

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2577) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chair, I rise today to oppose this appropriations measure—and to oppose the policies that it embodies.

The THUD bill before us, like all of the non-defense appropriations measures being drafted by my Republican colleagues, adheres to the budget caps set under sequestration, which require cuts in BOTH non-defense and defense discretionary programs.

My Republican colleagues have decided that applying these caps to the defense side of the ledger, where the budget authority appropriated by Congress for discretionary programs topped \$560 billion in fiscal year 2015, is intolerable.

However, they have decided that these cuts are not only acceptable on the non-defense side of the ledger, they are inadequate, and so the Republicans' budget plan would impose additional cuts over and above those required under sequestration.

Mr. Chair, what is intolerable is failing to invest in our own nation.

The Republicans' unmistakable budget priority is to disinvest in the United States, and that objective is clearly reflected in the THUD bill before us.

Let me tell you about the people who are suffering the consequences of this disinvestment.

They are people just like Freddie Gray.

Mr. Chair, the eyes of this nation saw Freddie Gray only after he was dead.

They didn't see him when he was reading from text books that were 30 years old.

They didn't see him when he was suffering from asthma because of exposure to lead paint in his home.

And they didn't see him when he couldn't find a job.

There are tens of millions of Americans who are facing the same deep and systemic economic challenges today in cities and towns across this nation.

These Americans have watched employers leave their communities and have been left with standard schools, few job training options, and no path to the better future they want for themselves and their families.

They have been intentionally targeted by leading banks to receive subprime mortgages, or have been left to obtain financial services

from liquor stores and pawn shops when banks closed in their neighborhoods because their communities were deemed "unprofitable."

They are people who are working full-time jobs at the minimum wage—but are still left below the poverty line.

They are the millions who are tired of being tired.

Anyone who sees these people should find the bill before us today intolerable.

This bill does nothing to restore the funding cut in past years from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.

As a result of these cuts, the CDBG award amount to Baltimore has fallen from \$27 million in federal program year 2005 to just \$18.8 million in federal program year 2014. Baltimore officials have indicated to me that they will be unable to fund any new non-profit social service activities in calendar year 2016.

City officials indicated to me that among the requests they cannot fund was a request for \$187,000 to help provide legal assistance for 300 households facing foreclosure.

This is particularly devastating in my state, which continues to have one of the highest foreclosure rates in the nation, and where many of the people now facing foreclosure are the very people illegally targeted by banks to receive subprime loans.

The bill before us also cuts funding for the maintenance and repair of public housing, cuts the Choice Neighborhoods program, and fails to provide the funding requested by the President to restore the more than 60,000 housing vouchers lost due to sequestration.

According to the Baltimore City housing authority, there are tens of thousands of people waiting for housing assistance in our city. And that's just one city in this nation.

This bill even cuts funding—by 30%—for lead hazard abatement. Baltimore City has one of the highest rates of children testing positive for elevated lead levels among urban centers in the United States, and the highest rates are in the lowest income neighborhoods.

As I've walked Baltimore's streets in the weeks since Freddie Gray's death, I have met countless young people who want exactly what every child in this nation wants.

They want a safe place to live. They want a good school. They want a way to fulfill the promise they feel in themselves.

And they want to know their lives matter—a right deserved by every American, not just the privileged few.

The President has already indicated he would veto this bill—so rather than wasting time on it, why don't we craft a new budget framework that will ensure every American has the chance to succeed?

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. DAVID W. JOLLY**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, June 2, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2578) making appropriations for the Department of Commerce and Justice, Science, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Chair, I want to compliment the Chairman for a good bill that responsibly invests in law enforcement, space, the sciences, research, our oceans and marine resources, and our weather sciences.

I also want to thank the Chairman for his support in this bill for an innovative data collection initiative to improve fish stock assessments and research of the fisheries of the Gulf of Mexico. As we discussed in our hearings, we as a nation need to utilize all available tools and technology, and work with all fisheries' sector participants, including recreational, for-hire and commercial, to provide the most accurate assessment of the health of our fish stocks, including the Red Snapper species so critical to our quality of life in our Gulf states like Florida and Texas, and so critical to our regional economy. This innovative data collection initiative will better enable the National Marine Fisheries Service and the regional council to make the most informed decisions possible about the length of various fishing seasons.

Mr. Chair, without constantly improving, more accurate, quantifiable data—data that is believed to reliably reflect the fisherman's experience on the water—our commercial and recreational fishermen alike find it difficult to understand decisions made by government to shorten fishing seasons and limit catches.

To be clear, this important new provision included in this year's CJS bill is intended to provide the National Marine Fisheries Service Southeast Regional Office new tools to utilize data collection efforts from our recreational, for-hire and commercial fishermen, state and local officials, third party researchers, and academia—data collection and research focused on the unique stock assessment challenges of Gulf fisheries.

By working with our recreational, for-hire and commercial fishermen, and engaging them directly in data collection, the NMFS Southeast Regional Office will ultimately accumulate more and better data, and will begin to restore trust between the sectors and regulators.

This public-private effort will allow officials tasked with managing our fishery resources to reach the right balance, balance for our recreational fishing community's quality of life and right to fish on our waters, balance for our regional economy fueled by the commercial and

• 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.

for-hire fishing industry, and balance for our strong interest in stock rehabilitation, species preservation and protecting our critical natural resources.

Mr. Chair, the Florida Institute of Oceanography estimates that Florida's ocean economy generates almost \$30 billion dollars per year in economic activity, more than that generated by citrus, cattle, ranching and the space industry of Florida combined. It is critical that we get this right.

I look forward to continuing to work with Chairman CULBERSON through the appropriations process, and with NOAA and NMFS Southeast Regional Office during implementation of this funding, to stand up this critical, innovative stock assessment initiative and make it a success for Florida and for all five of our Gulf States, including the Chairman's home state of Texas.

HONORING THE RETIREMENT OF  
CHIEF WARRANT OFFICER-4  
MICHAEL A. HUDSON

**HON. TIM RYAN**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, today, I am very grateful for the opportunity to recognize Chief Warrant Officer-4 Michael A. Hudson, his wife Karin, and their two sons Zachary and Joshua, for their hard work and commitment to our great country, the United States of America. After honorably serving as an active duty U.S. Marine for the past 20 years, CW4 Hudson retired on Friday, May 15, 2015.

CW4 Hudson is an Ohio native from Sandusky who joined the Marine Corps in 1994. He has received numerous personnel awards such as: the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon, two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals, and two Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals. CW4 Hudson also excelled in his studies having earned a Master's Degree from Webster University in Management and Leadership. CW4 Hudson not only served his country while residing in the United States but also while living abroad in Japan for six years with his family. While on duty in Okinawa, Japan CW4 Hudson worked with General Support Maintenance Company during 1999. In 2006, CW4 Hudson and his family later transferred to Iwakuni, Japan where he served as the Station Motor Transport Officer and Garrison Mobile Equipment Fleet Manager.

It is with sincere gratitude I honor Mr. Hudson's family for their dedication to our country throughout his years of active service. Mrs. Karin Hudson has been happily married to Mr. Hudson for nineteen years. Not only has she held an important position with Valley Counseling in Warren, Ohio as a Program Manager, but she has also fulfilled the role of both parents her husband was deployed. Mrs. Hudson selflessly moved with her family whenever her husband's duty called for them to do so, and I laud her for her commitment to her husband, her family, and her country.

I would also like to acknowledge Mr. and Mrs. Hudson's two sons, Zachary and Joshua, for their patience and spirit as they traveled with their parents around Japan and the

United States. It may at times be difficult to have a parent in active service, but they have shown true patriotism in their support of their father. Zachary at thirteen attends Lakeview Middle School, all the while enjoying the responsibilities of being a Boy Scout. His younger brother Joshua is nine years old and currently attends Lakeview Elementary where he enjoys playing baseball.

Mr. Speaker I ask all of my colleagues to join me in extending a heartfelt thank you to Chief Warrant Officer-4 Hudson and his family for their commitment to our country. We will never forget the years you have honorably served and will forever be thankful for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. AMI BERA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. BERA. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained on Rollcall vote No. 292, the amendment offered by Mr. SANFORD of South Carolina. Had I been present, I would have voted "No."

TRIBUTE TO CARL ST. CLAIR

**HON. MIMI WALTERS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mrs. MIMI WALTERS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to honor and celebrate Carl St. Clair's 25th Anniversary as the Music Director at Orange County's Pacific Symphony.

Under Carl St. Clair's brilliant leadership, Pacific Symphony has become the largest professional symphony orchestra formed in the past fifty years. Through St. Clair's outstanding vision, sensitivity, and dynamic leadership, Pacific Symphony has developed programming that has bridged different cultures, engaged creative voices, and opened the door of great music for all.

St. Clair's artistic vision and standards have generated enthusiastic audiences locally and internationally. In 2006, he led the Symphony on its first European tour—nine cities in three countries playing before capacity houses and receiving extraordinary reviews. His commitment to new music has been demonstrated locally and admired nationally. The Pacific Symphony's American Composers' Festival has celebrated leading composers annually for fifteen years; the Symphony has won two ASCAP Awards for Adventurous Programming, and has released eleven recordings—primarily the music of American composers. St. Clair has produced numerous thematic festivals and fostered the return of professional opera to Orange County. He has also developed continuing programmatic relationships with a number of local universities, including USC, Chapman University, and UC-Irvine.

St. Clair is actively involved in both the conception and implementation of Pacific Symphony's education and outreach programs. The orchestra produces more than twenty distinct education and outreach programs—several garnered national attention and are widely replicated.

Maestro St. Clair has proclaimed that "Music is a birthright," and has supported that vision with complementary activities that are accessible to the entire community.

Through HEARTSTRINGS, the Symphony provides music to more than twenty different agencies that range from homeless shelters and after school youth-mentoring clubs to the Center for Autism and Neurodevelopmental Disorders and Age Well Senior Services. This is accomplished through individual and small group visits to agency sites as well as providing available tickets for major performances. In total, forty-four percent of the Pacific Symphony's annual audiences heard the orchestra at no cost last season. Finally, in perhaps the greatest salute to Maestro St. Clair's musical leadership, fully one-third of Pacific Symphony musicians (37 in number) have tenures with the orchestra that equal or exceed his twenty-five years.

From the highest artistic standards to the breadth of community outreach and service, Carl St. Clair is a vital part of the distinctive quality of life we enjoy in Orange County and Southern California. I thank him for his leadership and for enriching the lives of children and adults throughout the Southern California region, the nation, and the world.

HONORING MARVIN GIBSON ON  
THE OCCASION OF EARNING HIS  
SEVENTY YEAR PIN

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Marvin Gibson of Marquette, Michigan on the occasion of earning his Seventy Year Pin in service of the Boy Scouts of America. Mr. Gibson was awarded this honor at a ceremony in Northern Michigan on May 31, 2015.

As Scoutmaster of Boy Scout Troop 305 in Marquette, Mr. Gibson has shown his devotion to the scouting way of life. In his long career with the BSA, he has earned several other distinctions such as the rank of Eagle Scout, Vigil Honor in the Order of the Arrow, National Jamboree Leadership, and the Order of the Arrow National Conferences. Mr. Gibson is additionally the father of an Eagle Scout and a long time summer camp staffer at Camp Hiawatha.

As a former Boy Scout myself, I have firsthand experience in the positive work that Scouting provides, especially in helping young men become self-reliant and learn important skills. On behalf of all residents of the First Congressional District, I wish to convey my congratulations to Mr. Gibson, his family, his fellow scouts, and the many that he has helped to positively influence in his seventy years in service of scouting.

IN HONOR OF SHERIFF LEON  
WILMOT

**HON. PAUL A. GOSAR**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. GOSAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a patriot, a public servant and a

great Sheriff, Sheriff Leon Wilmot from Yuma, Arizona.

Sheriff Wilmot has been an effective law enforcement officer and a staunch advocate in opposing illegal immigration and for supporting the rule of law. His leadership has recently been recognized by the National Sheriff's Association which has named him Chairman of its Immigration and Border Security Committee.

Much deserved Sheriff Wilmot, congratulations. Know that we support your efforts here in Washington, D.C.

HONORING SERGEANT ERIC LUND

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sergeant Eric Lund, a true American hero, as well as the community that banded together to help serve one of their neighbors who sacrificed so much in defense of our freedom.

Sergeant Eric Lund joined the U.S. Army National Guard in 2003 after graduating from Ludington High School. He served with the 126th C Company as a gunner atop a Military All-Terrain Vehicle, and was in Afghanistan when he was injured in May 2012 as a result of a roadside IED. The explosion resulted in serious injuries including the loss of both arms.

Eric spent over two years enduring numerous surgeries during his rehabilitation in San Antonio, Texas. However, he knew his goal was to be back home in Ludington—near friends, family, and the water. Returning home for Eric also meant living an active lifestyle that include biking, being outdoors, and most importantly, being able to live independently and tackle everyday tasks on his own.

That dream became a reality as a result of an outpouring of support from the Ludington community and the "Helping a Hero" organization.

As part of the their first Michigan project, "Helping a Hero," working with Malliet Construction, built Eric a new home featuring adaptive technology to allow for independent living tools like voice activation and a shower with scrubbers. Donations from the Ludington community came in various forms—from money to materials and labor. There are so many people to thank for making this project a reality for Eric, and I will be proud to join them all on June 8, 2015 for the neighborhood "Welcome Home" ceremony.

As our nation's heroes return home, we must welcome them back and recognize the sacrifices they made protecting our freedoms and way of life. As the Ludington community has proven, we can and must help serve these brave men and women. So long as there are soldiers like Sergeant Eric Lund fighting for us, we can never forget that the cost of freedom is high.

TRANSPORTATION, HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2016

SPEECH OF

**HON. LINDA T. SANCHEZ**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 3, 2015*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2577) making appropriations for the Departments of Transportation, and Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2016, and for other purposes:

Ms. LINDA T. SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Chair, I rise today to speak in opposition of the proposed cuts to the Transportation Infrastructure Generating Economic Recovery Program (TIGER) under the Fiscal Year 2016 Transportation Housing and Urban Development (THUD) Appropriations bill.

Since 2009, the Department of Transportation has provided state and local governments with grants to complete infrastructure projects. Many communities have profited from these investments, providing neighborhoods with safer pedestrian pathways, revitalizing economically distressed areas, and reducing congestion from traffic.

TIGER grants are meant to provide eligibility to infrastructure projects that do not qualify for restrictive formula based federal funding. Freight, port, and bridge projects across the country have benefited from financial support from TIGER. Reducing accessibility to TIGER grants will prolong infrastructure projects and increase traffic in our communities.

The House FY16 THUD appropriations bill includes \$100 million for TIGER grants. This is a \$400 million reduction from the 2015 enacted level, cutting the Department of Transportation's budget by 80%.

Severe cuts to TIGER are troubling, and substantial funding for the program is crucial to my District. For example, the Durfee Avenue grade separation proposal in Pico Rivera would reduce an estimated 15.3 hours of vehicle delays on a daily basis. Rosemead Boulevard/Lakewood Boulevard in my District carries tens of thousands of cars every day, providing goods movement to the Gateway cities. The Del Amo Boulevard bridge is structurally deficient, outdated, and in need of maintenance to improve lane capacity problems.

I ask that my colleagues join me in opposing the 80% cuts to TIGER grants and language restricting TIGER eligibility in the HOUSE FY16 THUD bill. Providing funding for these and other TIGER projects are about providing services that communities deserve.

THE OCCASION OF THE RETIREMENT OF MS. CORA CIOTTI FROM THE WELDON CITY SCHOOL SYSTEM

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and congratulate my constituent,

Ms. Cora Ciotti, as she retires after working nearly 40 years in the education field. Ms. Ciotti began her career in education in New York where she worked as a Youth School Officer for the New Hyde Park School system. Later, she moved to Weldon, North Carolina, in my congressional district, where she worked for the Weldon City Public School system in a number of capacities.

Before embarking on a career in education, Ms. Ciotti attended John Jay College of Criminal Justice in New York where she was trained and certified as a Youth School Officer. Ms. Ciotti's training helped her to navigate some of the unique challenges that were presented by students and empowered her to have a dynamic and positive influence on their lives. Many of the youth who were influenced by Ms. Ciotti decades ago have grown into productive citizens who are making positive contributions to their communities.

After relocating to Weldon, North Carolina, Ms. Ciotti began working with the Weldon City Public Schools, where she served as a Teacher's Assistant and Attendance Counselor, among other important roles. She demonstrated care, compassion, and dedication to the students with whom she worked. If any student was hungry, Ms. Ciotti fed them. If any student lacked clothing, Ms. Ciotti clothed them. At times, Ms. Ciotti even provided shelter for some of our troubled youth by opening up her own home.

Ms. Ciotti was indeed special in her own way to the youth; she possessed a talent for reaching the youth right where they were; she reserved judgement; she changed the lives of many and pushed them in a positive direction, and for that we should all be grateful.

Mr. Speaker, Ms. Cora Ciotti has positively influenced the lives of countless young people over her nearly 40-year career in education. I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Ms. Ciotti for her dedication to generations of young people and in offering her best wishes as she embarks on the next chapter of her life.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM LOUIS  
"BILL" HORTSMAN

**HON. LUKE MESSER**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. MESSER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of William Louis "Bill" Hortsman, a devoted family man, respected Hoosier leader, and a selfless contributor to the Jennings County community. Bill leaves behind his wife of 52 years, Ruth Ann Hortsman, and his two children, Duane and Denise.

Mr. Hortsman graduated from North Vernon High School in 1951 and, in addition to attending First United Methodist Church in North Vernon, was also a member of Pleasant Grove United Methodist Church in Charlestown.

Bill is a true patriot who served in the U.S. Army from 1953 to 1955 after graduating from high school. In his early career, Bill worked for Hortsman Standard Service Station and Hortsman's Standard Oil Delivery.

Bill was also well-known for his commitment to his community. He was a life-long volunteer

at the Center Township Fire Department, and he served as Chief for eight years. Bill was also a bus driver for Jennings County Schools for 4 decades, Justice of the Peace for Center Township for eight years, Jennings County Treasurer for four terms, and a worker in the Jennings County Treasurer's Office for 28 years before retiring in 2008. In his free time, which was limited, Mr. Hortsman enjoyed word puzzles and the outdoors, including fishing trips and yard work.

Bill was not only a valuable asset to his community, but also my friend. He frequently attended my Coffee with the Congressman meetings in the 6th District of Indiana and was a long-time supporter of my efforts to serve the State of Indiana. I will always be grateful for the encouragement he gave me and the impact he made on me throughout my political career. He will be missed.

Today, it is my privilege to honor the life of William Louis "Bill" Hortsman. My thoughts and prayers go out to Bill's family, and may God comfort those he left behind with His peace and strength.

CONGRATULATING MADISON  
BRUNETTI AND LOGAN NEELEY

HON. ALEXANDER X. MOONEY

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. MOONEY of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my warmest congratulations to a staffer at my district office in Charleston, West Virginia. On June 6, 2015, Madison Brunetti will marry Logan Neeley. I am overjoyed that these two people have decided to commit to one another for the rest of their lives, and uphold the sacred institution of marriage.

I join with their families, friends, and loved ones in congratulating Madison and Logan on this momentous occasion. I wish the soon to be married couple the best of luck, and long, happy lives together.

TRIBUTE TO GERTIE WEBB OF  
SALEM, OREGON

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to take this opportunity to pay tribute to a dear friend of mine who passed away on March 17th of this year. I first met Gertie Webb when her oldest daughter and I worked for former Congressman Denny Smith of Oregon. Subsequently, I developed my long lasting friendship with Gertie when she worked for me while I served as the Oregon House Majority Leader.

Gertie was the youngest of nine children—five brothers and four sisters. Their father was a laborer while their mother tended to the needs of the family and the house. Gertie came along shortly before the onset of the Depression and was old enough to watch her brothers leave the home to serve in World War II. While those were challenging years for an entire generation, those were also the defining years of Gertie Webb's life.

During her childhood years, Gertie was expected to perform her fair share of the chores around the house. By age 13, she was driving the family car to the store to purchase the groceries. When she returned from her baby-sitting jobs, she would place much of her money in the family jar. It wasn't until she was ready to enroll in high school that her mother returned most of the money so Gertie could attend St. Mary's Academy in Portland, Oregon. Those were tough times, but whenever Gertie spoke of her youth, there always seemed to be a positive message in what she said.

In 1953, Gertie married Charles Webb in Portland, Oregon where they resided until 1964. With their three young children—Sue, Jan and Bill—they then moved to Salem where Gertie lived for almost 50 years. Charles passed away in 1982 and shortly after their college years, the kids scattered in different directions. That is when Gertie returned to the working world, including jobs with Congressman Denny Smith and at the Oregon legislature.

My last visit with Gertie took place at a nursing home where she lived her final three years. These were not sad years but years filled with many friendships and positive memories. She was an active resident, always offering assistance in organizing field trips, social events and other activities for her fellow residents. She would start out every morning in the chapel attending daily religious services.

Gertie's faith was the bedrock of who she was. Not one to wear it on her sleeve, Gertie instead manifested her faith through her actions towards others. A good listener, she had a particular interest in the concerns and needs of the less fortunate. When she would say that she would offer her prayers for someone suffering from a hardship, she truly meant it.

And then there is Gertie Webb, the sports guru. Mr. Speaker, this woman knew sports better than anyone I've ever known. Football. Baseball. Basketball. Golf. It didn't matter what sport, Gertie could tell you what teams were ahead in the standings or what golfer had the best shot at winning the U.S. Open. I was told that some of the nursing home staff would frequently visit Gertie's room for a rundown on the scores. Her favorite team was Notre Dame. Few things caused her as much stress as the Irish facing defeat. Rather than watching the final outcome, she would turn off the TV and rely on one of her children or a close friend to give her the final score.

Gertie leaves behind many family members and friends. I offer my condolences to Sue, Jan and Bill following the death of their mother. Someday, we will all face the same fate as Gertie. When my day comes, I can only hope to be as willing to accept the journey as my friend Gertie. Her faith carried her through a remarkable 85-year journey and I am so thankful that I was able to encounter her during her journey. She was a dear friend to many, and a loving and caring mother of three and grandmother of five.

HONORING JOE DOWLING ON THE  
OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT  
FROM THE GUTHRIE THEATER

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Joe Dowling, who is retiring in June from the Guthrie Theater in Minneapolis, Minnesota after serving 20 distinguished years as Artistic Director. During Mr. Dowling's impressive tenure, he has directed more than 50 shows and reinforced the foundation for this world-class Minnesota cultural cornerstone.

Mr. Dowling joined the Guthrie as Artistic Director in 1995, bringing his ceaseless creativity and tireless dedication to the arts after leading other theater companies in his native Ireland. Among Mr. Dowling's many achievements is the development of training programs like the University of Minnesota/Guthrie Theater B.F.A. Actor Training Program and A Guthrie Experience for Actors in Training. He also solidified a partnership with The Acting Company of New York and created the WorldStage Series, two programs that allow local talent to tour the U.S. and in turn welcome internationally renowned theater programs to Minnesota. He has also shared his vision and talents on Broadway and at other prominent venues throughout the United States and Europe.

Perhaps Mr. Dowling's deepest legacy is the success of a \$125 million capital campaign and construction of a new theater home which was completed in 2006. Designed by French architect Jean Nouvel, the theater is an architectural gem. At 285,000 square feet, the new Guthrie includes public gathering spaces and restaurants, and a 178-foot "endless bridge" that highlights a spectacular, soaring view of the mighty Mississippi River. At the heart of the new Guthrie are three unique theaters offering special performance spaces and viewing perspectives. The Dowling Studio in particular is an intimate 200-person black box theater that has welcomed 33 local acting companies and stands as a testament to its namesake's commitment to developing and showcasing the Twin Cities arts community.

In a metropolitan area that boasts more theater seats per capita than anywhere else in the U.S. outside of New York, Minnesotans take great pride in our thriving, high quality performing arts community. Experiencing a performance at the Guthrie is a particular joy, and I attend shows there whenever I can. I am clearly not alone, because under Dowling's leadership, the Guthrie entertains, enriches and enlightens 400,000 patrons each year.

Mr. Speaker, it is a privilege to rise to honor Mr. Dowling and his many contributions to the rich cultural landscape in Minnesota as the Guthrie Theater's Artistic Director as well as his lifetime of commitment to the arts.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, May 21, 2015, I was on medical

leave due to an appointment related to my recovery from surgery and unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 261 (on agreeing to the Edwards of Maryland Part A Substitute Amendment No. 7 to H.R. 2262),

“Yes” on roll call vote No. 262 (on passage of H.R. 2262), and

“No” on roll call vote No. 263 (on agreeing to the resolution H. Res. 274).

BRADFORD-O'KEEFE FUNERAL  
HOMES

**HON. STEVEN M. PALAZZO**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. PALAZZO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Bradford-O'Keefe Funeral Homes on the occasion of their 150th anniversary. This milestone marks the continued commitment to service that the O'Keefe family has provided the citizens of the Mississippi Gulf Coast for the past century and a half.

In 1865, Irish immigrant Edward “Ned” O'Keefe established his livery service in Ocean Springs. Ned O'Keefe's funeral business soon expanded to Biloxi and other Coast cities as its ownership and management was passed down to succeeding generations of O'Keefe family members. He would certainly be proud of the success and growth of his family business.

Today, with locations all along the Mississippi Gulf, the O'Keefe family compassionately serves their neighbors, friends, and family during life's most difficult times.

The O'Keefe family distinguishes itself outside the family business in a broad array of community involvement, public service, and philanthropy. This is evident by family patriarch, World War II fighter pilot “Ace,” State Legislator, and Biloxi Mayor Jeremiah “Jerry” O'Keefe's service to his state and country.

The O'Keefe family is also blessed with a dedicated and professional staff that combined has hundreds of years of experience. Like the family, they are committed to faithfully serving their community.

Once again, I would like to thank the O'Keefe Family for their 150 years of dedicated service to the citizens of the Mississippi Gulf Coast.

HONORING MR. & MRS. MICHAEL J.  
BRADLEY

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. & Mrs. Michael J. Bradley, two constituents born and raised in my district, who will be celebrating their 60th wedding anniversary on June 18, 2015.

Michael Bradley was born and raised in Philadelphia and is a graduate of St. Thomas More High School. His loving wife, Bernadette Ann Sherry, was also born and raised in Philadelphia and graduated from West Catholic High School. The Bradleys are an extremely

close knit Irish Catholic family, blessed with eight children and twenty-three grandchildren. Mr. & Mrs. Bradley taught their children that the best way out of poverty was through hard work and education. Fortunately, Michael and Bernadette were able to support all eight of their children as they attended college. Above all, the Bradleys always gave their children three major items to live by: “Faith, Family & Friends”.

Mr. & Mrs. Bradley are not only prosperous with love from their large family, but have also succeeded in the business realm. The M.J. Bradley Company was founded in 1973, and continues to be a well known contender in the construction industry, installing quality floor and wall products. The M.J. Bradley Co. continues to grow and thrive under the guidance of five of the Bradley's children.

I would like my colleagues to join me in honoring the significance of this occasion, as Mr. & Mrs. Bradley celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary. They are both model citizens of Philadelphia and will remain an inspiration to their family and community for generations to come.

TRIBUTE TO THE 2015 ELLIS ISLAND  
MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

**HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the 2015 recipients of the coveted Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

This prestigious honor is presented annually by the National Ethnic Coalition of Organizations—NECO, and pays tribute to our Nation's immigrant heritage, as well as to those whose achievements and contributions to our Nation embody the American Dream. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor are awarded to U.S. citizens from diverse ethnic backgrounds who exemplify outstanding qualities in both their personal and professional lives, while continuing to preserve the richness of their particular heritage and culture. Since the Medals' founding in 1986, more than 2,000 American citizens have received the Ellis Island Medal of Honor, including six American Presidents, United States Senators, Congressmen, Nobel Laureates, athletes, artists, clergy, and military leaders. The Medal is not about achieving material success, nor is it about the politics of immigration; it is about the people who have committed themselves to this nation, embraced the opportunities America has to offer, and most importantly, who have used those opportunities to not only better their own lives but make a difference in our country and in the lives of its people.

Citizens of the United States hail from every nation known to man. It is the key to why America is the most innovative, progressive and forward thinking country in the world. The Ellis Island Medals of Honor not only celebrate individuals but also the pluralism and democracy that enabled our fore bearers, ourselves and the next generation of Americans to celebrate their unique cultural identities while still championing the American way of life. In addition, by honoring these remarkable Americans, we honor all who share their origins and ac-

knowledge the contributions they have made to America.

I commend NECO and its Board of Directors headed by my dear friend, Nasser J. Kazeminy, for honoring these truly outstanding individuals for their tireless efforts to foster dialogue and build bridges between different ethnic groups, as well as to promote unity and a sense of common purpose in our nation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing the good works of NECO and in congratulating all of the 2015 recipients of the Ellis Island Medal of Honor.

2015 ELLIS ISLAND MEDAL OF HONOR RECIPIENTS

Shohreh Aghdashloo, Dr. Kamiar Alaei, Masoud “Mike” Altirs, Domingo T. Alvear, MD, FACS, FICS, Shireen Atabaki, MD, MPH, Christopher Atamian, Trisha A Bailey, Jay H. Baker, PhD., Patty Baker, Rear Admiral Paul Becker, U.S. Navy, Miri Ben-Ari, Mirghavamaddin Bozorgmir, Nicholas R. Caiazzo, Esq., Ted A. Chaglassian, MD, FACS, Dr. Allen Chan, D.C, Jo Ellen Chatham, PhD, Diane Cirincione-Jampolsky, PhD, Maj Gen. Vincent A. Coglianesi, Rocco B. Commisso, Edward T. Creagan, MD, Juan Carlos Cruz, Rajdeep K. Dhami, MD, Reverend Peter M. Donohue, O.S.A., LCDR Joyce M. Elter, USN (Ret), Ahmass Fakahany, Sheriff Louis Falco III, Adm Mark E. Ferguson III, USN, Meera Gandhi, Chad P. Gehani DDS, Richard L. Gelfond, Palmer C. Hamilton, Esq., Leslie Hanson, Master Chief Eric J. Heimbürger, Myron Z. Holubiak, Gerald G. Jampolsky, MD, Dr. Kyo “Paul” Jhin, Rahul M. Jindal, M.D., Ph.D, MBA, Mike O. Joulakian P.E, Pamela J. Joyner, Vahe Karapetian, Colonel James J. Keefe, Mariam Khosravani, Kevin D. Kim, Rev. Seung Hee Kim, Mr. Young Kil Kim, KV Kumar, Chief Cathy L. Lanier, William “Don” Larson, Dr. David Lizarraga, Luis G. Lobo, Howard Lutnick, Martha “Muffy” MacMillan, Hildegarde Ercklentz Mahoney, John (Manoukarakis) Manos, RADM Larry Roy Marsh (Ret.), Major General Thomas J. Masiello, USAF, Lt General Wendy M. Masiello, DAD Brian F. McCauley FBI, Deric A. Milligan, Major Creighton A. Mullins, USAF, Harry Nadjarian, Chief Abdo Nahmod, Alyssa Navallo-Herman, Justice Sandra Day O'Connor, James P. O'Neill, Catherine O'Reilly, Dr. Zulfiya Orynbayeva, Annoosheh M. Oskouian, Lieutenant General Raymond P. Palumbo, Congressman Ted Poe, Bernard J. Poussot, Robert L. Priddy, Mariano Rivera, Dr. Mostafa Ronaghi, Andrew Sabin, Mike M. Sarian, John Sculley, Gerard Senehi, Frank Shankwitz, Dr. Simon K. Simonian, Major General Linda L. Singh, S.Mona Sinha, Robert F. Spetzler, MD, Hao Jiang Tian, Jeremy Travis, Peter Unanue, Bob Unanue, George Uribe, Nikiforos Valaskantjis, Meredith Vieira, Wafeek Samuel Wahby, Ph.D, B.Th, Kenneth E. Warner, Esq., James N. Weinstein, DO, MS, Richard Roderick Willis, Rabbi Amiel Wohl, Ehsan Yarshater, PhD., Shirley Young, Theodore K. Zampetis, Francois Zayek. International Medal Recipients: Baroness Dr. Sandip Verma, Bert Sakmann MD, PhD.

International Ellis Island Medal of Honor Recipients: Baroness Dr. Sandip Verna and Bert Sakmann MD, PhD.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. BILL JOHNSON**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. JOHNSON of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, it has come to my attention that during a two minute

vote series last night I inadvertently voted 'no' on Mr. KING's amendment (roll call vote 293) when I intended to vote 'yes.' I strongly believe that President Obama's executive order granting amnesty to those illegally in America is unconstitutional, and in no way should be implemented or funded.

---

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT HURT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote #284 on House Amendment 333 to H.R. 2578. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

---

HONORING PEPSICO

**HON. NITA M. LOWEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor PepsiCo, which is celebrating its fiftieth anniversary.

Founded in 1965, PepsiCo has had its headquarters in Purchase, New York, since 1970.

As a Fortune 500 company, PepsiCo has not only transformed the food and beverage industry, it is a global leader in finding solutions for many of the serious challenges facing the international community. The company's philanthropic arm, the PepsiCo Foundation, supports programs that encourage healthy lifestyles, improve the availability of nutrition and clean water, and empower women. Most recently, the foundation announced that, through its collaborative efforts, more than four million people in Latin America now have access to safe, clean water.

PepsiCo has displayed a commitment to increasing opportunities for female leaders in its workforce. In 2011, the company launched the Pinnacle Group in the United States as a way of retaining the most talented female employees through career development, leadership training, and mentoring opportunities. In Asia, the Middle East and Africa (AMEA), PepsiCo has successfully increased female participation through gender equity awareness and inclusion of women in leadership roles. Today, more than a quarter of PepsiCo executives in the AMEA region are female and the company is led by Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Indra Nooyi.

Since 2005, PepsiCo has donated more than \$600 million to agencies working in the environmental, educational, civic, arts and health and human services fields. It also provided more than \$1.4 million for Hurricane Sandy relief efforts.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring PepsiCo on its fiftieth anniversary.

RECOGNIZING SNAP ON ITS 27TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize SNAP (Survivors of Those Abused by Priests) on the occasion of their 27th Anniversary, which they will celebrate at their annual conference here in Washington D.C., July 31–Aug 2.

Founded in 1988 by my fellow Chicagoan, Barbara Blaine, SNAP is a self-help support group for those who were sexually violated—whether by clergy, family members, trusted adults, or strangers. Barbara is a survivor of childhood sexual abuse by a member of the clergy. SNAP has become a voice for childhood sexual abuse prevention, awareness and healing in our community. Today, SNAP is an international organization with members in all 50 states and in 71 countries, with over 70 chapters organized throughout the United States and across the world.

Research conducted by the Centers for Disease Control estimates that one in four girls and one in six boys are sexually abused before the age of 18. Only one in 10 children ever tells anyone.

The median age when a victim discloses childhood sexual abuse is 40. One of the most important public policy developments in this country has been the effort to reform the statutes of limitations laws in states.

SNAP is working to bring a voice and justice to victims and survivors by working to reform a legal system that has imposed inadequately short civil statutes of limitations. Those arbitrary deadlines prevent most victims from ever getting through the courthouse doors to present their evidence and make their case.

Typically, victims of child sexual abuse have only five years after they've turned 18 to pursue civil legal remedies for the justice they seek. That means that after age 23, survivors of childhood sexual abuse are prohibited from seeking legal recourse against their abusers, and it can mean that child sexual predators are allowed to live freely among us.

In 2013, I am proud to report, the state of Illinois enacted legislation to remove criminal and civil statute of limitations for sex offenses that occurred when the victim was under 18 years of age. The new law removes the statute of limitations for child sex abuse that occurs on or after January 1, 2014.

I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge SNAP and all their volunteer leaders, who give so much of themselves to help others. Protecting children and preventing sexual abuse of children is a worthy effort we all can support.

---

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. MARK TAKANO**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. TAKANO. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call Vote number 295 on H.R. 2578, I mistakenly recorded my vote as yes when I should have voted no.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ALMA S. ADAMS**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Ms. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, on June 3, 2015 I was absent for recorded votes #274 through #295 due to the passing of my mother.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted if I were here:

On Roll Call #274 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #275 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #276 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #277 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #278 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #279 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #280 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #281 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #282 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #283 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #284 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #285 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #286 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #287 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #288 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #289 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #290 I would have voted Yes.  
 On Roll Call #291 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #292 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #293 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #294 I would have voted No.  
 On Roll Call #295 I would have voted No.

---

IN RECOGNITION OF BRIAN WHISTON'S SELECTION AS MICHIGAN'S STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**HON. DEBBIE DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Brian Whiston on his nomination for Michigan's State Superintendent. As a Member of Congress it is both my privilege and honor to recognize Mr. Whiston for his prioritization of the success of our students and guiding them on the right path to higher education and into the workforce.

For the past 8 years, Mr. Whiston has served as the Superintendent for Dearborn Public Schools in Dearborn, Michigan, where he selflessly advocated for the betterment of his students and staff through innovative programs and policies. Mr. Whiston implemented a co-teaching model which blends general and special educators to cater to the specific needs of ESL students who comprise a vast majority of the student population. Breaking down the barriers of the typical high school classroom scenario, Mr. Whiston created initiatives for students to explore career interests and acclimate themselves to the college experience. Advanced placement programs, Dual Enrollment at local universities, a S.T.E.M. based magnet program, and a vocational program for culinary arts and hospitality have created a wide array of avenues for students to venture into higher education. This innovative approach led to increased test scores and graduation rates in the district and was certainly of note as Mr. Whiston was named Michigan's Superintendent of the Year in 2014.

As a proponent and champion of unions, Mr. Whiston fostered a strong working relationship with all unions in the district, which was instrumental in settling contracts that kept jobs in the district, balanced the budget, and saved valuable taxpayer dollars.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Mr. Whiston for achieving this accolade. I am confident his fantastic work with Dearborn Public Schools will transcend into his tenure as Michigan's next State Superintendent.

HONORING LOS CERRITOS  
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. ALAN S. LOWENTHAL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, congratulations. Los Cerritos Elementary School in Long Beach, CA was recently selected as a 2015 U.S. Department of Education Green Ribbon School, an honor shared by several other schools in the Long Beach Unified School District.

The dedicated faculty and staff, students, and families who share the same ideals of conservation and sustainability in their community are commended for integrating these ideals while meeting state education standards. Through hands-on application of activities such as farming and recycling, students become good stewards of their communities and environment and expand the margins of their K-5 education. Additionally, the campus has adopted new technologies to bring their existing infrastructure up to efficient standards. In sum, Long Beach Unified School District has saved approximately \$4.9 million in energy costs across multiple school campuses.

Los Cerritos Elementary School is the fifth school in the school district to receive this distinction. I am proud that Long Beach continues to be a leader in green education and I encourage other schools, at all levels, to follow suit in adopting and implementing the leadership necessary to reduce environmental impacts. The environmental instruction being developed by Los Cerritos Elementary as well as previously recognized Green Ribbon Schools should be a model for adoption by all schools nationwide. The value of a quality education to our community cannot be overstated, and investing in green education will offer great returns to our future.

HONORING MRS. CAROLYN SIMS

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Carolyn Sims, who is retiring after over 26 years of public service in Tarrant County. The communities where she has served in various positions over her career are better places because of her efforts.

For over a decade I had the privilege of working with Mrs. Sims during her tenure. However, her service and commitment began long before we met, and will have a lasting im-

pact beyond her official duties' end. After graduating from the University of North Texas, Carolyn began working at a bank until she shifted to public service in education, as a middle school teacher and then as a school counselor. Mrs. Sims then served as the President of the Colleyville Chamber of Commerce as well as for the Arts Council of Northeast Tarrant County.

During the 2003 legislative session, State Representative Vicki Truitt recruited Mrs. Sims to serve as her chief of staff in Austin. After returning to North Texas, Carolyn returned to her education roots and began to work for the Town of Westlake, Westlake Academy Foundation, and then the Northwest ISD Education Foundation. Finally, Carolyn utilized her connections and skills to serve the residents of Northeast Tarrant County as the 3rd Precinct County Administrator for Commissioner Gary Fickes.

Over the course of her career, Carolyn has been recognized multiple times for her significant contributions to the North Texas community. In 1994, she received the Women's Award for Business by the Women's Shelter Legacy. In 1995, she received recognition from the Northeast Leadership Forum as the "Outstanding Community Volunteer". Adding to her accolades, the Star Telegram named Mrs. Sims the 1999 "Woman of the Year", while the Business Press named her the "Most Influential Woman" the same year.

As Carolyn retires, her community service and dedicated work will be greatly missed. During her service of over 26 years, spanning from school board to chief of staff, Carolyn habitually placed others ahead of herself. It is my privilege to honor such an outstanding citizen in the U.S. House of Representatives.

A TRIBUTE TO SARAH ELIZABETH  
WILLIAMS, SEPTEMBER 3, 1918-  
MAY 9, 2015

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an extraordinary woman and a lifelong friend to my family, the late Sarah Elizabeth Williams.

Sarah Elizabeth Williams was born on September 3, 1918 in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania. She was the oldest of four children and the only daughter born to Rev. Charles E. Williams and Ethel Davis Williams. Her three brothers, Charles, Matthew, and James preceded her in death.

When Sarah was very young, the family moved to historic La Mott, a suburb of Philadelphia, located in Cheltenham Township in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania. In 1885 the village was officially named for the famous abolitionist and suffragette, Lucretia Mott, who had moved to the area in 1850. Many longtime residents like Sarah as well as new ones were proud of their community's heritage which stood as an important landmark in black history. One of the first communities to encourage integrated living, the village represented a turning point in the social and racial development of residential communities in the post-Civil War era. "Roadside", the home of Lucretia Mott, was a stop for slaves trav-

eling the Underground Railroad north to safety.

After graduating from Cheltenham High School, Sarah moved to Norfolk, Virginia, attending Virginia Union Jr. College for two years. She took classes in English, Biology, and Zoology, before returning home to help look after her three brothers following her mother's illness and death.

For many years, Sarah worked as a technician at the Fels Research Institute at Temple University in Philadelphia. Her marriages ended in divorce, but out of the union she had one child, Sandra.

Always looking to explore new horizons, Sarah took the Federal Civil Service exam and moved to Washington, D.C., in 1950 to secure employment in the federal government.

Sarah, affectionately known as "Gramm" by family and friends, worked for H.E.W. in Washington, D.C., and the Army Corps of Engineers in Gravelly Point, Virginia. She transferred to the U.S. Department of Justice in 1963, and worked there in the Civil Rights Division. At the Department of Justice Sarah provided support to several attorneys, among them her heroes, Thurgood Marshall, and Assistant Attorney General, John Doar.

In 1968 and 1969, Sarah traveled with legal teams to Montgomery and Birmingham, Alabama, and to Chicago, Illinois, to help prepare briefs for various trials. The duration of these trips ranged from three days to as many as three weeks for the trial in Birmingham. One important case in 1980 involved an appeal in a suit alleging brutality and other unlawful practices on the part of the Philadelphia Police Department. Sarah always said her work with the attorneys in the division to combat racial and various other forms of discrimination in housing, education, and employment, while enforcing civil and voting rights, gave her a sense of pride and purpose and she received many special achievement awards for her "Superior Performance".

Sarah retired in 1983 but always stayed connected to her former colleagues, and in 2007, was the oldest former employee to attend the Commemoration of the Department of Justice Civil Rights Division's 50th anniversary at the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington, D.C.

Prior to retirement, Sarah began living with her daughter and her husband, E. Lucien Cox, in Montgomery County, Maryland. She was a wonderful influence in the lives of her three grandchildren and family friends, providing them with much of her wisdom and experience. Sarah's example helped them to appreciate the value of hard work, commitment, and best of all, *joie de vivre*.

After retiring Sarah was able to travel to interesting places throughout the world, become more active in her church, and dote on her seven great grandchildren, as well as volunteering with reading programs at local schools. She continued to be active until age 87, when her health began to fail.

Sarah, to quote Maya Anjelou, was truly a "phenomenal woman", who always seemed to be ahead of the curve. Her interest in ecology and nature, and even encouraging the grandchildren to recycle, goes back 45 years. She also stayed relevant by listening to and engaging young people. They learned from her and she learned from them and respected their views.

Sarah's sense of humor was legendary. Everyone who met her knew she never missed

a beat. You never could predict what was coming next, but you just knew it would be memorable. There will never be another like "Gramm".

When Sarah's family moved near her beloved Chesapeake Bay, to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 2009, she accompanied them. She was a resident at the Berlin Maryland Nursing Center for five years and was cognitive and witty up until her passing on May 9, 2015. One of her greatest joys was living to see President Barack Obama elected twice, and to see Loretta Lynch confirmed as U.S. Attorney General. As she said, "I never thought I would live to see all of this".

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring the memory of Sarah Elizabeth Williams. Our wonderful memories of her will sustain us all.

CONGRATULATING KASSIE  
MCKNIGHT FOR COMPETING IN  
THE SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELL-  
ING BEE

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kassie McKnight for her achievement in representing southwest Missouri at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Kassie is a Bolivar native and was an eighth grader at Bolivar Middle School during the time of the competition. She worked hard to get to the top, going through her local spelling bee in Bolivar to the Southwest Missouri Regional Spelling Bee at Missouri State University in Springfield. Kassie competed against 34 other spellers through 64 tough rounds at the regional competition, ultimately spelling "exacerbate" correctly to secure her spot at the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington. Kassie was one of 285 contestants to compete in the esteemed national bee.

These accomplishments took a great deal of hard work, including hours of practice and completion of numerous spelling drills, not to mention the ability to spell many difficult words that are rarely used in everyday conversation. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kassie on a job well done. It is great to represent in Congress such amazing talent found in the Missouri's Seventh Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF STEVE BOLLINGER

**HON. J. FRENCH HILL**

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, losing a father, mother, husband, or wife is an emotionally traumatic experience for any family. In addition to the burden faced by families that have experienced this type of loss, losing a head of household has severe economic implications for their journey forward. The Bollinger family learned this three decades ago, after unexpectedly losing their beloved Steve, leaving his wife, Lin, with four children and no income other than social security and several small in-

surance policies. Luckily, the Bollingers had a strong team behind them to help them through the immediate difficulties this presented.

During the Reagan Administration, Steve was Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Previously, he had run for Cincinnati City Council and served as the head of the Public Housing Authority of Columbus, Ohio, where he served honorably. His dedication rendered a sincere appreciation and respect from his colleagues, and these individuals would be the ones that summoned the means of supporting the Bollinger family until they won a worker's compensation claim that enabled them to return funds to the newly established Bollinger Foundation. And so, the group had a newly empowered mission: to support families that faced the same struggle.

I had the opportunity to work with Steve when I was a young staffer on Capitol Hill, working for the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs. Steve came before the Committee to bring the Reagan Administration's deregulation of the Community Development Block Grant.

Steve, a young man at the age of 36, died while traveling to Savannah, Georgia, to speak to the Georgia Municipal League. Lin was pregnant with their fourth child, and Steve, who had been a public servant most of his adult life, had not had enough time to build a sufficient nest egg to properly take care of the future needs of his family.

Since its founding, the Bollinger Foundation has provided nearly three quarters of a million dollars to families who have lost a loved one, with assistance given to families of individuals having worked in community or economic development, or assisted housing, as Steve did.

The Foundation has helped countless families including families affected by the bombing of the Murrah Federal Office Building in Oklahoma City, in which the greatest loss of life and injury was to people who worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Numerous families have benefitted from the efforts of the Foundation and their committed members, and their efforts represent Steve's memory well. I am grateful for Steve, our friendship of long ago and or the continued work of the foundation bearing his name.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. LOIS CAPPS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following Roll Call votes on June 3, 2015 and would like to reflect that I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 289: No.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD MILLER

**HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Richard Miller, a resident

of Cheshire, Connecticut, who passed away recently at the age of 100.

Mr. Miller dedicated his life to serving others and was a leader in the community. He served on various municipal boards including the town's Board of Education, Cheshire Hospice, and Senior Center. He also volunteered with countless civic organizations and societies and served three elected terms as the town of Cheshire's Police Commissioner.

Mr. Miller was a long time member of the First Congregational Church in my hometown of Cheshire, and was a very active member of the Rotary. He also established the Cheshire Food Drive, and raised funds for countless charitable organizations.

Mr. Miller was a civil engineer who worked with The American Brass Company and Anaconda Copper before completing his career with Platt Brothers & Company in Waterbury, CT in 1981.

He served our country in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for four and a half years, mainly concerned with the training of Special Engineer service and combat units at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He was honorably discharged in April 1946 with the rank of Major CE.

Mr. Miller was an inspiration, and I know he is greatly missed by many, especially those in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TRADE  
TRANSPAREN-C RESOLUTION

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Trade Review Accountability Needs Sunlight and Preview of Any Regulations and Exact Negotiated Components Resolution, or the "Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution."

Congress has granted the last eighteen presidents the authority to negotiate trade agreements withdrawing significant Congressional participation in the process. The recent past has seen a transformation in this authority, originally established to serve as negotiating guidelines. Today, it is little more than Congressional consent to be a rubber stamp as this implementing legislation sometimes referred to as "Fast-Track" or "Trade Promotion Authority," grants sweeping authority to the Executive branch to negotiate trade deals. And it undercuts the Constitutional responsibility of Congress to regulate commerce with foreign nations as outlined in Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. Instead we are allowed merely an up or down vote.

Today, I introduce this resolution to take back our Congressional authority, and to shine light on the negotiation process and final text of these increasingly massive trade deals.

The Trade Promotion Authority currently under debate would usher through the top secret Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement. It would also grant that fast track authority for up to six years. During that time we would be prohibited from any Congressional amendments or hearings, and given at most 60 days to review any proposed trade deal. This is a very short window if you consider that the draft TPP is between 800-1000 pages.

My Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution will put a hold on consideration of any implementing "Fast-Track" bill for any trade agreement until the full, final text of that agreement has been available to the public for no less than 60 days. This includes the secretive TPP.

In its current form, the TPP would outsource good jobs, degrade global environmental and working standards and allow investor rights to overrun the rights of workers. The TPP is also packed with special-interest perks thanks to the more than 600 transnational corporations that weighed in on, and in some case wrote, the agreement in secret. Meanwhile the American people have still not been allowed to read it.

For six years the U.S. trade representative has kept the TPP buried under a top secret classification. Even Members of Congress can only read it in a secure room under the watchful eye of a security monitor. I visited that room to review several sections of the deal and was not allowed to make copies, keep notes, take pictures, or share anything I learned with anyone unless they have Top Secret security clearance, all under threat of prosecution.

Despite the secrecy, this deal has provisions the American people need to know about.

The Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution will reaffirm Congress's Constitutional authority to set the terms for international trade. It will allow the American public time and sunlight to see the Trans-Pacific Partnership and future trade deals for themselves. As Members of Congress, we have a duty to our constituents to play the role mandated by the Constitution. Not allowing the people access to the full discussion would be a disservice to them. I urge my colleagues to support the Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution to ensure U.S. trade policy reflects American principles of representative governance.

---

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to make two votes. On roll call vote 288, had I been present I would have voted "No." On roll call vote 289, had I been present I would have voted "Aye."

---

#### CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MS. MARGARET JACKSON

### HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Ms. Margaret

Jackson, a well respected Harlem activist, business woman and all around exemplary human being.

Margaret Jackson serves her community not merely through rhetoric but in her noble actions. The Martin Luther King Jr. Democratic Club exemplifies excellent civic service and brings hope and joy to countless citizens by keeping the legacy of the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. at the forefront of our collective cultural consciousness. Margaret Jackson was the president of that institution. Under her leadership, the club continued its core principle of continuing a sense of altruistic civic mindedness, the likes of which brought great pride to her community. She wasn't, however, merely a member of but one institution focused on community service; she was instrumental to several. Ms. Jackson was the treasurer of the Harlem YMCA where she worked with competence, professionalism, and dignity, and a member of St. Phillip's Episcopal Church where she served and worshipped with great dignity. She was the epitome of a civic minded spiritualist.

Margaret Jackson was an exceptional person, a polymath who mastered many trades and served the public in many ways. She not only made a great impact in the non-profit sector, but she owned several successful businesses. Margaret Jackson was president of two funeral homes, which she led with competence, humanitarian compassion, and a heartfelt and deeply meaningful sense of care towards the neediest among us: traits vital in the managing of a funeral home, where those who came to her needed compassion more than anything else. She also proved her economic expertise in her ownership of a successful realty corporation, which she ran skillfully and prosperously, but always with a civic minded wholly humanitarian desire to serve the needy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing this wonderful person and all of the good that she stood for. The United States is built upon the backs of its most civic and conscientious citizens.

---

#### HONORING CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST REV. FREDERICK D. REESE

### HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, June 4, 2015*

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor renowned civil rights leader Rev. Frederick D. Reese, a pillar in the Selma to Montgomery marches of 1965. This courageous Alabamian is being honored on Saturday June 7, 2015, in my hometown of Selma, Alabama, for his service and contributions to education and politics, as well as the fight for equality and justice. I am proud to be a part of efforts to pay homage to one of the most influential Americans in history.

Dr. Reese was born November 28, 1929. A believer in education, he graduated from Ala-

bama State University and Livingston University, and studied and attended Southern University, the University of Alabama and Auburn University before receiving his doctorate of divinity from Selma University.

Dr. Reese is an historic figure of modern history known for his support of civil rights. Dr. Reese rose to national prominence as a civil rights leader following "Bloody Sunday."

This beloved civil rights activist marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama in 1965, along with hundreds of other supporters. By the mid-1960's, Reese was President of the Dallas County Voter's League and was also a local teacher who presided over the Selma Teachers Association. Discouraged by Selma's efforts to hinder voter registration for African Americans, Dr. Reese advocated that teachers press the issue. Dr. Reese invited Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to lead Selma's voting rights protest.

Dr. Reese has served the Selma and Dallas County community faithfully and his exemplary work and commitment to social justice is well known. Notably, Dr. Reese hasn't left the community that he helped become the center of the civil rights movement in the 1960s. Dr. Reese has been quoted as saying his new fight is to inspire young people to lead purposeful lives.

"I tell young people today that they cannot rest on our victories," Dr. Reese said. "We have to remain committed. That means registering to vote and participating in what this country has to offer. That means making a difference for others."

Dr. Reese said that he marched so that everyone, regardless of color, could become a first-class citizen. Dr. Reese knows that you have to stand for what you believe in. He became nationally known for his beliefs and inspired others to stand as well. Dr. Reese has remained committed to education and service. He became a principal and a city councilman, serving 12 years on the Selma City Council. He also ran for mayor in 1984, and led a campaign to motivate Wal-Mart executives to hire African-Americans as store managers.

In 2000, in honor of his civil rights work, a stretch of more than three miles of U.S. Route 80, where he marched to Montgomery, was named the Frederick D. Reese Parkway. The F.D. Reese Christian Academy in Kokomo, Indiana, was also dedicated to him.

Dr. Reese has been the pastor of Selma's Ebenezer Baptist Church since 1965. Although he is retired from teaching, he still works as a Baptist minister and delivers a sermon to his congregation each week.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of Reverend Dr. F.D. Reese. We pay tribute to his distinguished career and honor his contributions and leadership in the civil rights movement. My deep appreciation is expressed for his courageous, distinguished and on-going service.