to proudly display the iconic conquistador, we can continue to preserve our unique history and tradition for future generations.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF STATE REPRESENTATIVE RICARDO RANGEL

HON. ALAN GRAYSON

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. GRAYSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Florida State Representative Ricardo Rangel. Born in Bronx, New York, Ricardo grew up in a military family, traveling the country with his father, who retired as a Master Sergeant. His passion for leadership developed at an early age, as he was very active as a teenager and took on a number of leadership roles.

After graduating high school, Ricardo followed in the footsteps of his father and en-

listed in the U.S. Army. Ricardo was honorably discharged as a Sergeant after serving twelve years and earning five Certificates of Achievement for Outstanding Work Performance, two Army Achievement Medals for Outstanding Work Performance and three Good Conduct Medals for being a model soldier. Ricardo currently works as a senior marketing manager for AT&T.

Ricardo is no stranger to public service. After the Army, Ricardo has continued his focus on public service. He has been involved in community events such as United We Paint, Bowl for Kids’ Sake and the Ricardo Rangel Annual Softball Game benefitting Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Central Florida. His continued activism and leadership in the community earned him the Emerging Leadership Award from the NAACP and the National Leadership Award from the Business Council.

Ricardo graduated with a Bachelors and a Masters degree in Management from Warner University, which has afforded him opportunities to work on different political campaigns. He has managed local races in Florida as well as federal races for candidates in Arizona, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. Recognizing his management skills and strong work ethics, Ricardo was voted “Florida Young Democrat of the Year” in 2003.

With the economy still sluggish and the desire to help working families, Ricardo decided to run for the Florida House of Representatives. In 2012, Ricardo was elected with 68 percent of the vote to represent Osceola County’s District 43 in the Florida House of Representatives. Within a few months of being in office he quickly jumped in and led the charge to protect working-class families. He also earned the respect of the business community by showing that he supports business friendly policies and is eager to work across party lines for economic development that will help create jobs.

As a member of the Florida Legislature, Representative Rangel serves on the Government Operations Appropriations Subcommittee, Government Operations Subcommittee, Veteran and Military Affairs Subcommittee, Local and Federal Affairs Committee, and State Affairs Committee. Ricardo also currently serves as a member of the State Executive Committee for the Florida Democratic Party.

I am happy to recognize Representative Ricardo Rangel, during Hispanic Heritage Month, for his leadership and service to the Central Florida community.

ANOTHER CONTINUING RESOLUTION

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I reluctantly voted for another Continuing Resolution to ensure funding for government programs in Fiscal Year 2015. It’s a low bar and a sad metric when preventing another government shutdown is hailed as an accomplishment. What Congress needs to be doing—and what the American public deserves—is a return to regular order instead of governing on autopilot. We should pass all 12 of our appro-

priations bills because Congress needs to make thoughtful changes to our spending so they reflect the challenges and priorities of the day.

There were some encouraging exceptions. Through this CR, Congress was able to provide a short-term reauthorization of the Export-Import Bank, which supports 1.2 million jobs in the U.S., and financing for over 3,400 of America’s small-business exporters. While it’s important that it not expire, a nine month extension restricts the ability to finance importance large and long-term projects. Oregon’s businesses looking to reach new markets abroad deserve real help. Also included in the CR is critical funding for the Centers for Disease Control and HHS’s Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority to respond to the Ebola outbreak. Close to home, it provides increased funding so that we can make further progress on the VA claims backlog.

The final CR also includes an amendment that would provide the President with the limited and narrow authority he needs to address the atrocities perpetrated by ISIS in Iraq and Syria. My statement on the House floor and the Website explains why I felt it critical to support this amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF BISHOP CHARLES ELLIS FOR HIS LEADERSHIP AS PRESIDING BISHOP OF THE PENTECOSTAL ASSEMBLIES OF THE WORLD

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 18, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Bishop Charles Ellis on his reelection as the Presiding Bishop of the Pentecostal Assemblies of the World (PAW) earlier this year.

This milestone in Bishop Ellis’ service to the PAW and his congregation of Greater Grace Temple in Detroit is a recognition of the significant impact his spiritual leadership has made on the Greater Detroit community and on the broader community of PAW worshippers around the world.

As the son of a pastor, Bishop Ellis grew up with a deep appreciation and understanding of the power that spiritual leaders have to be agents of positive change within their communities. After graduating from Mumford High School and Wayne State University, he went on to serve the congregation of Greater Grace as its main financial administrator. Upon the death of his father, then Elder Charles Ellis was elevated to pastor of congregation at Greater Grace, where the congregation has continued to grow it is present membership of nearly 6000. It was just a few years later that he was appointed as a Bishop in the PAW, becoming the second youngest bishop in its history.

Under Bishop Ellis’ leadership, Greater Grace Temple has developed more than 300 ministries that offer vital support to the Greater Detroit community—leading efforts to assist others that include issues of: education, the arts, families in need, victims of domestic violence and seniors. The impact of these ministries has been significant, and as a result,