

IN RECOGNITION OF HAROLD
HOLZER

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Mr. Harold Holzer who has had an extraordinary and distinguished career as a communications director and historian. He is retiring after 23 years of invaluable service to the Metropolitan Museum of Art, the largest and most comprehensive art museum in the western hemisphere. Mr. Holzer helped broaden the media visibility of the Museum both here and abroad. In addition to his day job at the Museum, Mr. Holzer is widely considered one of the preeminent authorities on Abraham Lincoln and the political culture of the Civil War era. Mr. Holzer's impact on New York's civic and cultural life has been profound and his contributions to our understanding of the Civil War era have been incalculable.

Mr. Holzer began his career as a reporter and later editor for The Manhattan Tribune, going on to become political press secretary first for Bella Abzug during her campaigns for Senate and Mayor, and then for Mario Cuomo's Gubernatorial campaign. He served as a government speechwriter for Mayor Abraham Beame, leaving to become the public affairs director for WNET. From 1984 to 1992, he served Governor Mario Cuomo as Special Counselor to the Director of Economic Development and Executive Vice President for Public Affairs at the New York State Urban Development Corporation (NYSUDC), which was then involved in overseeing the construction of the Jacob K. Javits Convention Center.

In 1992, Mr. Holzer became Chief Communications Officer for the Metropolitan Museum. Four years later, he was promoted to Vice President and, in 2005, he was named the Senior Vice President for Public Affairs. In this capacity, Mr. Holzer has been responsible for supervising external affairs and overseeing publicity, marketing, audience research and tourism promotion for the Museum, and has served as chief spokesman on all local, national, and international issues. During his tenure, Mr. Holzer helped persuade government grantors to deliver unprecedented levels of funding to the Museum, which have, among other things, supported educational programs and critical improvements to the Museum's physical plant. He also created broadcast marketing partnerships with radio, television and the Internet, magnifying the Museum's outreach.

A prolific writer, Mr. Holzer has authored, coauthored, and edited over forty books on Abraham Lincoln and the Civil War. Some of his works include: *Lincoln at Cooper Union*, *The Lincoln Image*, and the 2015 Lincoln Prize-winning *Lincoln and the Power of the Press*. In 2008, Mr. Holzer received the National Humanities Medal from President George W. Bush, the highest recognition America awarded to individuals or institutions that have had a positive impact on the nation's understanding of the humanities.

Mr. Holzer authored *Lincoln: How Abraham Lincoln Ended Slavery in America*, the young-adult companion to Steven Spielberg's Academy Award-winning biopic, *Lincoln*. Mr. Holzer

also served as a script consultant on the adapted screenplay for the film.

President Bill Clinton appointed Mr. Holzer as cochairman of the U.S. Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Commission, which oversaw the planning of the national celebration of Lincoln's 200th birthday. Mr. Holzer served in that capacity from 2000–2009. He now serves as Chairman of the successor organization, the Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial Foundation.

Mr. Holzer lives in Rye, New York with his wife, Edith. They have two daughters and a grandson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Harold Holzer's talent, dedication and erudition. His contributions to our nation's civic and cultural life, as well as our understanding of President Lincoln and the extraordinary era when he was President will last long into the future.

TSCA MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 23, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 2576, the TSCA Modernization Act. While this bill is not perfect, it is a good step toward better protecting Americans and our environment from dangerous chemicals.

Current law, the Toxic Substance Control Act, passed in the 1970s and has been a failure. While its name implies that it gave the Environmental Protection Agency the authority to ensure the safety of many chemicals, in reality, its scope is severely limited and the standards for action are unreasonably high. It also restricted testing to thousands of chemicals that were already in use when it passed. Since it was enacted, EPA has partially regulated only five chemicals under the law.

Democrats have been calling for TSCA reform for many years, and today we are considering the first meaningful change. While it does not go as far as previous Democratic proposals, it represents significant progress over current law. It makes it easier for EPA to test chemicals using a risk-based approach, explicitly protects vulnerable populations, and provides more resources to get the job done. It also allows EPA to move more quickly to address the most toxic and harmful chemicals.

Our work is not done—the Senate is finalizing its proposal and we will have to reconcile our differences. I will continue to advocate for strong protections for American families and our environment. I am voting yes today to take an important step forward in that effort.

REAFFIRMING THE IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING A NUCLEAR ARMED IRAN

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, today our nation faces challenges across the globe, but there is no threat more central to current world order than the prospect of a nuclear armed Iran.

Tuesday, June 30, is the self-imposed negotiating deadline for the P5+1 over Iran's illicit nuclear program. At this critical juncture I am thankful for the Administration's repeated promise that no deal is better than a bad deal.

I want to remind my colleagues why this issue is so vital.

Even a threshold nuclear Iran—where they have a short breakout capacity—would lead to massive nuclear proliferation in the Middle East. We have already seen troubling statements from regional partners like Saudi Arabia about developing or purchasing nuclear weapons of their own.

Mr. Speaker, I don't need to tell you the consequences of possible proliferation of the world's most dangerous weapon in the world's most dangerous region.

Just look at the destructive role Iran is already playing in this chaotic region without nuclear weapons.

Iran is the most active state sponsor of terrorism, sending weapons and support to Hamas and Hezbollah. It is actively assisting rebel advances in Yemen, it has long destabilized Iraq and Lebanon, and it is propping up the brutal Assad regime in Syria. Not to mention that this Iranian regime systematically violates its own citizen's basic human rights.

That is why there is broad bipartisan support for preventing Iran from obtaining nuclear weapons, and on both sides of the aisle, we hope for a diplomatic solution to this crisis.

But we must be vigilant and ensure that if a deal is reached it truly is a good deal that verifiably prevents all Iranian pathways to a bomb.

Such a deal must include five key components: robust and intrusive inspections, phased sanctions relief that comes only as a result of Iranian compliance, dismantlement of key nuclear infrastructure, disclosure of possible military dimensions of the program, and a long timeline that gives the international community confidence that it can hold Iran accountable.

My colleagues and I will be watching closely and stand ready to scrutinize any final agreement to ensure the future security of our nation and that of our allies in the region.

HONORING DANIEL "DANNY"
DARIO VILLANUEVA

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 25, 2015

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and legacy of Daniel "Danny" Dario Villanueva, a dear friend, successful athlete and businessman, and champion of the little guy. Danny passed away unexpectedly at the age of 77. His death is a deep loss for Myrna, his wife, his sons Danny Jr. and Jim, and his extended family. Losing Danny brings equal sadness to all who believe in the American Dream and seek role models willing to answer that call to duty.

In reflecting on Danny Villanueva's accomplishments, the list is long. The better question to ask is: what didn't Danny accomplish. From his humble beginnings in Tulumcari, New Mexico—the ninth of twelve children of migrant missionary workers—and throughout the rest of his life, Danny pioneered a remarkable