

place these natural inhabitants of the earth in danger of extinction.

For example, the population of African elephants has decreased from 1.3 million to 400,000, with 22,000 poached in 2012.

Only 3,200 tigers remain in the wild, and these tigers remain in danger of being poached for their skins, bones and body parts.

H.R. 2494 works to enforce the United Nations Security Council multilateral sanctions against individuals and entities engaging in illicit trade of wildlife in support of armed groups like the Lord's Resistance Army, al-Shabaab and other terrorist organizations.

This legislation supports the efforts of the State Department under the Transnational Organized Crime Rewards Program to dismantle the wildlife trafficking syndicates in the global south from Africa to Asia.

This legislation supports the President's Executive Order 13648, geared at combatting wildlife trafficking, through the creation of a Presidential Task Force responsible for our national strategy to combat wildlife trafficking.

Indeed, the United States along with 40 countries from Africa, Asia, the Middle East and Latin America participated in the London Conference on the Illegal Wildlife Trade where we collectively committed to addressing the cultural, social, environmental and economic consequences of the illegal trade in wildlife.

Mr. Speaker, this bill seeks to protect endangered species, expand and professionalize wildlife enforcement networks through: assessment of the capacity of existing enforcement networks in member countries; establishment of a central secretariat to coordinate enforcement networks; facilitation of law enforcement and intelligence efforts and information sharing; utilization of the expertise of international bodies and civil society organizations to tackle the issue; and training of enforcement personnel, and the creation and institutionalization of a wildlife enforcement platform based on the rule of law.

Indeed, by making certain large-scale wildlife trafficking crimes predicate offenses for money laundering, racketeering, and smuggling, this bill elevates the seriousness of major wildlife trafficking offenses, putting wildlife crime on par legally with other forms of transnational organized crime.

Mr. Speaker, as ranking member on the House Judiciary Subcommittee on Crime, Terrorism, Homeland Security, and Investigations, this bill is a step in the right direction as it enforces existing laws, directs fines, forfeitures, and penalties, all imperative for wildlife conservation.

I strongly support H.R. 2494 because it supports on-the-ground efforts to protect species, including elephants, tigers, and rhinos from becoming victims of wildlife crime.

HONORING MRS. LATONYA  
WILLIAMS-BRADLEY

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 3, 2015*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable entrepreneur, Mrs. LaTonya Williams-Bradley.

Strands of long, black locks fell effortlessly onto the floor as a pair of young eyes looked

on eagerly—carefully observing the technique of the hands behind the shears that snipped away to create a new, edgy look.

Mrs. Williams-Bradley of Cleveland watched intently as her mother cut, washed and curled mane after mane, building a strong clientele at her Rosedale salon.

She remembers while sitting and observing her mother at her salon as a child, that she desired to follow in her mother's footsteps and become a hair stylist.

But, what she didn't know was that she would also become an agent, to help others do the same, as owner and CEO of Goshen School of Cosmetology in Cleveland, Mississippi.

As a single parent Mrs. Williams-Bradley received her cosmetology education at Coahoma Community College in Clarksdale, Mississippi, where she graduated in 2006.

After passing the state licensure to become a licensed cosmetologist, Mrs. Williams-Bradley returned to Coahoma Community College to further her cosmetology career to become a cosmetology instructor and completed that course of study in 2009. She was immediately offered the opportunity to become a cosmetology instructor at Coahoma Community College.

After working at Coahoma Community College she worked at Blue Cliff College in Gulfport, Mississippi as a cosmetology instructor.

During her tenure as an instructor she decided that it was time to pursue her dream of owning her salon and began researching entrepreneurship practices and opportunities, eventually, deciding it was time to pursue her dream of one day opening her own salon. In 2011 she opened Goshen Salon and Boutique in Cleveland, Mississippi. She chose the biblical name Goshen because it is a land of plenty, comfort and growth in Egypt. On July 29, 2013 she opened Goshen School of Cosmetology with a core curriculum and institution designed to promote growth, increase and comfort.

Now, what was once the dream of a little girl has become a reality. Mrs. Williams-Bradley has enjoyed substantial success in the exciting field of cosmetology. Where over the last nine years she owned and managed two successful hair salons while teaching at two colleges, inspired numerous students to strive for excellence and to achieve their maximum potential.

The motto she shares with others is "Whatever is your passion and your heart's desire—pursue it and be the best at it and believe that there is nothing too hard for God."

Mrs. Williams-Bradley is married to Tony Bradley and has four children: Teara, Tamaryea, Zira and Lauren. She is the daughter of Freddie and Barbara Graham and has two (2) siblings: Erica Jackson and Beauty Graham.

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

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CHELLIE PINGREE**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 3, 2015*

Ms. PINGREE. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote during the first vote of the last vote se-

ries on September 30, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on Roll Call Vote 527, which was the Adoption of H. Con. Res. 79, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of the Senate amendment to H.R. 719.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT HURT**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 3, 2015*

Mr. HURT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for Roll Call vote No. 582, a recorded vote on H.R. 1853. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RECOGNIZING THE CAREER OF  
T SANTORA

**HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, November 3, 2015*

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate T Santora on his long career as a Los Angeles labor leader, and as an influential activist for the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) individuals.

T has dedicated decades of his professional life to the Communications Workers of America, a union that protects the interests of thousands of L.A. workers. He has spent 35 years as a full-time CWA representative, working in both local and national positions.

Today, T is President Emeritus of CWA Local 9003, which represents a diverse membership of approximately 2,500 workers in the greater Los Angeles metropolitan area. He also chairs the Legislative-Political Committee of the CWA Southern California Council, representing 27,000 CWA members in Southern California. And he serves as National Co-Chair of the CWA Telecom Ad Hoc Committee, which regularly convenes workplace leaders in the telecommunications industry from the U.S., Canada, and Puerto Rico.

T is also a leader in the LGBT rights movement, and a powerful voice for the needs of LGBT laborers. From 1998 to 2005, he served as National Co-President of Pride at Work, the AFL-CIO's LGBT constituency group. In addition, he represented CWA on the Executive Board of The Leadership Conference on Civil and Human Rights, and on the Coalition of Labor Union Women's HIV/AIDS Advisory Board.

T believes in the need to make Los Angeles' workforce the best it can be. Last year, L.A. Mayor Eric Garcetti appointed T to the L.A. Workforce Development Board, where he serves on the Board's Executive Committee and chairs the Ad Hoc Committee on Expanding Apprenticeship Opportunities.

Finally, T cares deeply about the youth of Los Angeles. He is the Founder and an Executive Board Member of the CWA 9003 Children's Fund, a non-profit charitable organization which serves the needs of L.A.'s underprivileged and homeless children.

The L.A. City Council recently issued a resolution honoring T for his 30 years of community service. That honor was greatly deserved.