

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

UNITING AND STRENGTHENING AMERICA BY FULFILLING RIGHTS AND ENSURING EFFECTIVE DISCIPLINE OVER MONITORING ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. DeFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, I have always been a staunch defender of privacy and civil liberties. I voted against the Patriot Act and its extension in 2008 and 2011 because I feared it gave the federal government too much unchecked power over the rights of law abiding citizens and lacked effective oversight tools for Congress. Clearly I was proven right. Thankfully, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit ruled that the NSA's program to collect telephone records in bulk under Section 215 of the Patriot Act is illegal. This was a big win for privacy and civil liberties advocates, but it is not the end of the fight. Given this decision, it is clear that Congress must do more to rein in unconstitutional intrusion into our personal lives. Unfortunately, today's bill fell short of those reforms.

H.R. 2048 is an improvement from the weakened bill that passed the House last year. However, it falls short of shutting the door on unrestrained government surveillance. The bill does nothing to address "backdoor" searches of U.S. citizens under Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act. This statute is possibly of more concern than the telephone records collected under Section 215. While Section 702 expressly prohibits the government from intentionally targeting the communications of U.S. persons, the NSA has applied an incredibly loose interpretation of this statute and used it to justify collecting not only communications records of U.S. citizens, but also the contents of communications, including email, social media messages, or web browsing history.

While this bill attempts to address bulk data collection under Section 215 of the Patriot Act, the NSA has an unscrupulous tendency to find loopholes in statute and twist the intent of Congress to fulfill their own wishes. I fear that given our past experience, this bill will undermine the Second Circuit's decision and create new legal loopholes for the NSA and law enforcement agencies to collect even more data on millions of Americans.

It is possible to gain information on potential terrorist threats while still protecting the privacy and freedom of American citizens, complying with the Constitution, and preserving adequate congressional and judicial oversight. The original version of the USA Freedom Act, introduced in 2013, balanced these priorities. The bill we considered today did not. I urge the Senate to make the needed reforms to this bill so that it bolsters the Second Circuit's decision and accomplishes the goal of once and for all ending mass government surveillance of law-abiding Americans.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I voted against this re-vamped version of H.R. 36, the "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act." This act is both dangerous and unconstitutional and violates the rights of women to an abortion. By allowing this act to become law, we are limiting the reproductive rights for all women in this nation.

H.R. 36 is blatantly unconstitutional, as it bans abortions after the twenty week mark. This bill is in clear violation of more than 40 years of Supreme Court precedent that protect women's access to abortion prior to viability—that is prior to twenty-four NOT twenty weeks.

This bill provides fake fixes that make it worse than the first version of this bill. This bill requires sexual assault victims seeking abortion services after twenty weeks to provide written proof that they obtained counseling or medical treatment for their sexual assault. This bill also requires a minor, who is an incest victim and who seeks abortion services after twenty weeks, to provide written proof that the crime was reported to law enforcement or a government agency.

Forcing sexual assault victims and minor incest victims to report their rape is bad enough, but this bill gets even more dangerous because it requires doctors who provide abortion services after twenty weeks to publicly disclose, to the government, the location of where care was provided. In light of Americans' easy access to guns and explosive materials, this provision would endanger many lives. This is a nightmare waiting to happen—a nightmare that I refuse to take part in supporting.

We cannot allow a woman's right to choose to be infringed upon by a minority of people in this nation. We cannot let them bully the rest of the country into accepting their worldview. I stand with women, which is why I opposed H.R. 36.

WATER SAFETY AWARENESS MONTH

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, the month of May is Water Safety Awareness Month. Swimming and other water recreational activities are very popular among Americans of all ages. As the warm summer months approach, we should work to ensure the public is educated on the most up-to-date water safety practices so that these activities remain a safe way to exercise and enjoy recreation.

A local chapter of the Independent Pool and Spa Service Association is hosting a safe

swimming event in San Antonio, Texas, on May 16, 2015. This event will serve to educate 4th grade students at Baskin Elementary School on the importance of water safety and to teach them safe swimming practices. I want to recognize their efforts and encourage all Texans to learn about and follow proper water safety measures.

RECOGNIZING SOUTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM FOR ITS 50TH YEAR OF HELPING COMBAT POVERTY IN PENNSYLVANIA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the South Central Community Action Program (SCCAP) on the occasion of their 50th year of service to communities in Franklin and Adams counties in Pennsylvania.

Community Action Agencies, which were created to carry out the Community Action Program that was established by the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964, have been important assets in helping reduce the effects of poverty felt around the United States. First called the Adams County Community Action Agency, SCCAP has played a critical role in bringing these support services to the underserved community members of Franklin and Adams counties.

From its beginnings as an organization run out of a two-room office, the hard-working SCCAP staff and volunteers have earned federal grant funding and organized the communities they serve to enable them to better support those in need. Later expanded to provide services to Franklin County residents, SCCAP has undergone an impressive transformation as it has continued to aid countless handicapped and underprivileged citizens in its 50 years. Despite challenges and its many changes, one thing has always stayed the same: SCCAP has been committed to helping families and underserved individuals move out of poverty since its creation.

I am privileged to not only congratulate the South Central Community Action Program, an organization that serves more than 11,000 families in Franklin County, on its 50th anniversary, but also thank the tireless SCCAP staff and volunteers for their selfless and unrelenting commitment to making the communities in their region a better place.

EMS WEEK

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand before you today to

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

recognize emergency medical services (EMS) providers across the nation as we celebrate the week of May 17 to 23, in recognition of their significant and heroic work. During EMS week, we show our gratitude to the EMS practitioners who aid our families, friends, and neighbors in their moments of need. For their unyielding dedication to serving their communities, EMS employees are to be commended.

In recognition of this week, numerous agencies throughout the community of Northwest Indiana have come together to establish the inaugural Regional EMS Conference, presented by Prompt Ambulance Service, which will take place on May 18, 2015. The goal of this conference is to encourage collaboration among EMS providers throughout the region in order to further the development of essential skills in the EMS community.

At this time, I would like to acknowledge several individuals who have dedicated their time and efforts to make this conference possible for the advancement of the medical community. I would like to recognize Ron Donahue—Prompt Ambulance Service; Jeff Zielinski—Prompt Ambulance Service; Christina Lopez—Methodist Hospital; Janene Gumz-Pulaski—Franciscan Alliance, Michigan City; Kelley Holdren—University of Chicago Aeromedical Network; Jake Messing—Saint Catherine Behavioral Health Services; Aaron Kochar—Porter Starke Services; Joseph Ferrandino—Indiana University Northwest; Thomas Bettenhausen—Community Hospital, District 1; Craig Felty—Indiana University Health; Tom Fentress—Methodist Hospital; David Cummins—Porter Regional Hospital; and Jana Marie Szostek—Indiana University Northwest, Indiana EMS Educator Workgroup.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring our EMS providers who dedicate their lives each day to ensuring the well-being and safety of our neighborhoods. Each member of the EMS family makes every effort to provide exceptional service by doing what is right for their patients, colleagues, and communities. Through their service to so many in need throughout Northwest Indiana and across the nation, EMS providers serve as an inspiration to us all, and they are worthy of the highest praise.

TRIBUTE TO SENIOR MASTER SERGEANT ANITA MARIE SULLIVAN

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of Senior Master Sergeant Anita Marie Sullivan, a native of East Syracuse, New York and currently a resident of Oneida, New York. Sergeant Sullivan has more than 38 years of military service with the United States Air Force and the New York Air National Guard. She has been decorated with numerous medals, awards, and service distinctions and will retire from military service on 1 July 2015. It is my honor to recognize such a distinguished citizen and airman.

Sergeant Sullivan was born Anita M. Mozo on 29 August 1957. She is a 1975 graduate of East Syracuse-Minoa High School. After graduating from high school, she worked full-

time at the Syracuse School of Automation and subsequently the Syracuse University Department of Geology as a receptionist.

Sergeant Sullivan began her military career in the United States Air Force in January 1977, enlisting in the New York Air National Guard, and left for Basic Military Training to Lackland Air Force Base, Texas on 1 April 1977. After graduating from Basic Military Training, she began her Air Force Technical Training as an Air Passenger Specialist at Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas. Upon graduation from technical training in July 1977, she returned to Hancock Field Air National Guard Base as a Drill Status Guardsman in the Traffic Management Office, where she worked during monthly Unit Training Assembly weekends and also performed additional annual training to achieve her 3-skill level and 5-skill level as an Air Passenger Specialist, becoming the “go to” person on base for all airline reservations. While assigned to Hancock Field she met Master Sergeant William E. Dardis and married on 30 September 1978, becoming Sergeant Anita M. Dardis. In June 1979, she applied for and was subsequently hired as a full-time Air Technician as a GS-04 Clerk-Typist in the Supply Squadron.

In December 1979, then Sergeant Dardis was hired as a full-time Air Technician as a GS-05 Air Operations Specialist assigned to the 174th Operations Group, and began career field cross-training into the Airfield Management career field and received her 7-skill level in Air Force Specialty Codes 27171 and 27172. During her tenure in the 174th Operations Group, she participated in several unit deployments to include a two week Coronet Sail deployment as part of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Checkered Flag Exercise program to Lechfeld Air Base, Germany in 1981; two deployed Operational Readiness Inspections to Savannah, Georgia in 1982 and Volk Field, Wisconsin in 1986; and also participated in unit deployments to Patrick Air Force Base, Florida in 1983 and Davis-Monthan Air Force Base, Arizona in 1982.

In 1982, Sergeant Dardis was assigned a position as the GS-07 Standardization/Evaluation Technician, and in 1983 began an Active Duty Title 32 tour as the Wing Standardization/Evaluation NCO. In 1989, Sergeant Dardis left her Active Duty position and transferred into the 174th Fighter Wing Safety Office as the Administrative NCO as a Duty Status Guardsman, which allowed her to spend more time at home with her two young children. In 1992 Sergeant Dardis attended the 7-level in-residence technical school for the 3A071 Air Force Specialty Course at Keesler AFB, Mississippi, and earned the distinction of being named the class leader. She maintained her position in the Wing Safety Office until 1995. Sergeant Dardis performed additional duty at Hancock Field Air National Guard Base in 1990 and 1991 when the 174th Fighter Wing was called to Federal Active Service in support of Operation DESERT SHIELD and Operation DESERT STORM, backfilling various positions in the 174th Operations Group for NCO's who deployed with the aircrew package in support of the Persian Gulf War.

In Nov 1995, Sergeant Dardis was asked by the acting Wing and Vice Commanders to take the position of the Commander's Executive Assistant as a temporary technician. In March 1996, she was hired into the position as a permanent GS-06 Air Technician. In April 1999,

the position was upgraded to a GS-07 and advertised as an Active Guard/Reserve active duty position which she applied for and was hired for as the Executive Assistant to the Wing Commander. She served in this position working directly for Wing Commanders Colonel Robert A. Knauff from 1996 to 2003; Colonel Anthony Basile from 2003–2008; Colonel Kevin Bradley from 2008–2012; and for Colonel Greg Semmel from 2008 until her retirement on 1 July 2015.

In June 2006, Sergeant Dardis became a widow when her husband, Master Sergeant (Retired) William E. Dardis passed away unexpectedly. In January 2009, she remarried to Master Sergeant (Retired) John D. Sullivan and became Master Sergeant Anita M. Sullivan. Mr. Sullivan retired from the 174th in 2003 and is currently employed at Hancock Field as a New York State employee as the Base Carpenter.

In 2007, Sergeant Sullivan completed the Senior Noncommissioned Officer Academy Course. In 2010 she was reassigned to the military position of the Cyber Systems Superintendent and promoted to the rank of Senior Master Sergeant. That same year she attended the Air Force Protocol Fundamentals Course at Maxwell AFB, Mississippi and was assigned the high profile additional duty as the 174th Fighter Wing Protocol Coordinator for high ranking distinguished visitor arrivals and numerous protocol events for the 174th Fighter Wing. During her tenure in this position, Sergeant Sullivan played an integral part in the planning and execution of countless high level Distinguished Visitor visits, numerous Change of Command Ceremonies, Wing Commander Farewell Receptions, Retirement Ceremonies, F-16 aircraft Farewell, F-86 aircraft static display dedication, Military Funerals, unit re-designation ceremony, as well as numerous community events involving the Salvation Army, American Red Cross, and various Veteran's Service Organizations, and various other community organizations.

Sergeant Sullivan's military Decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal; the Air Force Commendation Medal; and Air Force Achievement Medal. Her military service awards include the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with five oak leaf clusters; the Air Reserve Forces Meritorious Service Medal with eleven oak leaf clusters; the National Defense Service Medal with one bronze service star; the Global War on Terrorism Service Medal; the Air Force Longevity Service Ribbon with eight oak leaf clusters; the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with gold hourglass and mobilization “M” device; and the Air Force Training Ribbon.

Sergeant Sullivan also holds the following New York State awards and decorations: New York State Long and Faithful Service Award, with one gold and one silver device; the New York State Defense of Liberty Medal; New York State Medal for Merit with one silver shield device; New York State Recruiting Medal; New York State Exercise Support Ribbon; and the New York State Physical Fitness Ribbon with two silver shield devices.

In addition to the previously mentioned awards and decorations, Sergeant Sullivan was also named the 174th Fighter Wing's Outstanding Noncommissioned Officer of the Quarter in December 1984, and the 174th Fighter Wing's Outstanding Unit Career Advisor of the Quarter in July 1985.

Sergeant Sullivan was promoted to Airman in 1977; Airman First Class in 1978; Sergeant in 1979; Staff Sergeant in 1980; Technical Sergeant in 1982; Master Sergeant in 1996; and her current rank of Senior Master Sergeant in 2010.

Without question, Mr. Speaker, Sergeant Sullivan is a very special person. She willingly served her nation, exuding loyalty and pride. For her unrelenting service and dedication to duty, Sergeant Sullivan can retire knowing she has earned such a status. I would like to wish Sergeant Sullivan well in her retirement years as she will now be able to spend more free time with her husband John, daughter Katelin Dardis, son and daughter-in-law Christopher and Amy Dardis, stepsons Daniel, Ryan, and Evan Sullivan, and granddaughter Ryleigh Dardis. Your late father Casper Mozo and your mother Margery (Burbank) Mozo can be proud of your service and accomplishments. Sergeant Sullivan, thank you for all your years of hard work, dedication and service to our country.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR FRED
BROUSSARD

HON. GWEN GRAHAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Major Fred Broussard upon the occasion of his retirement after 29 years of honorable service to our great Nation in the United States Air Force and Air Force Reserve.

Major Broussard began his career in 1986, upon graduation of Basic Personnel School, as a Distinguished Graduate. He was then assigned to Hurlburt Field, where in 1990, as a recognized expert in the Personnel career field, he was selected to facilitate the stand-up of the Headquarters Squadron Section for Headquarters Air Force Special Operations Command (HQ AFSOC) and was nominated and selected as the Military Personnel Technician of the Year for 1990 and 1991; and deployed as the sole SOF representative of the Personnel Support for Contingency Operations team during OPERATION DESERT STORM. He was selected as a member of the USAF "Thunderbird" Team in 1993, where he served as the Assignments NCO until his separation from active duty in 1995.

After leaving active duty, he immediately entered the Air Force Reserve where he served as a Traditional Reservist and Individual Mobilization Augmentee (IMA) in a variety of assignments. After nearly 15-years in the enlisted ranks, he earned his commission as an officer in April 2001. He was brought to Washington D.C. at the U.S. Air Force Headquarters, Pentagon in 2006 where he has served in three directorates filling numerous positions.

Throughout his myriad of assignments in the Pentagon, Major Broussard's ceaseless efforts and devotion to duty resulted in several accomplishments to include; successful articulation of the Air Force Reserve in the crafting of the Department of Defense policy on Active Duty for Operational Support and the Department of the Air Force policy for the Post Deployment-Mobilization Respite Absence; crafting the first ever game plan for the cre-

ation of the Air Force Reserve General Officer Vacancy Promotion Board, leading the nomination process, whereby shortening the timeline from nomination to Senate confirmation; building the foundation and ensuring the implementation of consolidated Full-Time support guidance; crafting revised promotion processes encompassing all three components of the Air Force in keeping with the implementation of the Under Secretary of the Air Force for Manpower and Reserve Affairs initiative to consolidate personnel programs; pioneering the institutionalizing statute-required process for release of promotion results, which were adopted by the Chief of Air Force Reserve, Chief of the Air National Guard and the General Counsel for the Secretary of the Air Force.

Major Broussard's final role began in July 2012, as the AFR Program Manager for Legislative proposals, Office of Reserve Policy Integration, in direct support of the Chief of Air Force Reserve. In this position, Major Broussard played an integral role in proactively engaging Congress as he developed and defended legislation required to enact needed policy changes.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress and a grateful Nation, I extend our deepest appreciation of Major Joseph Fred Broussard for his many years of dedicated service. There is no question that the Air Force, Department of Defense, and the United States benefitted greatly from Major Broussard's visionary leadership, planning, and foresight, and we wish him and his wife, Elaine the very best.

HONORING J'MYIAH SMITH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Quitman County Middle School.

J'Myiah Smith is the daughter of Ms. Teresa Smith of Sledge, MS. She is a very intelligent individual, and she is an outstanding student because she continues to strive to maintain a spot on the Superintendent's List. Among her outstanding grades, J'Myiah was also elected as Miss Seventh Grade 2014–2015 by her peers. She is an active member of the Quitman County Middle School Student Council, Newspaper Committee, and QCMS S.T.E.F. Ambassador Society.

J'Myiah is active in her community as well. On this past year, she participated in the "I Support the Bond" meetings and marches. She has collected clothes and donated them to the needy. She is also a member of her church's youth choir. J'Myiah plans to attend Jackson State University and later attend medical school.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing J'Myiah Smith as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, 2015, I traveled to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania to be with the health care providers, first responders, and volunteers working to restore peace and safety to the scene of Amtrak Northeast Regional Train 188's derailment. For this reason, unfortunately, I missed some important votes on the floor of the House of Representatives, including H.R. 2048, the USA FREEDOM Act. If I were present, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall 224.

PEGGY PICKENS—TEACHER, COUNSELOR AND COMMUNITY WARRIOR

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Peggy Pickens has served as a pillar of the greater Humble/Kingwood community for over thirty-five years, devoting herself to her family, church, and school communities. A native Houstonian, Mrs. Pickens graduated from Phyllis Wheatley High School in the historic Fifth Ward, going on to earn a degree in education from the University of Houston in 1974 and a Master's Degree in Counseling from Prairie View A&M University. She then began her career in education as a teacher in the Aldine Independent School District at Teague Middle School, Nimitz High School, and MacArthur High School. In 1987, Mrs. Pickens joined the Counseling team at Kingwood High School, serving with true distinction until her retirement from public education in 2002.

Immediately following her first retirement, Mrs. Pickens began developing the Counseling program at Northeast Christian Academy.

During her successful tenure at NCA, Mrs. Pickens has assisted over three hundred graduating seniors earn acceptance into some of the most prestigious colleges and universities in our nation. Through the guidance of Mrs. Pickens, NCA graduates have successfully attended such schools as Stanford University, Duke, Vanderbilt, West Point, the United States Air Force Academy, Rice University, the University of Texas at Austin and Texas A&M University. Her love of students and commitment to their lifelong success has been the hallmark of her distinguished career.

Yet, not only has Mrs. Pickens invested herself into the lives of countless students, but she has faithfully served her church community at Second Baptist Church North Campus in Kingwood for over a decade. Through the teaching of various Bible studies, the mentoring of others, as well as numerous public speaking engagements, Mrs. Pickens has modeled for others the life of a servant leader in all she has done. Her influence and impact on the lives of others has been a living testimony to the work of Christ and His gospel in and through her.

Peggy Pickens and her husband Al have five children and twelve grandchildren, each of whom have continued their legacy of service to Christ, their families, our nation, and their communities. She will be greatly missed, yet the seeds that she has sown throughout her tenure at NCA will continue to bear great fruit in the lives of the future graduates of Northeast Christian Academy.

As the husband and father of school teachers, I know that educators, like Peggy, are the backbone of our communities.

Thanks for the work you've done Peggy, best of luck in newest chapter of your life.

And that's just the way it is.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCA—ASIAN
PACIFIC AMERICAN ADVOCATES,
SACRAMENTO CHAPTER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize OCA—Asian Pacific American Advocates, Sacramento Chapter and the distinguished leaders who are being honored at their 2015 Dragon Boat Festival and 20th anniversary gala. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring OCA Sacramento and these fine Sacramentans.

Dedicated to advancing the social, political, and economic well-being of Asian Pacific Islander Americans, OCA's Sacramento chapter is an active advocate for all Asian Pacific Islander Americans and works diligently to develop strong leadership, community involvement and civic participation. OCA Sacramento also fosters cultural heritage by hosting a variety of annual events celebrating traditional Chinese holidays and festivals, such as the Dragon Boat Festival. The events bring together the Asian Pacific Islander American community, while also educating and sharing its heritage with our entire community. OCA Sacramento promotes education and leadership for young people by offering essay contests and scholarships, as well as internship opportunities. It is clear to me and so many others that OCA Sacramento's deep involvement and commitment to improving Sacramento is exemplary.

In keeping with their theme of "Honoring the Past, Celebrating the Future," being recognized at this year's Dragon Boat Festival are past Chapter Presidents Dwanchen Hsu, Tom Bhe, Ph.D., Felix Chen, Ph.D., RungFong Hsu, Sam Ong, Linda Ng, Joyce Eng, Michael Head, and David Low. These community leaders have all dedicated their lives to improving Sacramento through their work with OCA Sacramento. All that has been accomplished by the organization would not be possible without these individuals at the forefront of their efforts.

Mr. Speaker, as the members of OCA—Asian Pacific American Advocates, Sacramento Chapter gather at the Dragon Boat Festival to celebrate their 20th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring them for their unwavering commitment to the Sacramento region.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, on May 12, 2015, I missed a series of Roll Call votes. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on #216. I would have voted "NAY" on #217 and 218. I would have voted "YEA" on #219 and 220.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF THE
HONORABLE BRUCE REYNOLDS
ALGER

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of an outstanding citizen and public servant, my former congressman, Bruce Reynolds Alger. He recently passed away in Palm Bay, Florida at the age of 96.

The Honorable Bruce Alger served the 5th District of Texas in the House of Representatives from 1955 to 1965. Congressman Alger served in a very significant time in Texas history with President Lyndon B. Johnson and Speaker Samuel T. Rayburn, both of the Lone Star State, leading the country during his tenure. He was a pioneer of his time by being the only Republican Congressman in the Texas delegation for eight years. It wasn't until his final term in Congress that he could hold a Republican meeting of Texas Representatives with more than just himself. Congressman Ed Foreman from Odessa, Texas was elected in 1963 to double the size of the Texas GOP delegation.

Congressman Alger was one of the earliest Republican members of the Texas Delegation in the mid-20th Century and the first Republican Representative from Dallas County. He fought and spoke for limited government, balanced budget, flat income tax, and many other ideals that became the basis for conservative principles for years to come. He was the eleventh Texan to be appointed to the Ways and Means committee, which I sit upon today.

Prior to being elected to Congress, he was also a distinguished veteran. Like many of the greatest generation, he answered the call to service. He served during World War II in the United States Army from 1941–1945. As a pilot, he received the Distinguished Flying Cross and attained the rank of Captain. He devoted much of his life to public service and did what he could to better our country. Congressman Alger's endless energy benefited so many who he served.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to celebrate the life of the Honorable Bruce Reynolds Alger. I ask all of my distinguished colleagues to join me in celebrating our former House colleague's remarkable life and service in Congress and to our country.

HONORING MIKE WOLF, NAPA
VALLEY GROWER OF THE YEAR

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor Mike Wolf upon being named the Napa Valley 2015 Grower of the Year.

For more than 35 years, Mr. Wolf has been involved with developing and managing California vineyards. Michael Wolf Vineyard Services was founded in 1997, and oversees all phases of the vineyard development process for many of Napa Valley's leading independent growers, and premium and ultra-premium wineries. Mr. Wolf currently farms over 800 acres across Napa County.

Throughout his career, Mr. Wolf has been committed to innovation and the advancement of viticultural best practices in the Napa Valley. Never afraid of new ideas, he has researched and applied new technologies to continually improve the quality of the grapes that he grows. Also widely respected for his humble leadership, Mr. Wolf has graciously contributed his approach to farming and extensive experience in viticulture to the mentorship of the next generation of Napa Valley's grape-growers.

Mr. Wolf has been a consistent and committed benefactor to his community through his patronage and support of innumerable causes and events in Napa County from the annual NVG Pruning Contest, Harvest STOMP, and the Napa Valley Farmworker Foundation to his ongoing sponsorship for the County Crop Report. As part of his contributions to the Napa Valley grape-growing community, he has served in a number of posts including Board Trustee of the California Grower Foundation since 1987, a member of the Napa Valley Viticultural Technical Group's Executive Committee, and as a professional member of the American Society of Enology and Viticulture.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor Mike Wolf for his professional and philanthropic contributions to Napa Valley. He is an invaluable asset to our district and the grape-growing community of California.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,446,693,102.28. We've added \$7,525,569,644,189.20 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING MR. CEDRIC GARDNER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, Cedric Gardner is a John F. Kennedy 9th grade student of Mound Bayou, Mississippi and is a very diligent young student who is committed to learning and being an outstanding athlete.

Prior to joining the Hornets football, baseball, basketball, cross country and track athletic programs, Cedric participated in numerous community athletic activities. Starting in 2006, he played in the Mound Bayou Mississippi Little League and Cleveland Mississippi Park Commission athletic programs.

He was selected to be included in the 2011 edition of the United States Specialty Sports Association baseball. In 2012 he was one to be selected to participate in the Down Under Sports for Cross Country Runners and participated in the World Series for youth in Baton Rouge, Louisiana.

Even with facing prejudice, Cedric helped lead the John F. Kennedy's Cross Country team in winning their 1 A Title in 2014.

Besides being an athlete, Cedric is also a member of The Future Business Leaders of America, Wander's Home Baptist Choir and Sunday School Records Clerk, as well as, playing the drums.

Cedric is exciting, loveable and down to earth and loves to teach young youth athletics. He will always greet you with a handshake, hug or a smile. He made it his life's mission to continue the legacy of his late cousin, Coach Sank Powe, help others and encourage them that you can do anything you set your mind to.

Cedric has decided, when he graduates in high school 2018, he will continue his education at The University of Oregon. He plans on becoming a professional Baseball Player or Coach/ Teacher.

Cedric is the son of Tabithia Gardner and his motto is: "Stay positive and always believe in yourself."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing an amazing student.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EQUAL RIGHTS AMENDMENT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, it has been forty-three years since Congress passed the Equal Rights Amendment (also known as the Women's Equality Amendment). This historic amendment is intended to enshrine in our United States Constitution fundamental equality based on sex in all areas of society.

In 1972, Congress passed the ERA with a measure that it had to be ratified by the necessary number of states (38) within 7 years. The deadline was ultimately extended an additional three years, but with this narrow and arbitrary time limit, the ERA fell just three states shy of full ratification when the deadline

passed. Other constitutional amendments have been afforded much longer for ratification. One example is the 27th amendment, concerning Congressional pay raises, which was accepted after a 203-year ratification period.

This Congress, I am joined by my colleague Representative CYNTHIA LUMMIS in this important bipartisan effort to finally add women to the Constitution. It is time for our nation to definitively declare that we will not tolerate discrimination against half the population. While we have made cracks in the glass ceiling throughout history, we have yet to shatter it. We believe that this amendment is far more than a symbolic demonstration of equality, but rather would provide protections that are vital to the wellbeing and prosperity of women and their families.

The ERA will ensure all citizens have the opportunity to reach their full potential. Women and men must have equal rights for a democracy to thrive.

The ERA will put women on equal footing in the legal systems of all 50 states, particularly in areas where women have historically been treated as second-class citizens, including in cases of public education, divorce, child custody, domestic violence, and sexual assault.

Passing the ERA will put the full weight of the U.S. Constitution behind employment laws relating to the prevention of sex discrimination in hiring, firing, promotions, and benefits—especially in the public sector.

Pregnancy discrimination continues to be prevalent in the workforce. The ERA can protect women from being harmed by a policy simply because she is a woman.

The 14th amendment is not enough. Only the ERA would provide for gender equity and offer an "overriding guarantee" of equal protection for women.

The ERA would protect the progress made on women's rights from any shifting political trends.

The ERA will ensure that the rights of American women and girls will not be diminished by any Congress or any political trend, but instead be preserved as basic rights guaranteed by the U.S. Constitution.

Over the past several decades, legislative efforts have aimed to advance the rights of women—but this progress is not irreversible. Without the ERA, women have often been denied the ability to seek justice when they have experienced discrimination. We have seen that constitutional ambiguity on women's rights can have negative consequences when cases that affect the lives of women are brought before the Supreme Court. Until women's equality is clearly acknowledged in our Constitution, half of our population will continue to be without constitutionally guaranteed equality. The time is now to make women's equality a constitutional reality.

Our democracy rests on the principle of "liberty and justice for all." We need the ERA to ensure that this concept applies equally to all.

I am pleased to introduce this bill with 171 of my bipartisan colleagues. I urge my fellow Members of Congress to join in support.

OFFICER BENJAMIN DEEN

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bravery, fortitude, and sacrifice demonstrated by Officer Benjamin J. Deen, a member of the Hattiesburg Police Department, who was tragically slain in the line of duty on Saturday, the ninth day of May in the year two thousand and fifteen.

Officer Benjamin J. Deen, known as "B. J.," was thirty-four years old, a resident of Sumrall, Mississippi, and a graduate of Sumrall High School. He was a loving husband to his wife, Robin, and devoted father to his son Walker and daughter Melah. Prior to becoming a police officer, B. J. attended the Mississippi Fire Training Academy and served his community as a firefighter. He later attended the Hattiesburg Police Training Academy and became a patrolman with Hattiesburg Police Force. Deen soon after trained to become a K-9 officer and bonded with Tommy, his K-9 counterpart, who also became a beloved member of the family.

Together, B. J. and Tommy successfully apprehended and arrested numerous drug-related offenders. Officer Deen was not only an exceptional citizen and neighbor, but he chose to live a life of service, stepping into harm's way daily in order to protect his community.

An exceptional member of the force, Deen was named Hattiesburg Police Department's 2012 Officer of the Year. He was an outstanding and respectable man and a valuable asset to the Hattiesburg Police Department, even earning perfect attendance during two of his nearly six years on the force.

The City of Hattiesburg and the Great State of Mississippi have suffered the loss of one of our own: a family member and a protector and defender of our Constitution and laws. Every citizen deeply and sincerely feels the loss of such a devoted law enforcement officer, and his service, heroism, and sacrifice will not be forgotten.

IN RECOGNITION OF NORMAND DRAPEAU FOR BEING AWARDED THE CHEVALIER OF THE FRENCH LEGION OF HONOR

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I want to take this opportunity to recognize Normand Drapeau for being awarded the chevalier (knight) of the French Legion of Honor by the French Government for his courageous actions while serving in the United States Navy during World War II.

Normand was born on May 1, 1925 in Holyoke, Massachusetts into a large Catholic family as the oldest boy of twelve children. He attended the Immaculate Conception School for his primary education as well as spent a year at LaSalette Seminary in New Hampshire before ultimately deciding to work as a butcher at his family's business, Drapeau's Market. In 1942 on Holy Thursday when he was only seventeen, Normand enlisted in the United

States Navy and was shipped off to boot camp the next day on Good Friday. After he completed amphibious training in Little Creek, Virginia and Fort Pierce, Florida, he was sent off to Dartmouth, England in preparation for the invasion of France.

However, Normand did not have to wait until D-Day to see some action. On April 27, 1944, German gunboats attacked Normand's flotilla while they were on an exercise in the English Channel. One of the blasts threw Normand into the channel but he was not seriously injured. A month later, when General Eisenhower postponed the invasion of Normandy due to poor weather conditions, Normand's Landing Craft Mechanized (LCM) flotilla decided to embark across the 120-mile channel when their tow got cancelled. Once the flotilla reached Omaha Beach, Normand faced the brutal fighting and harsh reality that the beach is infamous for in order to liberate France. Normand was slightly injured during the battle but was able to be treated on the battlefield.

On June 16, 1944, Normand was hit by a landmine and was seriously wounded. This led to a difficult and dangerous journey back to the United States. He was put on a Landing Ship Tank (LST) to be brought back to a hospital in England. While on board, the ship was hit by a German torpedo and was disabled, forcing it to be towed back to England. Once in the hospital in England receiving treatment, he still had to deal with a series of German attacks. The hospital was hit by German V1 and V2 rockets, causing severe damage to the building. Normand was then moved to Scotland to await a cargo plane to take him back to the U.S. His original plane was overbooked, forcing him to fly to Newfoundland first. This last minute change ended up saving Normand's life because his original plane was shot down. He eventually got back to the United States and was treated at a naval hospital. Normand was discharged from the Navy in June 1945 and received two Purple Hearts for being wounded on the battlefield.

Mr. Speaker, Normand Drapeau is the epitome for our quiet American heroes. This very humble man does not seek any recognition or special attention for his bravery. He simply wanted to serve his country and to defend the enduring cause for freedom around the world. As the French government awards Normand with one of its highest honors, I want to take a moment to thank Normand on behalf of the United States House of Representatives and the American people for his service to our nation and congratulate him on receiving this prestigious honor.

PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD
PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, I support the right for women to make their own personal health care decisions and oppose H.R. 36, the "Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act." I will vote against this legislation because it imposes the will of an intolerant minority on our mothers, sisters, and daughters. It is a deliberate attack on women and it's wrong.

The new language in H.R. 36 is bad for women's health. It would require adult women who have been raped to receive potentially unwanted medical treatment and proof of counseling before receiving an abortion. This is an attempt to shame and stigmatize rape victims, while doing nothing to provide necessary mental and physical health services to women in need.

While it is couched in the language of protecting unborn fetuses from pain, this legislation is nothing more than a cruel disregard for personal circumstances of women's lives.

REMEMBERING HARVEY MILLER

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to note the passing of one of this nation's preeminent bankruptcy attorneys, Harvey R. Miller. Harvey was a giant of the profession, having played a leading role in some of the most significant cases of the last half century. These cases included Texaco Inc., Drexel Burnham Lambert Group Inc., Eastern Airlines Corp., Continental Airlines, R. H. Macy, WorldCom, Global Crossing, Enron, Lehman Brothers, and General Motors, just to name a few.

Harvey was also a mentor to some of this nation's top practitioners, and an outstanding law professor. He even took the time to help me understand the Bankruptcy Code and many complex legal issues arising from it when this House considered a rewrite of the Code a decade ago.

Speaking to the New York Times in 2007, he said, "Life should be an adventure. My practice at Weil was and still is exactly that. By working on reorganizations and restructuring work in so many different businesses—such as energy, retail, manufacturing and even satellites—that's the glory of the practice and that's what I love about it. I've always said that about restructuring practice. It is probably the last area of the generalist."

As a member of the National Bankruptcy Conference, Harvey worked with his colleagues in the profession to advise Congress on changes to the Bankruptcy Code, advice that was both scholarly and informed by the real world experience of the nation's top practitioners. That advice was too often ignored by this institution and the state of the law is the poorer for it.

Harvey was a consummate New Yorker. He would note with satisfaction that his office in the General Motors building on Fifth Avenue was "across from Bergdorf's men's shop and close to Barneys." He was also a great lover of the opera, and served as an Advisory Director of the Metropolitan Opera.

Mr. Speaker, I was proud to count Harvey Miller, a fellow son of Brooklyn, as a friend. He was greatly admired by all who knew him. His contributions to the profession, and to the development of bankruptcy law in the United States, are incalculable. I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the life and work of this great legal scholar and practitioner, and to join me in extending to his wife, Ruth, our deepest sympathies.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, as I was summoned to serve on jury duty in my district, I was unable to be present for votes on the House floor on May 12, 2015. Below is an explanation of how I would have voted and why.

I would have voted for H.R. 606, the Don't Tax Our Fallen Public Safety Heroes Act, which excludes benefits paid to survivors of public safety officers killed in the line of duty from federal income tax. While such federal survivor benefits are generally exempt from taxation, this bill would ensure that the grieving families of brave officers who give their life in the line of duty do not also bear an unexpected income tax burden.

I would have voted for Rep. Edwards's amendment to H.R. 1732, the Regulatory Integrity Protection Act, which aims to address criticisms of the Environmental Protection Agency's (EPA) proposed rule defining "Waters of the United States." This amendment would have clarified that the new definition does not expand the scope of EPA's authority under the Clean Water Act, and provided specific exemptions that help prevent spikes in the cost of water in our desert communities.

However, I would have voted against final passage of H.R. 1732, the Regulatory Integrity Protection Act, which would prevent the EPA from finalizing a proposed rule clarifying which bodies of water are subject to the Clean Water Act. This bill would undermine the EPA's ability to safeguard our water supply, and invalidates the thousands of public comments submitted on the proposed rule without even seeing the final product.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
SOUTHLAKE MAYOR JOHN
TERRELL

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Honorable John Terrell, who is retiring from the Southlake City Council after six years of service as Mayor and five years as Councilmember of Place 3.

Mayor Terrell was elected Mayor of Southlake in 2009 after serving two terms as a councilmember. He has been an instrumental leader in the successful growth of Southlake. Throughout his tenure, the City of Southlake has developed into a premiere location where families want to live, businesses want to operate, and people want to visit.

Mayor Terrell has served on a number of Southlake committees that address transportation and taxes. Among these groups are the Audit Committee (2008–present), Tax Increment Reinvestment Zone No. 1 (2004–present), and Southlake 2030 Committee (2009–present). Additionally, he has served on community boards addressing development and energy, such as the Super Bowl Planning Committee (2009–2011), Oil and Gas Drilling

Task Force (2007–2008), Joint Utilization Committee (2004–2009), Southlake 2025 Committee (2002–2004), Planning and Zoning Commission—Chairman (2000–2004), and Zoning Board of Adjustment (1999–2000).

Furthermore, Mayor Terrell has been an active member of regional organizations committed to enhancing the quality of life for North Texans. These groups include the International Council of Shopping Centers, Urban Land Institute, Metroport Transit Authority, Northeast Leadership Forum, Southlake Executive Forum, Southlake Sister Cities, Texas Regional Transportation Commission, and Vision North Texas.

As a leader, Mayor Terrell's impact on the City of Southlake and North Texas area has been acknowledged throughout his years of service. The accolades he has achieved include the 2013 Southlake Chamber of Commerce's Citizen of the Year, 2008 Southlake Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Southlake Alumni of the Year, 2008 Industrial Asset Management Council's Corporate Real Estate Executive of the Year, and City of Southlake Department of Public Safety's Life Saving Award. Additionally, he has been recognized by the Dallas Business Journal for the 2005 Best New Industrial Development, 2002 Best New Development Retail/Hospitality, and 2000 Best Development Deal. He has also been distinguished as the 2011 Best of the Best Government Official selected through the readers of the Southlake Journal, Grapevine Courier, and Colleyville Courier.

Outside of his duties as a public servant, Mayor Terrell works for Dallas/Fort Worth International Airport as the Vice President of Commercial Development. He has been a Southlake resident for more than 17 years where he has lived with his wife, Joanne, and their two children.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the 24th Congressional District of Texas, I ask all my distinguished colleagues to join me in thanking the Honorable John Terrell for his years of service on the Southlake City Council.

HONORING RAVEYN NICOLE
JACKSON

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Quitman County Middle School.

Raveyn Nicole Jackson is the daughter of Ronnie and Bonnie Jackson of Marks, MS. She earned numerous academic awards at Quitman County Elementary School. She was the 2013–2014 Miss Quitman County Elementary School. While attending QCES, she received numerous awards in reading and math. She transitions on to Quitman County Middle School, where she continues to earn academic awards of achievement in Reading and Math.

Raveyn is loved and respected by her classmates, community members, and parents. She is a member of the New St. John M.B. Church under the leadership of Pastor Jimmy Jones where she is very active in the choir.

Raveyn plans to graduate from Madison Shannon Palmer High School and go on to a

college of her choice majoring in Nursing or Education. She also plans to pursue and acquire her Master's Degree. Upon completion of her program of study, Raveyn plans to give back to her local community as a teacher or nurse.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Raveyn Nicole Jackson as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

CELEBRATING THE PUBLIC SERVICE OF THE HONORABLE NANCY F. MUÑOZ

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the public service of the Honorable Nancy F. Muñoz, Assemblywoman for New Jersey's 21st Legislative District, as she is honored by the Somerset County Federation of Republican Women as the recipient of its Millicent Fenwick Award for Outstanding Public Service.

Nancy's career as a dedicated public servant started with her interest in public health. She was graduated from Skidmore College with a bachelor's degree in nursing and later earned a master's degree from Hunter College as a clinical nurse specialist. She worked as a nurse in surgical intensive care at Yale-New Haven Hospital and also worked at Massachusetts General, Lenox Hill Hospital Emergency Room and Memorial-Sloan Kettering Cancer Center.

Nancy took an important role in the public school system of Summit, New Jersey where her five children, Wills, Eric, Alex, Elizabeth and Max were educated. Nancy was active in the Parent Teacher Associations at Summit's elementary, middle and high school. Her late husband, Eric, was a renowned trauma surgeon, member of the Summit Common Council and member of the New Jersey General Assembly.

In 2009 Nancy was elected to complete Eric's unexpired term in the General Assembly following his passing. Nancy is an outstanding legislator, championing causes important to Eric and forging ahead on new endeavors of significance to her and the 21st Legislative District. Her expertise as a health care professional has led to Nancy's service on the Assembly Health and Senior Services Committee. She also sits on the Assembly Commerce and Economic Development Committee as well as the Assembly Committee on Women and Children.

Nancy is a defender of those who cannot defend themselves. One of her most significant accomplishments was her work in securing passage of the Jessica Lunsford Act, which increased penalties on sexual offenders and the people who harbor them. The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court of New Jersey, the Honorable Stuart Rabner, has also appointed Nancy to the Supreme Court Ad Hoc Committee on Domestic Violence Resources. Her accomplishments and dedication have been recognized by her Assembly colleagues who have selected Nancy as the Deputy Republican Leader.

The Millicent Fenwick Award for Outstanding Public Service is awarded to a role

model for women who serve in the tradition of the late Congresswoman Fenwick: never compromise your principles, do what was in the best interests of your constituents and be of service to those in need. I congratulate Assemblywoman Nancy F. Muñoz on this well-deserved recognition.

TRIBUTE TO DAVID DeLUCIA

HON. JOHN KATKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. KATKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the career of David DeLucia. Mr. DeLucia has bravely served the 24th District of New York for over 30 years in the Emergency Medical Services (EMS) field. It is my honor to recognize such a distinguished citizen and civil servant.

Mr. DeLucia has served the greater Central New York area in many capacities, within and outside of the EMS field, including at the Onondaga County Medical Examiner's Office and St. Joseph's Hospital.

In addition to his exceptional work as a first responder in Central New York, Mr. DeLucia has been a leading force in the development of EMS services in Jamaica. Since 2008, he has served as the Jamaica Project Coordinator for the Medical Relief Foundation. Mr. DeLucia has assisted in the advancement of Jamaica's EMS system, training EMTs in the country and facilitating the receipt of necessary medical equipment.

Mr. DeLucia has received a number of commendation awards for emergency medical situations including the rescue of a patient from a ravine in Cayuga County, multiple citations for field excellence, and he was named the ALS Provider of the Year for Central New York and New York State in 2013.

Mr. DeLucia holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology from the State University of New York at Oswego and has completed graduate coursework at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry. Additionally, he holds provider and instructor certifications in ACLS, BLS, and PALS.

As a provider, educator, and humanitarian, Mr. DeLucia goes beyond the call of duty of a first responder. He has proudly served Central New York and nobly assisted the developing country of Jamaica. I am honored to thank Mr. DeLucia for his service to the 24th District, our nation, and the international community.

COMMUNITY HEALTH CENTERS—50
YEARS OF SUCCESS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. FARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to give thanks to all the community health centers in America and especially those in my district in California. These clinics are the workhorses of health care. Whether it be in the rural community of San Benito County, the downtown environs of Seaside on the Monterey Peninsula, the ag community of Watsonville or the

streetscape of Santa Cruz, community health clinics provide expert health care to whomever needs it. These clinics increasingly are significant sources of regular, primary health services and not just drop-in-as-a-last-resort centers. In addition to providing on-the-spot health care they also run education programs on wellness, nutrition, diabetes and pre-natal care. All this is done at little or no charge to the patient with costs picked up by federal health programs, partnerships with other public and private entities and charitable donations.

The first community health centers were established in the U.S. in 1965 and May 15, 2015 marks 50 years since their introduction. Since then they've serviced over 62 million persons, including 13 million new patients since the advent of the Affordable Care Act. In a district like mine which includes an agriculture workforce that is often on the margins of health care the community health clinics are a godsend to keeping this workforce healthy and industrious.

Mr. Speaker, I want to say for all America to hear: I am very proud of the community health clinics in my district. I am sure my House colleagues have similar good stories to tell about the community health clinics in their districts, too. I hope they will join me in saying 'thank you' and 'good job' to these clinics and wish them well as they embark on the next 50 years of service.

HONORING DEPUTY SHERIFF
YEVHEN KOSTIUCHENKO "EUGENE"

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to pay tribute to Deputy Sheriff Yevhen "Eugene" Kostiuhenko, an 11-year veteran of the Ventura County Sheriff's Office, who was tragically killed in the line of duty on October 28th, 2014.

Deputy Kostiuhenko was born in Kiev, Ukraine, where he attended secondary school and later attended the Military University of Defense of Russian Federation in Moscow. Deputy Kostiuhenko served in the Ukrainian Armed Forces and as a liaison between the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Drug Enforcement Administration, and Central Intelligence Agency. He also held the prestigious position of serving as the adjutant to the General of the Ukrainian Army.

While Deputy Kostiuhenko's homeland was near to his heart, he loved America. He especially loved serving his community. In April of 2003, Eugene began his distinguished career with the County of Ventura. He initially worked with the Sheriff's Office of Emergency Services (OES), where he assisted with training and response plans for the County's Terrorism Working Group. While working in OES, Eugene received his United States citizenship in 2006, which was a proud moment in his life as he began working toward his ultimate goal of becoming a deputy sheriff.

Through discipline and dedication and a remarkable work ethic, Eugene successfully completed the rigors of training and was sworn in as a deputy sheriff on November 29, 2007.

Those who knew Deputy Kostiuhenko remember him fondly as a kind, compassionate, and caring officer. Eugene enforced the law with great distinction and it was his steadfast commitment to serving his community that made for a particularly noteworthy career.

Above all else, Deputy Kostiuhenko is remembered as a loyal friend and family man. Deputy Kostiuhenko is survived by his wife of 13 years, Maura Kelley, and his two sons, Tristan and Justin. He is also survived by his parents, Anatoly and Nadiia, and his brother Oleksandra.

Deputy Kostiuhenko's dedicated and courageous service will never be forgotten. On behalf of the people of Ventura County, who he so bravely served and protected, I express my sincere condolences to his family and friends, and to all who knew him. He will be remembered as a husband, friend, and hero.

TRIBUTE TO NOBIS DAIRY FARM IN ST. JOHNS, MICHIGAN

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Nobis Dairy Farm in St. Johns, Michigan. I congratulate the Nobis Farm on receiving the 2015 U.S. Dairy Sustainability Award. Since 2011, the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy has presented this annual award to farms around the country that exhibit outstanding economic and environmental practices.

In Michigan, brothers Ken and Larry Nobis manage their multi-generational dairy farm that was started by their father, Paul, in 1946. Employing 23 people, Nobis Dairy Farm has expanded from its original 180 dairy cattle to 1,050, producing over 31 million pounds of milk annually. In 1974, Ken and Larry transitioned to sand bedding, which increases the comfort and health of the cattle in their care. Nobis Dairy Farm, in conjunction with Michigan State University and the McLanahan Corporation, developed an environmentally sound technique that would solve the problem of sand-laden manure while eliminating the excessive use of fresh water.

Dairy producers are a vital part of Michigan's economy. The innovative practices pioneered by Nobis Dairy Farm will benefit the entire industry. They also keep Michigan's economy strong and preserve a clean environment for all residents to enjoy. On behalf of Michigan's Fourth Congressional District, I congratulate Nobis Dairy Farm for this achievement and wish it continued success.

HONORING SANDRA LEVEQUE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sandra Leveque upon her retirement as Principal and Director of the Napa County Office of Education Juvenile Court and Community Schools. Sandra has served as Principal and Director for 23

years, and this June she will end a forty year career as an educator and school administrator throughout our district. This month, Ms. Leveque's career and retirement will be honored by the Juvenile Court, Community and Alternative School Administrators of California at their Annual Conference in Napa.

Over the past forty years, Ms. Leveque has been a dedicated educator and advocate for special needs students, working in classrooms for the deaf, autistic, and profoundly mentally handicapped. Her devotion to helping those with special needs extends beyond the classroom and includes work as a member and Chair of the Kiwanis Club of Napa's Special Olympics and as an interpreter for the deaf at Hillside Christian Center. She has also served as treasurer for the local Organization for School Administrators.

Upon her retirement, Ms. Leveque's colleagues recall her as a tireless advocate for her students who worked nonstop, was always available to help others, and who treated her students like her own children. In fact, Sandra has three children of her own—Jeremy, Jessica, and Jonathan—and four grandchildren, Emmy, Peyton, Liam, and Will.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we honor Sandra Leveque at this time. Her commitment to serving students, and particularly those with special needs, has made our schools and community stronger and her level of dedication will not be easily replaced.

RECOGNIZING WHITE CASTLE

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize White Castle, which is headquartered in my district, for their long history of contributing to the Central Ohio Community. White Castle has recently announced the creation of "National Slider Day" to celebrate little ideas that make a big difference.

In 1921, White Castle was founded with the idea of small, bite-sized sandwiches. Nearly 100 years later, this small business idea has grown into a nationwide business creating thousands of jobs for our country.

White Castle will sell over 1/2 billion sliders to millions of people during the month of May alone. With 10,000 employees across the country and over 2,000 employees in Ohio, the company serves as a job creator in communities throughout America.

White Castle has also found great ways to give back to the community. To recognize "National Slider Day," White Castle will be handing out 10,000 sliders in Columbus to friends and charity partners around the city. White Castle sliders have also been made available on military bases around the world to help our brave men and women in uniform enjoy a "taste of home" while protecting our freedom abroad.

I wish White Castle all the best as they launch "National Slider Day" and as they continue taking little ideas to make a big difference.

KEEP THE PROMISE ACT

HON. PAUL A. GOSAR

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, for several years, I have been actively involved in a troubling off-reservation gaming issue in my home state of Arizona involving the Tohono O'odham Nation. The tribe has been attempting to move from their ancestral lands in Tucson, into another tribe's former reservation in the Phoenix metro area, for the sole purpose of building a Las Vegas style casino.

This comes after Tohono O'odham and 16 other Arizona tribes adopted a compact, approved by Arizona voters, which expressly promised there would be no additional casinos or gaming in the Phoenix metro area until 2027. In exchange for this promise, the voters granted the tribes a statewide monopoly on gaming and other tribes gave up significant rights.

H.R. 308 was introduced to ensure that the promise of no additional casinos in the Phoenix area is kept until the existing tribal-state gaming compacts expire, without interfering in the trust acquisition itself.

Let me explain how this legislation came to be and why it must be enacted into law. In return for exclusivity in Arizona, the tribes agreed to a cap on the number of casinos in the state and in the Phoenix metro area, to restrict the number of machines in the state and to share machine revenue with rural non-gaming tribes so they could benefit from the compact.

Every urban tribe, except for Tohono O'odham, agreed to this limitation. Tohono refused, citing the need for a new casino in Tucson or on the rural part of the tribe's reservation. The state and other tribes finally agreed to the restrictions on gaming being pushed by Arizona's Governor and others, but also yielded to Tohono's stated need.

After the agreement was reached, the tribes and state promoted their model compact by saturating the airwaves and newspapers with the clear message that under the compact there will be no additional casinos in Phoenix and only the possibility for Tohono O'odham to build one more facility in the Tucson area. Tohono O'odham alone spent \$1.8 million dollars urging Arizona voters to rely on this limitation.

Tohono had begun efforts to find land in the Phoenix area to open their fourth casino.

The voters approved the tribal state compact in November 2002 and rejected two competing propositions. The first would have allowed unrestricted tribal gaming without any revenue sharing for rural non-gaming tribes; the second would have allowed for full commercial gaming without restriction.

Shockingly, a few months after the voters approved the compact, Tohono finalized a multiyear effort to purchase land in Glendale for a casino and used a shell corporation to conceal its identity.

Tohono's dismissal of their promise to build no additional casinos in Phoenix is not something that Congress can ignore when the result will be so harmful to what had been a national model.

Furthermore, Tohono has falsely been claiming a victory in court relative to their less-

than-honest dealings with other tribes and the State of Arizona.

This sentiment is factually wrong and morally indefensible. The Tohono "won" nothing based on the merits. Rather, the case was dismissed on the draconian doctrine of sovereign immunity. In other words, the court ruled that the tribe cannot be sued in court because . . . It can't be sued in court.

In fact, the Court made a statement that it would have likely ruled against Tohono had it not been for sovereign immunity. Mr. Speaker, I submit evidence obtained from underlying litigation discovery in *State of Arizona v. Tohono O'odham* in order to supplement the record on H.R. 308. The opponents of this bill falsely claim that the Tohono O'odham Nation (Tohono O'odham, TO or the Nation) "won" in court relative to TO's less-than-honest dealings with other tribes and the State of Arizona. Indeed, one Member of the House publicly stated that the bill circumvents a court ruling.

This sentiment is factually wrong and morally indefensible. The TO "won" nothing on the merits. Rather, the case was dismissed on the draconian doctrine of sovereign immunity. In other words, the court ruled that the tribe cannot be sued in court because . . . It can't be sued in court. That circular logic is pretty much the extent of the victory. The merits of the case were never addressed, and that is why Congress' oversight in these matters is so important.

As it turned out, discovery in *State of Arizona v. Tohono O'odham* revealed that the TO Nation was secretly looking to purchase land in the Phoenix metropolitan area during the last 18 months of the compact negotiations and during the entire referendum process when the tribes were actively seeking support from Arizona voters on the basis that the model compact would not permit additional casinos in the Phoenix area. Evidence of these secret plans were primarily obtained from Vikam Doag Industries (VDI), a Tohono O'odham chartered and owned corporation. Below are quotations from meeting transcripts and minutes:

5/18/01: VDI meeting notes including a description of a presentation delivered by Mark Curry, Tohono O'odham's lead negotiator in compact negotiations. The notes reflect "107th Avenue-Stadium," "gaming compact-unsure what will happen," "put in a shell company-need to keep it quiet especially when negotiations of compact at stake"

6/26/01: VDI meeting with Tohono O'odham's San Lucy District Council. "We are also looking at another project . . . based on discussions we had and continue to have about a casino on the west end of Phoenix. And part of that discussion that we've had was that—we didn't want to publicize that because of the confidentiality in terms of that issue . . . Now, in the meeting we had last summer—with the task force and Jim had met with the casino people in their—in their environment. And the understanding is that it is a good opportunity again depending on what happens with the big compact. . . You have a situation with a confidentiality issue. And that's how we're holding it, as confidential, because we don't want, you know, people to know we are seriously considering this. Because if you do, I'm sure that there's going to be a lot of resistance from, you know, the general public." p. 25:5-20.

8/26/01: San Lucy District Meeting: "[Male Voice]—but that is why the Buckeye prop-

erty has been identified as a casino-feasible area. And that's really why we focused on that. There—there is some county islands closer in to Phoenix that we have looked at." p. 24:10-15.

8/22/02: VDI meeting transcript discussing the West Phoenix casino project, whether Governor Hull's successor would also opposed additional Phoenix area casinos, and the importance is confidentiality ahead of the vote on Proposition 202. "Max: Because if that's going to be the position of the State, they don't want any more casinos around the Phoenix area, then they're going to fight it, whoever the new governor is, (inaudible), if he's going to go along—he or she go along with Jane Hull regarding taking a position. Jim: Which is why we really want to wait until the initiative passes before its gets out." TON0116093-94.

9/19/02: VDI meeting transcript discussing a possible leak of information related to the West Phoenix project. "Jim: So there is some type of information going out or a leak or—they didn't Jonathan and Mark [two in-house Tohono O'odham attorneys] didn't seem too concerned, is what they had got it wasn't up at the governor's level or at the negotiating level . . . but it's still a concern out there, especially prior to the propositions coming up for election. . . . So, we just need to be careful about, you know, things getting out and spoiling it" p. 14:18-15:6.

10/25/02: VDI meeting transcript discussing the upcoming Prop 202 vote. "Male Voice: We are . . . a week and a half, two weeks away from the vote. And that's going to clarify a lot also on what we can do. And, you know, assuming that it is 202 that passes, then, you know, we'll proceed in how we need to make that project develop." p. 2:7-3:24.

This evidence, attached hereto, establishes the fraudulent intent by the TO to deceive the state, the public and other tribes. Proposition 202, which authorized the existing tribal-state compacts, was approved by voters on November 5, 2002, less than two weeks after VDI discussed waiting for voter approval before moving forward with the West Phoenix casino plans.

In addition to the above, additional transcripts underscore the same double-dealing after the vote:

2/10/03: VDI meeting transcript discussing VDI's meetings with the Tohono O'odham Gaming Authority. "And I think that's coming about because the agreement has been signed, the compact has been signed, and so there are no more real concerns that might jeopardize our chances on this discussion. So I think they're ready to move forward." p. 3:2-4:5.

2/23/03: VDI meeting transcript discussing the Glendale plan. "Through 99-503 [Gila Bend Act] we could have a casino built, it allows it, but politically we might have problems. If we decide to, we need to put it in escrow and it needs to be kept confidential for the time being." p. 17:22-18:14.

2/23/03: VDI meeting transcript discussing potential political problems with the proposal. "Male Voice: I just hope that . . . in terms of the political (inaudible) that's going to be coming (inaudible), that some of the metro tribes over there don't come back and jump on us too. . . . Male Voice: Might Gila River and Salt River indicate that it's a violation of the 202 (inaudible) metro area? Male Voice: Well, that's what I said in terms of political impact, is that even—even those metro tribes, particularly those three that are right there, might—might say something. But that's a big question mark. That's all." p. 48:21-50:23.

In March 2013, Tohono O'odham created Rainer Resources, Inc. and incorporated the

company in Delaware as an attempt to keep the land purchase confidential. Rainer Resources then purchased the Glendale parcel in August 2013. Rainer Resources and Tohono O'odham kept their plan secret until April 2009, when the Nation submitted its fee-to-trust application to the Department of the Interior and finally disclosed its scheme to its sister tribes.

These statements were uncovered during discovery in *State of Arizona v. Tohono O'odham* and revealed the depth of Tohono O'odham's conscious effort to mislead and defraud voters, as well as its State and tribal partners. Unfortunately, the U.S. District Court dismissed the State of Arizona's fraud and misrepresentation claims not on the merits, but because Tohono O'odham refused to waive its sovereign immunity from suit. With regard to the State of Arizona's "promissory estoppel" claim, which alleged that Tohono O'odham made false promises that induced the parties to enter into the compact to their disadvantage thus creating an enforceable promise, the court found on May 7, 2013, that the evidence supported the claim but that Tohono O'odham's sovereign immunity nevertheless barred its review of those allegations. Although Congress, through IGRA, waived tribal sovereign immunity for claims arising from executed compacts, the court determined Congress had not done so with regard to actions that preceded a compact's execution such as those that gave rise to the fraud, misrepresentation, and promissory estoppel claims in *State of Arizona v. Tohono O'odham*. The legal conclusion is dubious as it promotes fraud and sharp dealings long since rejected in modern commerce and illegal in many contexts.

H.R. 308, the Keep the Promise Act, is narrowly crafted to address those claims that are shielded by Tohono O'odham's assertion of sovereign immunity.

I believe it is important for the truth to be known. The tribe acted immorally and covertly against its fellow tribes, the State and the general public. This incident and breach of trust has proven that TO cannot be trusted in the future relative to business dealings, tribal matters and commercial relations. I urge Congress to resolve this issue and reaffirm its authority by providing proper oversight of commerce amongst tribes.

An identical bill, H.R. 1410, passed overwhelmingly out of the Natural Resources passed the House last Congress by voice vote on September 17, 2013. This legislation has already passed the full Natural Resources Committee by unanimous consent in the 114th Congress.

I urge immediate adoption of this common-sense legislation once again by the House of Representatives.

RECOGNIZING THE SEVENTH ANNIVERSARY OF THE IMPRISONMENT OF THE SEVEN BAHAI LEADERS IN IRAN

HON. LYNN JENKINS

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. JENKINS of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, in this country, we often take for granted our

ability to worship whatever faith we want without fear of government persecution. Yet, for those of the Baha'i faith in Iran, this basic human right does not exist. Simply being Baha'i in Iran makes you a target for frequent discrimination. The Iranian regime's appalling human rights record is full of cases of horrific treatment of anyone who stands up for their religious beliefs.

Take the case of Saeid Rezaei, the Baha'i prisoner of conscience I adopted a few years ago as part of the Defending Freedoms Project. Arrested on false charges, he remains imprisoned on a 20 year sentence that would see him only released when the teenage son he left outside has already turned 31 years old. Rarely is outrage as justified as it is in this case of state-sponsored discrimination against members of the Baha'i faith.

Today, on the seventh anniversary of the imprisonment of the seven Baha'i leaders in Iran, let us join together to highlight the ongoing injustices rampant throughout the actions of the Iranian regime and continue to stand up for the freedom of religion and beliefs across the world.

TRIBUTE TO DONALD C. "DANNY" DANIELSON

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, as you know the words spoken on the Floor of this House in many ways become the official record of our great Nation, as each word spoken here is made part of the official House RECORD.

As such, I rise today to honor a great American, philanthropist, my Sigma Chi brother and good friend, Donald Danielson. Danny was widely known for his nearly 40-year career at City Securities, one of Indianapolis' oldest investment firms. He was the former president of New Castle-based Modernfold, the company whose accordion-fold door helped change the way businesses, schools and churches utilized interior space.

As a Sigma Chi, Danny was devoted to the ideals of the White Cross we wear. To all he came to know, his friendship was enduring; his generosity were large; and his life was an inspiration. He loved his Fraternity, but he knew that its helpfulness and sympathies were meant to broaden more than the bounds of an organization. To that end, his loyalty was grounded in the faith that fraternalism stands for better citizenship, for a more noble civilization, and for the higher ideals of life in its service to man and reverence to God. And in that, Mr. Speaker, we have found in Mr. Danielson not only the ideals of Sigma Chi, but the essence of America.

He was accepted to Indiana University on a baseball scholarship, graduated and became one of the longest-serving trustees on record at the University, serving as its president for 11 of his 22 years of service. He helped create IU's Wells Scholar program and in 1994 was awarded an honorary doctor of laws degree.

After graduation, Danny served his Country in the U.S. Navy in both the Pacific and Atlantic theaters of World War II being discharged in 1946 with a rank of Lieutenant. He married

his wife Patricia in 1947 and though being signed to play professional baseball by the Brooklyn Dodgers, decided to take a job at the IU Alumni Association instead.

In 2009, Danielson received the Sagem award, the highest honor given by the state of Indiana. He received several Sagamore of the Wabash awards from Indiana Governors, and in 2014, the Indiana Historical Society named him a Living Legend. He was inducted into the Junior Achievement of Central Indiana Business Hall of Fame in 2010, and was appointed by President George H.W. Bush to the Credit Standards Advisory Committee.

Preceded in death by his beloved wife Patti, Danny leaves three daughters, Mary, Susie and Amy, eight cherished grandchildren and 13 great-grandchildren. On behalf of many Hoosiers, I offer to all of them, their extended families, and all those who share the grief of his loss, my sincerest condolences.

TRIBUTE TO THE HONOR FLIGHT OF EASTERN AND PORTLAND OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 48 World War II veterans from Oregon who will be visiting their memorial this Friday in Washington, D.C. through Bend Heroes Foundation. On behalf of a grateful state and country, we welcome these heroes to our nation's capital.

The veterans on this flight from Oregon are: Joe DeMarsh, Army; Harry Galloway, Army; Donald Hoyt, Army; Robert Hughley, Army; Shige Imai, Army; Fred Krieger, Army; Steve Lund, Army; Roger Mockford, Army; Andy Riener, Army; Bud Simonis, Army; Jim Starr, Army; Bill Stewart, Army; Jack Tavenner, Army; Rodger Barber, Army Air Force; Les Barnhart, Army Air Force; Don Bennett, Army Air Force; Tom Bessonette, Army Air Force; Ralph Butterworth, Army Air Force; Nick Cassinelli, Army Air Force; Dick Ford, Army Air Force; Fred Forsythe, Army Air Force; Ed Miller, Army Air Force; Jim Murphy, Army Air Force; Sandy Porter, Army Air Force; Kenny Arnold, Navy; Betty Ashford, Navy; Don Bower, Navy; Gib Branstetter, Navy; Mike Brant, Navy; Frankie Carling, Navy; Paul Clayton, Navy; Dalton Fox, Navy; Bob Grills, Navy; Carroll Heckenlively, Navy; Cal Husbands, Navy; Royce Irby, Navy; Vern Kube, Navy; Harry Kuhlmann, Navy; Ken Larsen, Navy; Ernie McCabe, Navy; Donald McLaughlin, Navy; Lloyd McNary, Navy; Alice Tatone, Navy; Al Walters, Navy; Fred Warner, Navy; George Griffith, Marine Corps; Irv Kaplan, Marine Corps; Ted Carlson, USCG Merchant Marine.

These 48 heroes join more than 138,000 veterans from across the country who, since 2005, have journeyed from their home states to Washington, D.C. to reflect at the memorials built in honor of our nation's veterans.

Mr. Speaker, each of us is humbled by the courage of these brave Americans who put themselves in harm's way for our country and way of life. As a nation, we can never fully repay the debt of gratitude owed to them for their honor, commitment, and sacrifice in defense of the freedoms we have today.

My colleagues, please join me in thanking these veterans of Honor Flight of Eastern and Portland Oregon for their exemplary dedication and service to this great country. I especially want to recognize Bend Heroes Foundation Chairman Dick Tobiasson, and Trip Leaders Erik Tobiasson and Pam Kelsay. Their tireless work will result in over 450 World War II veterans from Honor Flight of Eastern and Portland Oregon visiting the memorials and U.S. Capitol.

HONORING HAROLD DAUM

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Harold Daum, an exceptional individual who has worked tirelessly to ensure vulnerable seniors receive essential legal services.

It is with fond recollection that I remember my time working alongside Harold during the Legal Resources for the Elderly Program (LREP)'s infancy. His persona struck me instantly; Harold had this vibrant personality, determined fervor and you could sense that anything he undertook would feel the full weight of his energy.

For over 27 years, as a retiree, Harold has committed himself to LREP. When seniors would call to inquire about the program Harold was the first to answer—he took in their concerns, assuaged their worries, and was instrumental in our commitment to guaranteeing seniors quality legal representation.

Those at LREP will tell you that his vitality is endless, and his charismatic smile is a pleasant welcome for anyone coming into the office. Harold is a truly remarkable person and deeply loves his country and community. He can often be found sharing an exciting story about his service as a United States Navy medic during World War II.

As Harold enters his retirement and we celebrate his contributions, we are reminded of the joy that he brings all of us. It is through Harold that we recognize the profound impact one individual can have on an entire community. I am honored to have had the opportunity to work with Harold—he is an inspiration to us all.

HONORING U.S. VIRGIN ISLANDS
LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

HON. STACEY E. PLASKETT

OF THE VIRGIN ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. PLASKETT. Mr. Speaker, as we commemorate National Police Week, I solemnly rise to honor and salute the sacrifice of our law enforcement officers around the country and in my district, the U.S. Virgin Islands.

Law enforcement officers risk their lives every day to ensure the safety and security of our communities. With endless dedication they bear a great responsibility, as their family and friends share their sacrifices. I know that sacrifice first-hand as my father was an NYPD officer for 30 years and my grandfather was the Virgin Islands Deputy Police Commissioner.

While we should honor their acts of valor and memorialize the sacrifice of the fallen daily, National Police Week affords us the opportunity to join together as a nation to honor their courage and salute their sacrifice. I ask that the members of the 114th Congress join me in saluting the sacrifices of the Virgin Islands Police Officers who have died in the line of duty. They are:

Patrolman Leopold E. Fredericks; Patrolman Leroy Alvaro Swan; Patrolman Rudel Albert Parrott; Patrolman Allan Williams; Patrolman Patrick Emmanuel Sweeney; Patrolman Wilbur Horatio Francis; Officer Dexter L. Mardenborough; Officer Steven Hodge; Officer Cuthbert Ezekiel Chapman; Officer Ariel Anton Frett; Officer Akeem Basil Newton and Officer Colvin Terrance Georges, Sr.

HONORING MIKE GRGICH AND
GRGICH HILLS ESTATE

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Miljenko "Mike" Grgich and Grgich Hills Estate Winery as they celebrate the thirty-fifth anniversary of the "Great Chicago Chardonnay Showdown." At a tasting of more than 200 wines thirty-five years ago this month, Grgich Hills Chardonnay was recognized as the best chardonnay in the world.

In the spring of 1980, Craig Goldwyn, the wine columnist for the Chicago Tribune, organized a tasting that went on to be known as the Great Chicago Chardonnay Showdown. Chardonnays from across the world, from France to California, and even Bulgaria were collected for an historic first, the largest blind tasting of one single varietal. Grgich Hills Estate's very first vintage was announced the winner, just a few short years after Mike Grgich won the Judgement of Paris wine competition with his Chateau Montelena chardonnay. The Chicago tasting is credited for helping to make chardonnay the most popular varietal in the United States.

In his native Croatia, winemaking was a family passion, and Mr. Grgich continued the tradition through his studies at Zagreb University. Inspired by the stories of a better life abroad, he made his way across the Atlantic, and in a true demonstration of the American dream, went on to found his own winery. According to Grgich, "There is no scientific formula for making great wines. You make wines with your heart. You pour your love into them and nurture them like children, and transmit to them the richness of your spirit."

Currently, Grgich Hills produces 70,000 cases of wine each year using exclusively their own organically-grown grapes, and much of the winery is run by solar power. Methods that have become standard practice in the wine industry can trace their roots to Grgich. His influence has even spread back to his native Croatia where he opened a winery and introduced these modern techniques to the industry.

Mr. Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we honor Mike Grgich for his lifetime of success and influence in the wine industry, both at home and abroad.

THE WUNSCHÉ BROTHERS CAFÉ
AND SALOON

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, located just off the railroad tracks in Old Town Spring, Texas, sits a quaint café. But this is no ordinary joint. The Wunsché Brothers Café and Saloon has been around since 1902. The café fries up great American classics like burgers, fries, onion rings, chicken-fried steak, basically all the makings for a post-lunch nap.

It originally opened its doors as a hotel and saloon, but the café has stayed in business for over 100 years.

Wunsché Café has morphed into a community icon and is somewhat of a local legend. It even attracts out-of-towners, why? Because it's haunted.

It's said that the original owner, Charlie Wunsché, roams the restaurant, pranking workers. A little mischievous, but good natured, the spirit of Charlie hides items, messes with electronics and employees and is even said to have been spotted.

Charlie, I'm sure, is just watching over his business, wanting to make sure it serves its customers well, who can blame him?

Sadly the century old café suffered a mishap recently. The newest addition to the Wunsché Brother's Café burst into flames in the early morning hours. The flames engulfed the café, however thankfully there were no injuries reported.

But here is where the story gets interesting, or maybe a little spooky, the original wooden, 1900's structure only sustained smoke damage (that's the part that is haunted). The new additions, put into place around the mid 80's, suffered the most destruction. The historic foundation still stands strong, showing the community that amongst the piles of soot and insulation, there is hope.

The café's new owner, Nathan Lavaige, has remained firm in his promise that they will rebuild. It will keep on standing, making delicious meals for Texans and tourists from all over. Haunted or not, someone was watching over the café in those early morning hours. I am more inclined to think it was Charlie, but we will never know.

Thanks to the Wunsché Brothers Café for 113 years of serving up comfort food to hungry customers and here's to the next 113 years. Best wishes in the rebuild. The Houston community cannot wait until the café reopens.

And that's just the way it is.

HONORING IRWIN STOVROFF

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and honor Mr. Irwin Stovroff of Boca Raton for receiving his honorary doctorate from Florida Atlantic University on April 30th at age 92. Irwin was an Air Force 2nd Lieutenant and bombardier who flew over Normandy in the D-Day invasion during World War II.

Florida Atlantic University (FAU) awards the Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters degree on a very selective basis to recognize achievements in the arts or high distinction in public service. With his golden retriever Cash by his side, Irwin addressed a group of 2,400 graduates and their families explaining his experience as a Prisoner of War after being captured by a Nazi soldier.

After returning home, Irwin did what so many from the Greatest Generation did. He married, started a family, and went on to a successful business career. After retiring at age 75, he continued to serve his community and volunteered at our local Veteran's Administration Hospital in Riviera Beach. During his time at the VA Hospital, he spoke to many veterans and realized that they needed additional emotional support, so he founded "Vets Helping Heroes". His organization has raised over \$4.5 million dollars to provide service dogs to wounded service members.

In honor of his continued service to our country during World War II and still now, I am pleased to recognize Mr. Irwin Stovroff and congratulate him on the receipt of an honorary doctorate degree from Florida Atlantic University. I am proud to represent him in our great district.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with deep sympathy and sorrow for the countless deaths and injuries caused by the derailment of Amtrak Northeast Regional Train 188 in Philadelphia. My thoughts and prayers are with the victims and their families. Due to this tragedy, the scale of which is unprecedented over the last decade, last night I decided to be with the grieving families, law enforcement officers, emergency responders, health care professionals, and all those working in my district to preserve life, help the injured, and otherwise recover from the derailment in Philadelphia. For this reason, unfortunately, I missed some important votes on the floor of the House of Representatives. I hope my colleagues understand the imperative nature of my travelling to Philadelphia to be there for my constituents working to recover in the aftermath of this horrific disaster.

I did not make this decision lightly. Serving my constituents is my highest honor and responsibility as a Member of Congress. Of course, my voting decisions are also of highest importance. Yet, after careful deliberation and with a heavy heart, I felt compelled to be on the scene of the Amtrak tragedy as we work as a community—local, state and federal governmental entities working hand-in-hand—to bring peace to impacted families and a sense of order to the scene.

In light of these circumstances, and my sincere opposition to one particular bill on the House floor last night, I submit some of the many reasons why I so strongly oppose H.R. 36, the so-called Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act, and state that I would have in fact voted against this misguided, unconstitutional legislation. This dangerous legislation is

another alarming attempt by the Republican Party to deny women their constitutional right to family planning. The Supreme Court has spoken on the issue. This is settled law.

This legislation is out of touch with the rights and health care needs of women. The bill's inadequate rape exception and overly burdensome reporting requirements continue to shame victims of rape and are particularly offensive. It is irresponsible for Members of Congress to continue to undermine and play politics with the rights of women and families throughout America. Moreover, this bill has no meaningful exceptions to protect women's health, and criminalizes physicians for providing necessary and constitutionally-protected care.

For these reasons, I continue to strongly oppose and, had I been present, would in no uncertain terms have voted "no" on rollcall 223, H.R. 36 final passage, and "yes" on rollcall 222, the Motion to Recommit H.R. 36. However, again, in light of the tragic events in Philadelphia, I felt compelled to be there with the health care providers, first responders, and volunteers working to restore peace and safety to the scene. Once again, I'd like to express my condolences to the families and loved ones of the victims of Amtrak Train 188's derailment. I hope my colleagues and constituents will understand my absence despite the importance of this vote.

HONORING THE EBONETTE SOCIAL & CIVICS CLUB

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a group of ladies who have shown what can be done through hard work, dedication and a desire to serve their community, the Ebonette Social & Civics Club. The Ebonette Social & Civics Club has served as an informational vehicle to citizens of Sharkey & Issaquena Counties.

The Ebonette Social and Civics Club was established in 1968 with local ladies from Sharkey and Issaquena Counties. The mission and vision of the organization is for civic improvement and social entertainment. The Ebonette Social & Civics Club also provides and supports activities, services, programs and opportunities for the benefit of youth excellence and moral character; and to promote community and economic development.

The Ebonettes give yearly scholarships to students from both South Delta High School and Sharkey Issaquena Academy. To date over \$25,000 has been given. The scholarships given are not discriminated based on race or any ethnic background.

The ladies also provide Christmas gifts to needy families, support Breast Cancer Organizations, provided support for burned out victims, provide meals for senior citizens and worked with the Hwy 14 clean-up and numerous of other community activities.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the Ebonette Social & Civics Club for its dedication to serving others and giving back to the community.

PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 36, the Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. This legislation is yet another attempt by conservative lawmakers to dictate a woman's reproductive rights. This bill calls for a nationwide ban on abortion care after 20 weeks of pregnancy. There are 14 similar bans in states.

The bill also makes it much more difficult for sexual assault survivors to obtain abortion care by requiring that she obtain counseling or medical treatment from a list of specific locations. This counseling may not be from a health center that provides abortion care. The bill also requires incest survivors who are minors to provide written proof that the crime was reported to law enforcement or the government. This is extremely limiting and an unreasonable burden to place upon a sexual assault survivor.

The legislation also forces abortion providers to divulge private health information regarding which patients have received abortion care after 20 weeks to the government. This essentially creates a "hit list" of providers around the country for anti-choice supporters to target when they are merely providing legal and necessary care.

While the right to choose is of the utmost importance, this bill would also add unnecessary pain and suffering to women who experience fatal fetal anomalies late in pregnancy. It is callous and uncompassionate to deny an abortion to a pregnant woman who knows that her child has no chance of survival.

Banning abortion care based on arbitrary gestational limits decided by federal lawmakers is unconstitutional and unjust. This legislation is extreme and blocks a woman's access to safe health care options such as the freedom to make personal reproductive decisions.

HONORING NEW MEXICO CIVIL WAR SITES

HON. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the landmark locations in New Mexico where thousands of Spanish speaking New Mexico Hispanos fought valiantly during the Civil War.

When the U.S. Territorial Governor issued a call for service in 1861, 4,000 men aged 18 to 45 from Las Vegas, Santa Fe, Taos, Mora, Chaperito and other surrounding villages answered the call and were organized into five regiments known as the New Mexico Volunteers.

Brigadier General Henry Hopkins Sibley led Confederate troops into New Mexico in an attempt to capture Albuquerque, Santa Fe, Fort Union and the Santa Fe Trail so his army

could take control of the gold and silver mines in Colorado. His plan was to eventually arrive at the coast of California in order to replenish the South's depleted funds.

The Battle at Valverde took place on February 20th and 21st, 1862, near Fort Craig in southern New Mexico with the Union Army under the command of Colonel Edward Canby. Union forces blocked the passage of Confederates at the river ford until reinforcements arrived and a fierce battle ensued. During the engagement 68 Union soldiers and 36 Confederate soldiers were killed with over 300 wounded. In the end, the battle was a victory for the South.

Union forces returned to Fort Union and the Confederate forces captured Albuquerque and Santa Fe before also moving on towards Fort Union over Glorieta Pass, where the armies were destined to collide.

The Battle of Glorieta Pass took place March 26th through March 28th, 1862, in Apache Canyon with the bulk of Union forces in head-to-head combat with Confederate troops. During the battle, a group of New Mexico Volunteer scouts under the command of Lt. Colonel Manuel Chavez, and Captain Rafael Chacon, Corporal Albino Garcia, Innocencio Arellanes, and Anastasio Duran detected the Confederate supply train near Johnson's Ranch and destroyed eighty supply wagons and drove off 500 horses and mules.

At the end of the Battle of Glorieta Pass the Union lost 51 soldiers with 78 wounded, and the Confederates lost 50 soldiers with 80 wounded. Although Confederates won the battle on the field, the loss of supplies and livestock completely crippled them and they were forced to make their way back to Texas in defeat.

In 1993, the Congressional Civil War Sites Advisory Commission was tasked with identifying the nation's historically significant battle sites and the Battle of Glorieta Pass received a Priority 1, Class A, as one of the principle strategic operations having a direct impact on the course of the war—Gettysburg and Antietam received the same distinction.

Portions of the Glorieta Pass Battlefield have become a part of the National Park System and it is also designated as a National Historic Landmark. It is fitting and proper to erect a memorial at the site of the Battle of Glorieta, honoring the Hispanic Civil War Veterans who lost their lives and those that fought with courage and honor for their country.

CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNIVERSARY OF ST. MARY'S COLLEGE OF MARYLAND

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, on May 16, 2015, students, faculty, and staff will gather in historic St. Mary's City, Maryland, to celebrate the St. Mary's College of Maryland Class of 2015 Commencement. They—along with many others across Maryland and our country—will also be marking the 175th anniversary of the College's founding.

Since its humble beginnings in 1840 as a female seminary, St. Mary's College of Mary-

land has been a center of learning and educational empowerment. Set along the St. Mary's River, where Leonard Calvert and the first English settlers disembarked from the Ark and Dove in 1634 to found the colony of Maryland, it expanded in the early twentieth century to become the State's first junior college and became co-educational. In the 1960's, the school transitioned into a four-year college and granted its first undergraduate degrees in 1971. Recognizing its tradition of excellence in liberal arts education, its high standards, and its unique history, the Maryland General Assembly formalized St. Mary's College of Maryland as the state's only public honors college in 1992. Today, it continues to graduate some of Maryland's best and brightest students from thirty-one academic programs and ranks among the best public liberal arts colleges in the nation.

I am proud to represent the students, faculty, and staff of St. Mary's College of Maryland in Congress as well as to have served as a member of its Board of Trustees since 1995. Alumni of the College run businesses, contribute to the arts and athletics, conduct research in marine biology and the environment, report the news through national outlets, and serve in government—including in my Congressional office. They are continuing their alma mater's tradition of preparing graduates to make a difference wherever they live and work throughout Maryland and across our country.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating the entire St. Mary's College of Maryland community, led by its dynamic new President, Tuajuanda Jordan, on reaching its 175th year of serving as a living memorial to those first Maryland colonists' commitment to religious freedom, tolerance, and opportunity.

RECOGNIZING OPERATION THANK YOU

HON. GWEN GRAHAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. GRAHAM. Mr. Speaker, today, I'd like to recognize Operation Thank You, an annual event honoring veterans and active-duty service members in Leon County.

As we mark the 65th anniversary of our nation's entry in the Korean War, the 2015 Operation Thank You will honor Korean War veterans and their families at the Florida Korean War Memorial in Tallahassee on Saturday, May 16th.

The event will include a presentation of colors by the Godby High School JROTC Color Guard, a performance of the national anthem by the Lawton Chiles High School Choir, and remarks by Korean War veterans—along with a pancake breakfast.

Leon County has a long tradition of supporting local veterans and making sure they receive the care they deserve.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I extend our deepest appreciation to all of those working to make this year's Operation Thank You a success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RICK W. ALLEN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. ALLEN. Mr. Speaker, I missed a vote on the Motion to Recommit for H.R. 2029 on April 30, 2015. Listed below is how I would have voted if I had been present.

Roll Call Vote 192—Motion to Recommit H.R. 2029—Nay.

OFFICER LIQUORI TATE

HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the bravery and sacrifice demonstrated by Officer Liquori Tate, a recently commissioned member of the Hattiesburg Police Department, who was tragically slain in the line of duty on Saturday, the ninth day of May in the year two thousand and fifteen.

Officer Liquori Tate was twenty-five years old, a resident of Hattiesburg, and a graduate of South Pike High School near McComb. He was the son of Youlander Ross of Jackson and Ronald Tate of Georgia and brother to thirteen siblings. He had a passion for the Miami Heat, the Atlanta Falcons, and good blues music.

Tate graduated from the Hattiesburg Police Training Academy and became a patrolman with Hattiesburg Police Force in 2014. During his training, Liquori was challenged in every way possible but, according to one of his training officers, he was the only recruit who refused to consider failure or withdrawal as an option.

Tate's lifelong ambition was to serve his community in a policeman's uniform. He was an exceptional young man who chose a life of service, placing himself in danger each day in order to protect the citizens of Hattiesburg.

Officer Tate had a passion for the siren, and could often be heard sounding his own while on patrol. He was excited about being a policeman and loved going to work each day. Those who served with him knew he was 'all smiles,' and he was a valuable member of the Hattiesburg Police Force.

The City of Hattiesburg and the Great State of Mississippi have suffered the loss of one of our own: a family member and a protector and defender of our constitution and laws. Every citizen deeply and sincerely feels the loss of Officer Liquori Tate, and his service, heroism, and sacrifice will not be forgotten.

HONORING THE BI-NATIONAL HEALTH ALLIANCE OF NAPA COUNTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County's dedication to improving the health and well-being

of our underserved Latino community. Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County strives to improve the quality of life, promote positive physical and mental health, provide opportunities to access resources in a culturally sensitive environment, and encourage empowerment and growth.

Ten years ago, Catalina Chavez-Tapia and Queen of the Valley Medical Center founded the Napa County Bi-National Health Week Task Force, which transitioned into a year-round effort: the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County. By increasing awareness of risk factors affecting health and providing information on available health services and resources, the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County brings together existing community resources to empower local Latinos to live healthier lifestyles.

The Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County also organizes a number of events to encourage the Latino community to become more engaged locally. This includes the Napa Valley Latina Women's Conference, which is held to empower Latina women to engage in their community through cultural, mental health, and educational workshops along with free health screenings, educational information, and follow-up care. Since the conference's inception, over 1,120 professional and newly immigrated, low-income, and disenfranchised Latina women have attended and been provided a forum to identify and address the cultural barriers to the advancement of Latina women locally.

Mr. Speaker, it is fitting and proper that we recognize the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County's dedication to the best ideals of public service as they host their 11th Annual Napa Valley Latina Women's Conference on May 14th, 2015. On behalf of a grateful community, we honor and thank the Bi-National Health Alliance of Napa County for their many years of service, and hope for many more.

HONORING FAATIN KHALEELAH
MUHAMMAD

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student, Faatin Khaleelah Muhammad.

Faatin Khaleelah Muhammad is the 17 year old daughter of James and Latonya Muhammad and is a member of Pilgrim Missionary Baptist Church located in Natchez, Mississippi.

Faatin has managed to maintain a 3.5 GPA for 4 years, at Jefferson County High School and throughout her life, excelled in school and sports: she has been a member of the Jefferson County High School Track team since 2012; she has received multiple plaques, ribbons, and metals for her performances; and she has served 2 years as a high school cheerleader. Faatin is currently president of FCCLA where she completed many community services and projects. She is also a member of FBLA, TSA, TATU and the Senior Transition Program. She has been in the Jefferson County High School Marching Band since the 9th grade.

Upon graduation, Faatin will attend Alcorn State University located in Lorman, Mis-

issippi. She will major in Animal Science with hopes to become an Animal doctor in Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Faatin Khaleelah Muhammad, as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH WIRTZ

HON. JOHN R. MOOLENAAR

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. MOOLENAAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ralph Wirtz in recognition of his many contributions to Michigan's 4th District as the editor of the Midland Daily News.

Ralph Wirtz dedicated over forty years of his life to the Midland Daily News starting as a sports writer and, because of his outstanding journalistic abilities, accepted increased responsibility until his appointment as managing editor in 1989.

Ralph did not originally plan on a career in journalism but discovered a passion for sports writing while serving in the United States Navy in the 1970's. He has won numerous awards over the course of his career, including Agriculture Communicator of the Year in 1998, first place in editorial writing by the Associated Press in 2008, the 2008 Journalist of the Year award by the Press Association Society of America and the Midland Community Voices Rosemary Byers Award in 2009. Ralph has been the person that the community has turned to whenever they needed a trusted voice for their news and information.

Ralph Wirtz has set the standard for journalistic excellence in Michigan and his tireless work on behalf of his community is worthy of recognition from this Congress. On behalf of the Fourth Congressional District of Michigan, I am honored today to recognize Ralph Wirtz in gratitude for his forty years of service to the Midland Daily News and the Midland Community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on May 13, I missed a Roll Call vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "YEA" on #221.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL
POLICE WEEK

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of National Police Week, which was first established by a joint resolution of Congress in 1962. National Police Week was initially created to coincide with the National Peace Officer Memorial Day established by President Kennedy in the same

year. This week, we give special recognition to those law enforcement officers who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

I want to express my personal gratitude for the hard work and dedication that law enforcement officers selflessly give to their communities all over the country. I also wish to thank the family members of those officers who have paid the ultimate sacrifice for the safety and protection of others. They deserve our nation's highest respect and admiration.

On behalf of the residents in the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I want to thank every officer in the Balch Springs, Cedar Hill, Dallas, Desoto, Duncanville, Glenn Heights, Grand Prairie, Hutchins, Lancaster, Mesquite, Ovilla and Wilmer Police Departments. I am thankful for the leadership of our capable police chiefs and sheriffs, who are working hard to implement major reforms within their departments to decrease the instances of police related violence. I look forward to continuing our positive working relationship.

Now more than ever, there is a great need to build trust in our communities between police and the people that they pledge to serve and protect. I understand that what we ask of our police officers is a dangerous, difficult, and sometimes thankless job. Far too frequently, the actions of a few individuals overshadow the dedication and service of the hundreds of thousands of law enforcement officers who perform their duty with the utmost courtesy and integrity. I am thankful for their courage, their professionalism, and their daily sacrifice to protect and serve our communities across the country.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION
ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. MAC THORNBERRY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Chair, I ask that the following exchange of letters be submitted during consideration of H.R. 1735:

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN AFFAIRS,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman, House Armed Services Committee,
Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write to confirm our mutual understanding regarding H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016, which contains substantial matter that falls within the Rule X legislative jurisdiction of the Foreign Affairs Committee. I appreciate the cooperation that allowed us to work out mutually agreeable text on numerous matters prior to your markup.

Based on that cooperation and our associated understandings, the Foreign Affairs Committee will not seek a sequential referral or object to floor consideration of the bill text approved at your Committee markup. This decision in no way diminishes or alters

the jurisdictional interests of the Foreign Affairs Committee in this bill, any subsequent amendments, or similar legislation. I request your support for the appointment of House Foreign Affairs conferees during any House-Senate conference on this legislation.

Finally, I respectfully request that you include this letter and your response in your committee report on the bill and in the Congressional Record during consideration of H.R. 1735 on the House floor.

Sincerely,

EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. EDWARD R. ROYCE,
Chairman, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016. I agree that the Committee on Foreign Affairs has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Committee on Foreign Affairs is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT AND GOVERNMENT REFORM,

Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I am writing to you concerning the jurisdictional interest of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform in matters being considered in H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016.

Our committee recognizes the importance of H.R. 1735 and the need for the legislation to move expeditiously. Therefore, while we have a valid claim to jurisdiction over the bill, I do not intend to request a sequential referral. This, of course, is conditional on our mutual understanding that nothing in this legislation or my decision to forego a sequential referral waives, reduces or otherwise affects the jurisdiction of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and that a copy of this letter and your response acknowledging our jurisdictional interest will be included in the Committee Report and as part of the Congressional Record during consideration of this bill by the House.

The Committee on Oversight and Government Reform also asks that you support our

request to be conferees on the provisions over which we have jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter.

Sincerely,

JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016. I agree that the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE,

Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. MAC THORNBERRY,
Chairman, Committee on Armed Services, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: In recognition of the importance of expediting the passage of H.R. 1735, the "Fiscal Year 2016 National Defense Authorization Bill", the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence hereby waives further consideration of the bill. The Committee has jurisdictional interests in H.R. 1735, including intelligence and intelligence-related authorizations and provisions in the amendment.

The Committee takes this action only with the understanding that this procedural route should not be construed to prejudice the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence's jurisdictional interest over this bill or any similar bill and will not be considered precedent for consideration of matters of jurisdictional interest to the Committee in the future, including in connection with any subsequent consideration of the bill by the House. In addition, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence will seek conferees on any provisions in the bill that are within its jurisdiction during any House-Senate conference that may be convened on this legislation.

Finally, I would ask that you include a copy of our exchange of letters on this matter in the Congressional Record during the House debate on H.R. 1735. I appreciate the

constructive work between our committees on this matter and thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES,
Washington, DC, May 1, 2015.

Hon. DEVIN NUNES,
Chairman, Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016. I agree that the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence has valid jurisdictional claims to certain provisions in this important legislation, and I am most appreciative of your decision not to request a referral in the interest of expediting consideration of the bill. I agree that by foregoing a sequential referral, the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is not waiving its jurisdiction. Further, this exchange of letters will be included in the committee report on the bill.

Sincerely,

WILLIAM M. "MAC" THORNBERRY,
Chairman.

7TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE INCARCERATION OF SEVERAL PROMINENT MEMBERS OF THE BAHAI COMMUNITY BY THE IRANIAN REGIME

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 7th anniversary of the incarceration of several prominent members of the Baha'i community by the Iranian regime.

The 9th District of Illinois is home to the Baha'i House of Worship—which I just visited last week—and many members of the Baha'i faith. I have heard many stories about the Iranian government's mistreatment of the Baha'i community, and those stories are truly heartbreaking. Members of the Baha'i community face the constant risk of violence, arrest or worse, and suffer significant discrimination as they go about their daily lives.

The arrest and conviction of these Baha'i leaders is but one example of a much larger problem of human rights abuses. I call on the Iranian government to release the seven Baha'i leaders who have been in their custody for so long and to change the way it treats religious minorities—including members of the Baha'i community.