

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### INTERNATIONAL MEGAN'S LAW TO PREVENT DEMAND FOR CHILD SEX TRAFFICKING

SPEECH OF

**HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, February 1, 2016*

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, for years, the parents of the children who have been preyed upon by pedophiles—and advocacy groups like the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and the Megan Kanka Foundation—have been very supportive of legislation to better protect our children. Through their consistent, selfless work they have helped victims of abuse and have been an important part of the bipartisan, bicameral coalition supporting this important legislation. I urge my colleagues to read their statements submitted for the record, in support of passage of H.R. 515 The International Megan's Law to Prevent Demand for Child Sex Trafficking.

JANUARY 20, 2016.

Hon. PAUL D. RYAN,  
*Speaker of the House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR MR. SPEAKER AND MADAM LEADER: On behalf of ECPAT-USA, a policy and advocacy organization that has been at the forefront of the fight to end the commercial sexual exploitation of children for the past two decades, I would like to respectfully ask you consider supporting International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (H.R. 515). When ECPAT-USA first began our work, we focused on fighting sex tourism and holding Americans who traveled abroad to buy sex with minors accountable in the US for sexually exploiting children overseas. H.R. 515 or International Megan's Law protects children from this exact form of exploitation by establishing a notification system to provide advance notice of travel by registered sex offenders to destination countries. We strongly support this legislation and urge not only its swift passage but also a commitment to supporting this effort financially.

The Department of Homeland Security has a proven track record of working cooperatively with foreign governments, having made 99 arrests of traveling child sexual offenders since 2003. International Megan's Law will establish the Angel Watch Center at the Department of Homeland Security to ensure that all destination countries receive a notification that a convicted child sex predator is traveling to their country. It also formalizes the process for the U.S. Marshal's Service Sex Offender Targeting Center to provide advanced notice of travel by all registered sex offenders to destination countries using Interpol notification system. International Megan's Law also coordinates communication between Angel Watch Center and U.S. Marshal's Service Sex Offender Targeting center and streamlines the inter-

national notification system. We believe that these provisions are necessary to strengthen and protect vulnerable children from potential predators.

ECPAT-USA is part of a global network of over 80 ECPAT's in 77 countries all dedicated to protecting children from commercial sexual exploitation. Headquartered in Thailand, we are acutely familiar with the harm caused by sex offenders who travel overseas and continuously exploit children. As a member of the ECPAT network, we are committed to eradicating the practice of child sex tourism. For this reason, we were so pleased to see the Senate pass this bill late last year, and we applaud the efforts and dedication of the bill's original sponsor in the House Representative Chris Smith (R-NJ). We strongly urge the House to swiftly pass International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (H.R. 515). Sincerely,

CAROL SMOLENSKI,  
*Executive Director, ECPAT-USA.*

FAMILY RESEARCH COUNCIL,  
*Washington, DC, January 8, 2016.*

REPRESENTATIVE,  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE: On behalf of Family Research Council (FRC) and the families we represent, I urge you to vote for International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders ("Megan's Law," H.R. 515), to establish a system that prevents predators from traveling under the radar internationally.

Megan's Law would expand and codify Immigration and Customs Enforcement's ability to effectively alert countries about the travel of registered child-sex offenders, require convicted child-sex predators to have a unique passport identifier to ensure they can be identified at the border as they travel internationally, and ensure collaboration between the U.S. Marshal's Service and the Immigration and Customs Enforcement, making government work more effectively. The bill would also provide an appeals process for persons who want their record and notification status reconsidered and make it a crime for registered sex offenders to fail to report intended international travel with less than twenty-one days of notice. Ultimately, the law would facilitate a network to reduce child-sex tourism and reduce recidivism of child-sex offenders.

Family Research Council recognizes that it is important to protect families from child-sex abusers, supports passage of International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advanced Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (H.R. 515), and encourages you to vote for this important legislation.

Sincerely,  
DAVID CHRISTENSEN,  
*Vice President of Government Affairs.*

MEGAN NICOLE KANKA FOUNDATION,  
*Trenton, NJ, September 2015.*

Hon. MITCH MCCONNELL,  
*Russell Senate Office Building,*  
*Washington, DC.*

Hon. HARRY REID,  
*Hart Senate Office Building,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR SENATORS: This past August marked the twenty-first anniversary of the violent rape and murder of our seven year old daughter Megan at the hands of a twice-convicted pedophile. As a result of our pain, determination and the support of the public and representatives like you we have Megan's Law throughout the United States. However, children abroad are still unprotected from U.S. sex offenders.

We are grateful that the Congress is advancing the International Megan's Law (H.R. 515/S. 1867) to stop sex offenders from exploiting children internationally—we eagerly await a Senate vote on the bill so that it will become law before the end of the year.

When do we as a society truly stand behind our vows to protect the children of this world? Unfortunately for us, it took the murder of our seven year old daughter Megan for us to get involved.

This law has been eight years in the making. We urgently need your help and support now to prevent new tragedies.

Sincerely,

MAUREEN & RICHARD KANKA.

NATIONAL CENTER FOR  
MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN,  
*Alexandria, VA, January 12, 2016.*

Hon. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH,  
*House of Representatives,*  
*Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE SMITH: On behalf of the National Center for Missing & Exploited Children (NCMEC) and the families and children we serve, I am writing to express our support for your legislation. International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advance Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders (IML) (H.R. 515). NCMEC supports the goals of IML to help ensure the effective monitoring and compliance of sex offenders who have harmed children and pose a continuing risk to children in the United States and abroad.

NCMEC's Sex Offender Tracking Team (SOTT) assists federal, state, and local law enforcement in their efforts to locate and apprehend noncompliant, convicted sex offenders and determine if there is a possible link to unresolved cases of missing and sexually exploited children. Today, our SOTT analysts provide assistance to various law enforcement agencies, including the U.S. Marshals Service in the National Sex Offender Targeting Center.

Through our SOTT work, we have learned the difficulties law enforcement can face when monitoring sex offenders as well as the potential danger to children when noncompliant, convicted sex offenders travel within the United States or abroad, including the possibility that they will commit additional crimes against children. We believe the legislation you have sponsored—International Megan's Law—will enhance law enforcement's ability to monitor sex offenders when traveling abroad.

As you know, NCMEC also supported the companion bill sponsored in the Senate by

• 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.

Senators Richard Shelby and Barbara Mikulski. Provisions of their legislation were incorporated into H.R. 515 and then passed unanimously by the Senate in December. We now look forward to the House of Representatives prompt consideration of H.R. 515.

NCMEC is proud to lend our support to this important legislation, and we are grateful for your dedication to the safety of our nation's children.

Sincerely,

JOHN F. CLARK,  
*President and CEO.*

INTERNATIONAL CENTRE FOR  
MISSING & EXPLOITED CHILDREN,  
*Alexandria, VA, January 12, 2016.*

Re H.R. 515.

Hon. KEVIN MCCARTHY,  
*Majority Leader, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.*

Hon. NANCY PELOSI,  
*Democratic Leader, House of Representatives,  
Washington, DC.*

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE MCCARTHY AND REPRESENTATIVE PELOSI: On behalf of the International Centre for Missing & Exploited Children (ICMEC), I am writing in reference to H.R. 515, International Megan's Law to Prevent Child Exploitation and Other Sexual Crimes Through Advance Notification of Traveling Sex Offenders.

For almost two decades, ICMEC has been working around the world to advance child protection and safeguard children from abduction, sexual abuse and exploitation. ICMEC responds to requests for assistance from all over the world through advocacy, training and collaboration. We strive to inform and work with policy makers, law enforcement and others in an effort to enhance and enrich frontline child protection practices.

We strongly believe that all children have the right to live without fear of abduction and free from sexual abuse and exploitation. We believe every child deserves a safe childhood, where they are able to grow into healthy and successful adults.

We thank you for your efforts to protect children from exploitation, to keep known sex offenders from harming children again, and to promote and facilitate enhanced cooperation and information sharing within the global law enforcement community.

Sincerely,

AMBASSADOR MAURA HARTY, RET.  
*President & CEO.*

HONORING CAPTAIN BRIAN T.  
KENNEDY

HON. RYAN A. COSTELLO

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. COSTELLO of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I stand here today to pay tribute and express my deepest appreciation for the service and sacrifice of the 12 Marines missing off the coast of Hawaii, and especially Marine Captain Brian T. Kennedy of Malvern, PA.

Growing up in the Tredyffrin Township, Captain Kennedy attended school at the Tredyffrin/Eastown School District and graduated from Conestoga High School as a member of the National Honors Society and co-captain of the varsity football team.

Upon graduation, Captain Kennedy had the noble desire to serve his country and followed that aspiration to the U.S. Naval Academy where he continued his academic excellence and graduated with a major in Oceanography.

He was a leader by nature, holding many leadership positions at the Academy: a battalion weapons coach, a company platoon sergeant, a company executive officer, a company conduct officer, and a company squad leader.

After joining the Marine Corps as an officer, he was stationed in California where he met his loving and devoted wife, Captain Paige Kennedy.

Together, they both served to protect our country and our freedoms.

Mr. Speaker, as a CH-53E Super Stallion pilot, Captain Kennedy fought bravely for our freedoms in the Global War on Terror, which is proven by the numerous decorations awarded.

Unfortunately, after the helicopter crash in Hawaii and an exhaustive search over 40,000 nautical square miles by the Marines and Coast Guard, Captain Kennedy and his comrades have not been found.

We as a nation are truly indebted to those 12 Marines for the ultimate sacrifice they have made in service to this great nation.

And it is with great respect and appreciation that I extend my condolences to their friends and families.

RECOGNIZING WAWA EMPLOYEE  
OWNERSHIP

HON. PATRICK MEEHAN

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. MEEHAN. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, the House passed H.R. 1675, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2015. This legislation will make it easier for companies to let hardworking employees have a stake in the company where they work every day. Companies who have significant employee ownership regularly realize a boost in the company's performance, because ownership gives the employees a vested interest in the success of the company.

I'd like to especially highlight one such organization in my district, Wawa, Inc. Wawa has had an Employee Stock Ownership Plan (ESOP) since 1992 and has shared ownership with its associates for more than 40 years. Wawa associates own almost 41 percent of the company through the ESOP, and that pride in ownership is on display every single day. From customer services associates to general managers, Wawa employees share in the company's success and are able to accumulate significant retirement savings. It is important to these workers and those across the country who participate in ESOPs that these ownership and retirement programs remain strong.

HONORING OFFICER MATTHEW  
MOORE AFTER HIS PASSING ON  
JANUARY 23, 2016

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Granite State hero and fallen police offi-

cer Matthew Moore of Hampstead, New Hampshire.

On January 23, 2016, the State of New Hampshire lost a true Granite State hero. During this time of great sadness, we remember and celebrate the life of not only a tremendous police officer, but also a father, husband and friend.

Moore devoted his life to protecting our families and our communities through his military service as a Marine, and his time as a police officer in the towns of Pelham, Sandown and Hampstead.

As his family, friends, neighbors and fellow police officers knew, Moore was really one of a kind. The dedication and compassion he demonstrated during his years of service are not—and will not—be forgotten.

It takes a remarkable individual like Matthew Moore to risk their life daily to keep us safe and protect us from harm. So let us take a moment today and pause, reflect, and celebrate the life and valor of Officer Moore. He put his life on the line to protect the Granite State, and we are forever grateful.

TRIBUTE TO DEAN STONE

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. DUNCAN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, Dean Stone has served as Editor of The Daily Times in Maryville, Tennessee for more than six decades.

Recently, he retired from his full-time position.

As The Daily Times recounted in a tribute piece devoted to Dean, he oversaw and outlasted an industry that changed from "hot type, to computer-generated type, to the internet."

Dean is the standard of journalistic fairness and integrity in my District and a towering figure in East Tennessee.

Mr. Speaker, I call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers the tribute to Dean's career that ran in The Daily Times on December 27, 2015, and wish him well on his much-earned retirement.

STONE, FIXTURE IN TENNESSEE JOURNALISM  
SINCE 1948, RETIRES FROM THE DAILY TIMES

(By Daryl Sullivan)

H. Dean Stone has outlasted four owners and six publishers, while seeing the news move from hot type, to computer-generated type, to the Internet, all the while recording Blount County history.

Stone will still be writing, but as 2015 comes to a close, he is retiring from the newsroom—but not without having made an indelible mark on Tennessee journalism and his community, a mark that has earned him the title of editor emeritus at The Daily Times.

"Dean Stone serves as an exemplar for all who are engaged in community journalism," said Gregg Jones, president and CEO of Jones Media Inc., owner of The Daily Times. "Dean never limited himself to merely leading the newsroom, but served as a leader in community affairs. He understood, and exemplified, that community journalism is best practiced when one is immersed in the community one serves, and he has done so—from Alcoa Kiwanis, to Great Smoky Mountains National Park. I first met Dean Stone

decades ago when The Daily Times was owned and published by the late, great Tutt Bradford. It didn't take me long to see what a giant Dean was in terms of the passion he felt for his beloved community and for good journalism. Dean became, and will remain, one of Blount County's greatest treasures, and I will always be proud to claim him as a friend for whom I have great respect and affection."

"It's hard to express how humbled and appreciative I am to have had the opportunity to work with Dean, day in and day out, the past five years," Publisher Carl Esposito said. "As he's done his entire career, he's contributed greatly to our success during that period, and I'm grateful he'll continue to contribute as editor emeritus. He's become not only a valued and trusted colleague, but a great friend as well."

Stone arrived at what was then The Maryville-Alcoa Daily Times on June 19, 1948, but did not begin his full-time journalism career until 1949, when he was named editor of the paper's first Sunday edition. The Sunday edition was short-lived—published from February through June of that year—but Stone, who was then named managing editor, began laying the groundwork for a career that has spanned more than 66 years.

#### WORKING JOURNALIST

"I've been very well blessed with the people I've been associated with at The Times over the years," Stone said. "I've enjoyed my time here. This is my birthplace. It's my home county."

As for his own personal success, he attributes that to a trait many leaders with successful careers fields share.

"I feel blessed in that I've had a determination to work. Now that comes not from seeking recognition, but from achievement, knowing that I've done something worthwhile," Stone said. "I've received a lot of really nice recognitions, but I worked because I feel like there's a need for all humans to work and earn our keep. I'm thankful that I've been driven by that all these years, and still am."

#### NEWSPAPER OF RECORD

Under his direction in 1953, The Maryville-Alcoa Times won the University of Tennessee's State Press award for Public Service. Since then, it has captured literally hundreds of state and regional awards.

In 1955, Tutt S. Bradford became the fifth owner of Blount County's newspaper of record, and Stone was there to greet him.

In 1988, Stone was named editor.

In December 1989, the Bradford family sold The Daily Times to Persis Corp., a Honolulu-based newspaper group headed by Thurston Twigg-Smith, publisher of The Honolulu Advertiser. Persis Corp. was also owner of The Knoxville Journal, what was then a daily newspaper. Stone greeted them, and said goodbye to both: The Journal ceased publication on New Years Eve 1991, and Persis Corp. later sold The Daily Times to Horvitz Newspapers, headed by Peter Horvitz.

In 2010, Jones Media Inc., a Greeneville-based family newspaper group with deep roots in Tennessee journalism, purchased The Daily Times. Stone, with his deep appreciation of community and history, was here to greet them.

(In December 1989, when the company that owned The Knoxville Journal purchased The Daily Times from the Bradford family, the late Phyllis Cable greeted this journalist in the newsroom with the words, "I hope they know they bought a tremendous amount of goodwill when they bought this newspaper." I learned over the following years that a huge amount of that goodwill came through the work of Dean Stone.)

#### YEARS OF SERVICE

Over the years, Stone has served in numerous nonprofit organizations, even outlasting

some of them: president and campaign chair of United Way of Blount County; president of Maryville-Alcoa Jaycees and Alcoa Kiwanis; board member of Great Smoky Mountains Heritage Center, Little River Railroad Museum, Sam Houston Schoolhouse, Hillbilly Homecoming, Passion Play, Friendsville Academy, Townsend Chamber of Commerce; deacon in Maryville First Baptist Church, and chaired publication of a history of Chihowee Baptist Association churches.

He founded and co-founded numerous community organizations, including the Empty Pantry Fund, in 1952, and Leadership Blount, which in 2002 awarded him the Community Leadership Award.

Stone has received countless other awards, including Blount County's Pride of Tennessee Award, the Distinguished Alumni Award from the University of Oklahoma, special recognition from the director of the National Park Service, and the Tennessee Air National Guard's highest award, the Minuteman Award.

He was longtime chairman of the Tennessee Great Smoky Mountains Park Commission, member of the Tennessee Historical Commission, and the Southeastern Regional Council of the National Parks Conservation Association. In 2003, Stone was presented the Tennessee Outstanding Achievement Award for service on state commissions, and in 2006 he was recognized for his community service with a joint state Senate and House resolution.

#### PRESERVING HISTORY

In 2007, he was awarded the East Tennessee Historical Society's first Professional Achievement Award for his ongoing preservation of local history, most recently through a series of books entitled, "Snapshots of Blount County History."

During his journalism career, he has twice served as president of Tennessee Associated Press Managing Editors, is a lifelong member of the Society of Professional Journalists, a 50-year member of the Professional Photographers of America, and author of a newspaper handbook, "Newspapers: Making the Most of the News Department."

And perhaps the award that says it all is this: In 2013, Stone was in the inaugural group of those inducted into the Tennessee Journalism Hall of Fame.

Stone once told an interviewer, "To be perfectly honest with you, probably the last thing I ever thought I'd do would be to end up writing."

Quite an accomplishment for something that was the "last thing" on his mind.

#### GRATITUDE FOR THE SERVICE OF NORBERTO SALINAS

#### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I, along with House Judiciary Committee Chairman BOB GOODLATTE of Virginia, would like to honor Norberto Salinas for his nearly nine years of dedicated service to the Committee on the Judiciary. Norberto's work in advising and crafting policy on intellectual property, state taxation, arbitration, sports law, and many other issues were invaluable to the Committee.

A proud native of Arlington, Texas, Norberto came to the Committee after practicing law in the District of Columbia. He earned his Bachelor's degree from Wabash College and grad-

uated from the University of Michigan Law School. During law school, he interned at the Michigan Poverty Law Program, which provides support services to legal aid programs throughout Michigan, and the Lawyers Committee for Civil Rights Under Law. He continued his passionate work for legal services on the Committee, where he served as the lead counsel and liaison to the Legal Services Corporation, a critical federally-funded program that provides grants for civil legal assistance to the indigent.

He played an important role on budget and appropriations issues for the Committee. He also organized forums for the Committee on the impact certain budget proposals and the Federal shutdown and sequestration would have on the provision of justice in the United States.

Throughout his tenure with the Committee, Norberto worked with his colleagues across the aisle on a wide variety of bills. He was responsible for helping guide several legislative measures including remote sales tax, the Fairness in Nursing Home Arbitration Act, the Mobile Workforce State Income Tax Simplification Act, the Innovation Protection Act, the Open Book on Equal Access to Justice Act, and updates to the Internet Tax Freedom Act. He also worked on regulatory and arbitration provisions in several comprehensive legislative proposals, including the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act and the 2008 Farm bill.

Norberto's friendly nature, work ethic, and expertise earned him the respect and admiration of his colleagues on both sides of the aisle. He has been a valued member of the Committee's staff.

We are grateful to have had the opportunity to work with Norberto. Norberto and his talents will be sorely missed by the Committee. We wish him well in his future endeavors.

#### IN HONOR OF ASSISTANT CHIEF MARK DANT'S RETIREMENT FROM THE CARROLLTON POLICE DEPARTMENT

#### HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 4, 2016

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Dant for his thirty-eight years of public service, ending this month as an Assistant Chief for the Carrollton, Texas Police Department. Prior to his service with the Carrollton Police Department, Mark served four years in the United States Air Force and two and a half years as a firefighter with the Dallas/Ft. Worth International Airport Department of Public Safety. For the last thirty-two years, Mark has been serving and protecting the people of Carrollton as a Patrol Officer, Detective, Patrol Sergeant, Lieutenant, and Assistant Chief of Police.

Mark's service to the community isn't limited to his direct roles for the Carrollton Police Department, far from it—he and his family have become national leading advocates for patients of rare diseases. It is through this work that I have had the distinct pleasure of working with Mark for almost ten years. Mark and his wife Jeanne are parents of one child, Ryan, who currently attends the University of

Louisville. In 1992, their son Ryan was diagnosed with the then terminal genetic disease Mucopolysaccharidosis (MPS Type 1). Shortly after learning of this diagnosis, Mark founded The Ryan Foundation to raise funds for developing treatments for the disease. The Dant family's first fundraising effort, a bake sale, netted \$342. The foundation has come a very long way since that first bake sale, much to the tenacious determination of Mark Dant. Millions of research dollars over the years have been donated to scientists searching for treatments to help those afflicted with the various forms of MPS. The Ryan Foundation's efforts spearheaded the funding for the first MPS Enzyme Replacement Therapy—Aldurazyme. Ryan Dant is the longest treated person in the world on Aldurazyme, which to date is approved to treat children with MPS in more than 75 countries. What all started as a bake sale in Carrollton has blossomed into helping children with a previously untreatable disease all around the world.

To help support the tireless efforts of the Dant family and the countless individuals, I introduced the Ryan Dant Health Care Opportunity Act, H.R. 1441 in the 111th Congress. Much to the hard work of Mark Dant and his family, this legislation achieved over fifty bipartisan cosponsors. Mark's advocacy for individuals afflicted by rare diseases will not cease anytime soon—he is expanding upon the initial volunteer efforts of a heartfelt concerned father many years ago, and will now serve as the Executive Director of the National MPS Society in Durham, North Carolina. I can think of no one better suited or well qualified for this position than Mark. Though the people of Carrollton are losing one of their finest public servants, countless affected individuals will now have the best person they could ever ask for leading the efforts in developing treatments and awareness for MPS.

I ask for all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Mark Dant on his well-earned retirement from the Carrollton Police Department. I wish Mark, and the Dant family much new success with the National MPS Society.

HONORING POLICE SERGEANT STEVEN HENDERSON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM THE HAMPTON POLICE DEPARTMENT AFTER 30 YEARS IN LAW ENFORCEMENT

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Sgt. Steven Henderson on his retirement after 30 years of service with the Hampton Police Department, and thank him for the outstanding work he did during his career.

Sgt. Henderson's continuous progression within the law enforcement ranks during his time exemplifies his intelligence, positive attitude, and commitment to protecting and serving his community with the utmost professionalism. It's clear that Sgt. Henderson leaves an example of strong leadership and compassion for others to emulate in his wake.

It is with great admiration that I congratulate Sgt. Henderson on his retirement, and wish him the best on all future endeavors.

H.R. 1675, THE CAPITAL MARKETS IMPROVEMENTS ACT AND H.R. 766, THE FINANCIAL INSTITUTION CUSTOMER PROTECTIONS ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, this week, I voted against H.R. 1675, the Capital Markets Improvements Act and H.R. 766, the Financial Institution Customer Protections Act—both missed opportunities to garner the strong bipartisan consensus needed to appropriately refine our nation's financial oversight rules.

While I am sympathetic to concerns of small businesses, and remain ready to work with my Republican colleagues to address those concerns, I continue to support strong, targeted oversight of our financial markets. Strong consumer and market protection regulations, administered by the Securities and Exchange Commission (SEC), are needed to prevent the risky practices that badly damaged our economy during the Great Recession. These rules are also necessary to put a stop to the predatory lending practices and financial gimmickry that wreaked havoc on the economic security of Oregon's working families.

These two bills exemplify the Republican leadership's unwillingness to work with Democrats to strengthen our nation's financial oversight. It is clear that these bills were unnecessarily partisan, making them unpalatable in the Senate and veto targets for President Obama. While there are elements of H.R. 1675 that I have voted for in the past and continue to support, the bill that was brought to the floor yesterday included poison pills, like requiring a review and full commission vote on every major rule every 10 years under full Administrative Procedure Act-style requirements would severely hinder the SEC's ability to monitor markets and protect investors. The vast majority of Democrats rejected a similar proposal in the previous Congress. Today, the Financial Services Committee leadership forced a partisan vote on H.R. 766 by including provisions that would restrict the ability of government watchdogs to investigate and hold accountable those who perpetrate financial wrongdoing.

Appropriate financial rules should protect American families and the broader economy without being unduly burdensome to small businesses and innovative entrepreneurs. When the Administration misses this mark, it is my hope that Congress can work in a constructive, bipartisan manner to refine regulations, tailoring them to strike an appropriate balance between business and consumer needs. Unfortunately, this week's efforts fail to meet that standard.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JAMES A. HIMES**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. HIMES. Mr. Speaker, on February 3, 2016, I was unable to be present to cast my vote on the Carolyn B. Maloney of New York amendment to H.R. 1675. Had I been present for rollcall No. 59, I would have voted "AYE."

RECOGNIZING THE RETIREMENT OF COMMANDER AXEL W. SPENS

**HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Commander Axel W. Spens's retirement and twenty-two years of service in the United States Navy.

Commander Spens is a native of Morgantown, West Virginia, and most recently served as the commanding officer of Naval Recruiting District (NRD) Atlanta. He graduated in 1994 from David Lipscomb University in Nashville, Tennessee, with a degree in American Studies and he received his commission in the U.S. Navy from Vanderbilt University NROTC. In 1993, he was recognized as a NAIA Academic All-American athlete in cross country. In 2000, he received a Master of Public Administration degree from Valdosta State University.

Commander Spens completed submarine training at Naval Nuclear Power School in Orlando, Florida, Nuclear Power Training Unit in Charleston, South Carolina, and the officer basic course in Groton, Connecticut. He served as a division officer in USS *West Virginia* in Kings Bay, Georgia, as the Navigator in USS *Florida* in Bangor, Washington, and the Combat Systems Officer in both USS *Newport News* in Norfolk, Virginia, as well as in USS *La Jolla* in Pearl Harbor, Hawaii. His most recent sea assignment was as the executive officer on USS *Cheyenne* in Hawaii. He has completed two Mediterranean deployments, two Western Pacific deployments and seven strategic patrols.

Commander Spens has also served as an instructor and class director at the Naval Nuclear Power School in Charleston, South Carolina, at the Bureau of Naval Personnel in Millington, Tennessee, the operations officer at Submarine Squadron One at Pearl Harbor, and as a Navy Legislative Fellow on the personal staff of Congressman Jack Kingston. His most recent assignment was on the Navy Staff as the Executive Assistant for the Director of Undersea Warfare.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to recognize Commander Axel Spens and to celebrate his many years of hard work and dedication to the United States Navy.

HONORING MR. AND MRS. BUCHENAUER OF MANCHESTER, NH ON CELEBRATING THEIR 65TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. FRANK C. GUINTA**

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to express my congratulations to Mr. and Mrs. Buchenauer of Manchester, New Hampshire for recently celebrating their 65th anniversary. After 65 years of marriage, I applaud their dedication and commitment to one another. It's clear they have both been exemplary members of our community, and I wish them the best in all future endeavors.

CELEBRATING 2016 NATIONAL  
CATHOLIC SCHOOLS WEEK

**HON. DAN BENISHEK**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. BENISHEK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate 2016 National Catholic Schools Week. Across the First District of Michigan, there are 22 Catholic schools providing a first rate education to over 4,100 students that combines faith with academic excellence. Since coming to Congress, it has been an honor to meet with students in Catholic schools across my district at St. Francis de Sales in Manistique, Manistee Catholic Central School in Manistee, and Menominee Catholic Central School in Menominee, among others.

This year, the theme of National Catholic Schools Week is “Catholic Schools: Communities of Faith, Knowledge, and Service.” As a lifelong Catholic, former student, and frequent guest of schools across Northern Michigan, I know that the Catholic schools in our region are certainly living up to these goals.

This year, Congress was blessed to hear from Pope Francis. Pope Francis has called on all Catholic schools to “provide an education which teaches critical thinking and encourages the development of mature moral values.”

In light of this, I have signed onto House Resolution 35, a resolution that honors the contributions that Catholic schools have made to the United States and its people. I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 35, and urge my colleagues to support this resolution as well. Together, we must all recognize the significant contributions that Catholic schools have made to our country.

HONORING BOONE EVANS

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Boone Evans. Boone is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Boone has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Boone has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Boone has led his troop as the Senior Patrol Leader, earned the rank of Firebuilder in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say, and has become a Brotherhood member of the Order of the Arrow. Boone has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Boone Evans for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

IN RECOGNITION OF NICOLINA  
(NICKI) R. CARDWELL FOR HER  
DEDICATED CAREER OF PUBLIC  
SERVICE

**HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize one of our own. On Friday, January 22, 2016, Ms. Nicolina (Nicki) Cardwell retired from my office after serving a combined seventeen years for the people of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District as a Community Affairs Liaison for eleven years in my Independence District Office and six years with my predecessor. Overall, Nicki dedicated four decades of public service to our community, as a teacher, county employee, and ultimately retiring from Congressional service, spending much of her career based in Eastern Jackson County, Missouri.

Born May 7, 1947, to an Italian mother, Silva Piva, and a Kansan father, George Morris, Nicolina Rowena Maria Cardwell often reminds folks of her proud Italian heritage. After studying at Central Missouri State University and taking time to raise a beautiful family, Nicki returned to school. At the University of Missouri-Kansas City, she earned a Bachelor of Science in Physical Education and Health, going on to teach in public and private schools in Independence, helping to shape future generations.

Nicki has spent much of her adult life as a resident of Independence, Missouri, home to Harry S. Truman, 33rd President of the United States. She is well known throughout the area, as she has been an active volunteer in the community and politically active for causes and individuals she supports. In 1988, Nicki joined the Jackson County Parks and Recreation Department, holding a variety of positions over the next ten years, including in the Speaker's Bureau, where she helped introduce thousands of individuals to Jackson County's programs, facilities, and parks. Among many other responsibilities, Nicki assisted with marketing, group events, and public relations while working for the County.

In 1999, Nicki joined the staff of my predecessor, Congresswoman Karen McCarthy. While being considered for the position, some of her prior employers called her, “the best we've ever had dealing with the public,” and “a hard worker—very good.” As she assumed her new role as a caseworker, Nicki handled passports, immigration, and veterans issues among others impacting residents of Missouri's Fifth District. She was often the recipient of great praise from constituents she helped, including in one letter to the editor in which the constituent had faced repeated roadblocks before making his first call to a Congressional office. He wrote:

“ . . . I called [the Congressional] office expecting another difficult process. Nicki Cardwell called me back within five minutes. She proceeded to treat me as if I were ‘family.’ I know that she is very busy, but I felt like I was the only one on her agenda. She went beyond the call of duty and even met with me on a Saturday afternoon to complete the paperwork I needed . . . She made me feel very comfortable throughout the entire process. She took a lot of stress off my shoulders, and

I would just like others to know how considerate and kind a government employee can be.”

This type of praise was not uncommon for Nicki. Her personnel folder is full of thank you notes and emails referring to her as “jumping right into the action”, “could not have been more helpful”, and “beyond the call of duty.” Her dedication to constituents led one individual to even refer to her positively as a “bulldog” and went on to say “You're lucky to have such a person on your staff.”

So it should come as no surprise, Mr. Speaker, that when I was first elected to Congress in November, 2004, I knew immediately who my first staff hire would be. The list of civic leaders and elected officials advocating that I hire Nicki was lengthy, but they did not need to convince me. I knew after our conversation that a more passionate and caring caseworker did not exist.

Over the past eleven years, Nicki has helped thousands of constituents. She has worked primarily with our veterans and active military personnel, but does not hesitate to jump in to help whenever needed. She often would spend hours listening to constituents in person or on the telephone as they shared their struggles with her, pleased to find an empathetic listener. Her compassion for the men and women in uniform who have served and continue to serve our nation is unparalleled. She regularly attended Stand Downs, Veterans Day, and Memorial Day events with me, or on my behalf. She worked to honor veterans through helping to arrange special events for Vietnam veterans, Korean veterans, World War I veterans, World War II veterans, and Tuskegee Airmen, just to name a few. She created a Veterans Advisory Committee to help serve as a sounding board when important issues arose within the VA system or in proposed legislation. In addition, Nicki spent countless hours every year helping our young people going through the Academy nomination process, giving counsel and advice to those eager to join our prestigious military institutions.

Given Nicki's background, she often assisted with many of our special projects as well. There have been too many projects to name them all, but the one that stands out is our annual Congressional Art Contest. Nicki's leadership helped shepherd record participation with nearly 200 pieces of artwork from high school students around the Fifth District being submitted for consideration. She worked personally with principals and art teachers to encourage submissions to guarantee all parts of the District were well represented. She carefully handled and displayed each piece as if it were her own. She helped secure some of our community's strongest advocates for the arts to judge the students' submissions to ensure the winning artwork hanging in the Cannon Tunnel represented the best of our District. Students and teachers alike have come to rely on Nicki's friendship and expertise and they will surely miss her guidance, as will I.

In addition to Nicki's primary role as a caseworker, she also regularly represented the office at meetings and events throughout the District. She was a regular at the Independence Chamber of Commerce, the Eastern Jackson County Betterment Council, the National World War I Museum and Memorial, the Truman Presidential Library and Museum, and 40 Club to name but a few. She is as well

known in our community as anyone and oftentimes when I would join her for an appearance at one of these events, individuals would approach me to share how much they appreciated Nicki's active participation and unequalled dedication to the people of our District.

Mr. Speaker, as my colleagues in this Chamber know, we are regularly pulled in many directions as we try to represent the nearly 800,000 constituents in our Districts. Oftentimes, it is our staff, serving behind the scenes, helping to ensure those constituents get prompt attention as they maneuver through the bureaucratic hurdles that regrettably get in the way. There is not a member of this esteemed body who wouldn't be proud to have Nicki Cardwell on their team, and her service has certainly been a blessing for me. She is a loyal, caring, and compassionate individual whose commitment to Missouri's Fifth District will be sorely missed. As she retires to spend more time with her family and loved ones, I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing her lifetime of dedication to our community and country and wishing her continued success. The people of Missouri's Fifth District, including me, are better off because of Ms. Nicolina R. Cardwell.

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IN RECOGNITION OF CHIEF  
RODNEY JONES

**HON. NORMA J. TORRES**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chief Rodney Jones of the Fontana Police Department for his 35 years of service to the Inland Empire.

Chief Jones began his career as a public safety official in 1981 and has since served in various capacities to lead police activity in the City of Fontana where his work throughout the years has earned him praise from both his peers and residents of the community. Chief Jones' leadership has also garnered him numerous commendations from national, state, and local police organizations for his outstanding service. All of these accolades highlight his extraordinary commitment to public safety, which has greatly benefited the people of our region.

Chief Jones' distinguished career in law enforcement is further bolstered by his role as head of the Fontana Police Department. Throughout his tenure as Chief of Police, he administered many reforms that have enhanced public safety in the region. His accomplishments include overseeing a \$12 million expansion of Fontana's police headquarters and implementing modern police procedures to improve operations in the area.

On Friday, February 5th, Chief Jones will retire from the Fontana Police Department. He will be missed by the community. I thank him for his contributions to our region and wish him the best in his future endeavors.

For his many contributions to the Fontana Police Department and other achievements, I would like to recognize Chief Rodney Jones.

CONGRATULATING RONNIE  
METSKER

**HON. KEVIN YODER**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate my good friend Ronnie Metsker for his appointment to serve the State of Kansas as Johnson County Election Commissioner.

Ronnie is honest, trustworthy, sincere, and a true gentleman.

He served with me as a member of the Kansas State House of Representatives from 2006 to 2009.

He's been a long-time member of both the Overland Park and Northeast Johnson County Chambers of Commerce, as well as on the Shawnee Mission Rotary Board of Directors, working to bring more jobs and better paychecks to the community.

He's fought for the best education for our children and future generations on the Shawnee Mission School District Committee for Excellence.

But most of all, he is my friend.

I want to thank Ronnie for making Johnson County a better place over the course of decades of hard work on behalf of the community.

I should also mention Ronnie's wife, Susan, is a member of my district staff. Together these two make a great team and much have dedicated their lives to public service.

There is no better person to ensure the integrity of the elections in our county.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of this great body, I send heartfelt congratulations to Commissioner Metsker.

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HONORING GRANT CORKILL

**HON. SAM GRAVES**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Corkill. Grant is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1412, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Grant has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project. Grant planned and led the construction of a perch pole at Smithville Lake for eagles and other birds to rest on within easy sight for bird-watchers.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Grant Corkill for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

RECOGNIZING THE 75TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF THE USO

**HON. JEFF MILLER**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 75th anniversary of the United Service Organizations Inc. (USO). The USO is a shining example of what can be achieved by an organization committed to serving those who wear the uniform. Throughout its proud history, the USO has served millions of servicemembers and their families, ensuring that our Nation's heroes remain connected to their communities and families wherever their service to our country may take them.

As Thomas Jefferson wrote during his time as the United States Ambassador to France, "No society is so precious as that of one's own family." The brave men and women who choose to serve our Nation, to protect and uphold our Constitution, understand that their decision may lead to extended absences from their loved ones. While they take on this sacrifice without asking for anything in return, the USO was founded on the belief that, when the military mission takes our servicemembers away from their loved ones, we have a duty to support them by keeping them connected to their family, their home, and our country.

The USO was formed during one of the most challenging periods in our history. With the United States on the brink of entry into World War II, President Franklin Roosevelt brought together six private organizations—the YMCA, YWCA, National Catholic Community Service, the National Jewish Welfare Board, the Traveler's Aid Association and the Salvation Army—to create a new organization wholly dedicated to maintaining the bonds of family and comforts of home. In response, these organizations pooled their resources, and, on February 4, 1941, the USO was born.

As American servicemembers began fighting in World War II, the USO teamed up with Coca-Cola to provide every servicemember with the taste of home, and they also established the world famous USO show concept. From 1941 to 1947, an incredible 428,521 USO shows were performed, and by the end of World War II more than 1.5 million Americans had volunteered on the USO's behalf.

Building on their incredibly successful efforts during World War II, the USO has accompanied our troops during wartime in Korea, Vietnam, the Persian Gulf, Afghanistan, and Iraq. In Korea, not a single day passed without a USO show for the troops, while in Vietnam the USO's 17 centers in Vietnam and six in Thailand served more than a million servicemembers a month, including with the famous Bob Hope USO Christmas shows. In recognition of their work, the USO entered into a memorandum of agreement with the Department of Defense in 1987, which recognized the USO as the principal channel representing civilian concerns for servicemembers worldwide.

Today, the USO, with the support of 30,000 volunteers and 600 employees, provides services, entertainment, and programs at more than 180 locations worldwide. From Afghanistan, Kuwait, the United Arab Emirates, and Djibouti, to Germany Italy, Japan, South

Korea, and Guam, and of course right here at home, USO centers are visited more than 7 million times a year by servicemembers and their families. These USO centers allow traveling servicemembers and their families to have a place to enjoy some of the comforts of home, and they are an integral part of the USO's success.

Mr. Speaker, assisting our servicemembers and fighting for our veterans as Chairman of the House Committee on Veterans' Affairs and as Founding Co-Chair of the USO Congressional Caucus is my greatest honor serving in Congress. The men and women who put on the uniform choose a life of selflessness, putting their service to our Nation above all else. As a grateful Nation, we have a duty and responsibility to support them in any way possible, and there is no greater example of civilians coming together to show our recognition and support for our servicemembers than the USO. The USO keeps our brave men and women in uniform driving on, while adhering to that simple promise made by President Lincoln so many years ago: "To care for him who shall have borne the battle." My wife Vicki and I congratulate the USO on their 75th anniversary, and thank the dedicated volunteers and all those who work with the USO to help show our Nation's eternal gratitude to our servicemembers and their families "until everyone comes home."

IN HONOR OF PASTOR WILLIE E.  
MANLEY

### HON. JUAN VARGAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. VARGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pastor Willie E. Manley, a true leader and servant of the community of San Diego. Pastor Manley passed away on Friday, February 2, 2016, in his beloved city of San Diego.

Pastor Manley was born in 1933 in Stephens, Arkansas. In 1966, he left his congregation in chilly Milwaukee, Wisconsin, to conduct a revival in San Diego. On May 4, 1973, he started his pastoral duties at the Greater Life Baptist Church of San Diego, which he founded and served as pastor emeritus.

Pastor Manley was well known throughout the church and civic community for his honesty and integrity. Many residents in the San Diego community would call on him for answers and solutions. He was a man of great strength and courage. One who did not boast of himself, but rather, humbly gave his all to the people. Under his leadership, the Greater Life Baptist Church congregation has grown from forty-five to over three hundred members, giving many a safe place to come together and worship.

Pastor Manley was also a dedicated public servant and an incredibly active member of our community. He spent several years as a member of my staff when I was a Councilmember in the City of San Diego and as district staff to former Member of Congress, Randall Duke Cunningham.

Pastor Manley was a relentless champion for civil rights. He was the president and first

ever vice president of the San Diego branch of National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP). His commitment was recognized globally and he was honored, in 2003, with the very prestigious Ambassador of Peace Award. The award is given to an individual who has promoted goodwill among all peoples without respect to one's race, creed, color, religion, or national origin. Pastor Manley did not only promote these values at home but also traveled extensively across the country and around the world promoting spiritual and religious harmony.

Pastor Manley was an outstanding individual, husband, father, preacher and friend to many. He was considerate, genuine and devoted to making this world a better, more just place. His leadership is sure to leave a lasting legacy. He will be missed by his family—his wife and seven children, and his San Diego community.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained during four votes of the second series on February 3, 2016. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on the amendment offered by Mr. ISSA to H.R. 1675, "No" on the amendment offered by Mrs. MALONEY to H.R. 1675, "No" on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions, and "Yes" on final passage of H.R. 1675, the Encouraging Employee Ownership Act of 2015.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was detained and unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call Vote 61.

#### HONORING GREEK AMERICAN EDUCATORS

### HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor three remarkable and distinguished members of the Greek Orthodox community in the Tampa Bay area. These three Greek American educators continually demonstrate excellence in transmitting the value of Hellenic education to the next generation of scholars, tying historic Hellenic values and culture to today's contemporary policy and cultural discussions in the United States. Together, these scholars promote and enhance the teaching of our incredible culture and affect a change that enhances Hellenism throughout the world.

The V. Rev. Fr. James Rousakis, Vicar for Western Florida, is a dear friend from Saint Nicholas Greek Orthodox Cathedral in Tarpon Springs, Florida, who demonstrates a tireless effort to preserve the Greek-American Orthodox values and instill the Hellenic culture to the next generation of Greek-Americans. He has served the Orthodox faithful in Rochester, New York; Atlanta, Georgia; Portland, Maine; Indianapolis, Indiana; Clearwater and now Tarpon Springs, Florida. With his boundless energy, Father James has helped to foster incredible growth in the membership and ministries at Holy Trinity.

The Honorable Steve Christopoulos is a remarkable educator and coordinator who continually puts forth a dynamic effort to organize almost a dozen charter schools in the Florida community. Born in Akovos, Greece, Christopoulos moved to the United States at the age of twelve and his family settled in Lynn, Massachusetts. After a rewarding career in commercial real estate, Christopoulos began his current leadership of Superior Schools, which operates numerous schools of choice throughout the Tampa area. His unwavering commitment to excellence sets him apart in the world of challenging and supportive educational environments. His dedication to Hellenic values and the superior learning environments he has created consistently produces outstanding citizens and Philhellenes.

Mrs. Catherine Diacogianni is a heralded educator who has contributed to our local Tampa Greek communities by teaching the Greek language and cultural history for over thirty years. After studying and working for the Red Cross in Athens early in her life, Diacogianni moved to Florida in 1977 and dedicated her life to teaching the Greek language to future generations as well as her peers. Despite a consistent tenure at Holy Trinity Greek School, Diacogianni also established the St. Stephanos Greek School in St. Petersburg where she worked tirelessly as teacher and director for 14 years. I am constantly in awe of Diacogianni's untiring efforts and passion to educate everyone she comes in contact with about the significance of Hellenic history and language so that it may live on in our community.

I commend the Federation of Hellenic American Educators and the Greek Teacher Association of Florida for highlighting these three pillars of our community, and I hope every American can learn from and emulate the determined efforts of these extraordinary educators.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, during Roll Call vote number 50 on Feb. 2, 2016, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted NO.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. STEVE KING**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to vote on 2/3/2016. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows:  
NO on Roll Call Number 58;  
NO on Roll Call Number 59.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF  
KATHLEEN P. DEVINE**HON. JOE COURTNEY**

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. COURTNEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise to honor the life of a great journalist and public servant from the state of Connecticut, and life-long friend, Kathleen P. Devine, who passed away in Groton, Connecticut after a brief illness last week. Kathleen was known to all who had the privilege of meeting her as a deeply principled, hardworking, and positive public servant with a distinguished career in both finance and journalism.

Kathleen served as the Treasurer of the City of Hartford, Connecticut from 1998 to 2011, during which time she advocated fiercely for the city's employees and pensioners. Her tireless work ethic and grasp of financial markets translated into positive results for the City and its workforce. When she left office she left behind a distinguished career in public service which began with her role as Deputy Treasurer to Denise Nappier and staff member for State Treasurer Frank Borges.

Before her many years in office, Kathleen was a well-respected journalist and member of the Editorial Board of the Hartford Courant. There, she spoke up for underrepresented voices, particularly women and minorities, to ensure that their stories were told. She was a trailblazing woman in a field that at the time was mostly dominated by men. Her poise, determination, and grit left a decades-long impact on her colleagues. One Courant colleague, Susan Campbell, recently recalled Kathleen's role as a mentor during her first months as a journalist, noting her humor and down-to-earth personality. Kathleen always made a point to recognize people for the good work that they did, even when most in the newsroom would keep their head down in self-interest.

Kathleen was an incredible mentor, public servant, writer, advocate and friend. Her tenacity and sense of justice will certainly be missed in Connecticut and in the lives of her many friends and family. As I said, Kathleen was a lifelong friend as a result of the closeness of my family and the Palm family that went back to the 1950s. She never failed to remind me, and anyone else I was with at social and political gatherings, that she babysat for me, and as a result I better shape up as a state legislator and Congressman or she would embarrass me with stories of early years. I never doubted for a moment that she would and did my best to live up to her high standards.

Kathleen's passing is a real loss to the world—she was a bright spirit who could light up a room and make you laugh and think at the same time. What a rare gift it was to have known her. I ask all my colleagues to please join me in sending my sincere condolences to those who will feel this loss most deeply: her daughter, step-son, sister, brother, sister-in-law, nieces and nephews, and grandchildren.

## HONORING RAUL R. RENDON

**HON. JOAQUIN CASTRO**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. CASTRO of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. Raul R. Rendon, a San Antonio resident who passed away on January 28 and whose life was marked by service to his nation. Born on September 14, 1928, Mr. Rendon served in the United States Marine Corps in the Korean War. On September 27, 1950, he was injured at Yudam-ni during the Chosin Reservoir Campaign. Mr. Rendon and his comrades in that battle were awarded the Presidential Unit Citation, a decoration given to a unit that displays gallantry, determination, and esprit de corps in accomplishing its mission under extremely difficult and hazardous conditions as to set it apart from other units participating in the same campaign. He was also a Purple Heart recipient.

Mr. Rendon was preceded in death by his beloved wife Elvia, parents Romana and Trinidad, and sisters Alma Vergara and Freya Mirta Rendon Garcia. He is survived by his brother Trinidad, and his legacy lives on through his children—Raul Jr., Robert, and Rosanna—and his grandchildren—Mark, Elyse, Justin, and Gianna.

It is brave Americans like Mr. Rendon whose patriotism and selflessness make our nation great and keep us safe. While the San Antonio community mourns this loss, we draw strength from our memories of Mr. Rendon's courage and kind spirit.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE WATER INFRASTRUCTURE TRUST FUND ACT

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, water infrastructure is a local issue—from a giant sinkhole in Gresham, OR, to poisoned water in Flint, MI. For too long, we've let critical water systems simply fall apart. The American Society of Civil Engineers (ASCE) gave our nation's wastewater and drinking water infrastructure a grade of "D" in their most recent report card. While our clean water needs are estimated to be nearly \$15 billion a year, appropriations for clean water infrastructure have averaged less than over \$2 billion a year since 2000. Drinking water infrastructure is in no better shape. The EPA estimates that we need to invest over \$19 billion annually to ensure the provision of safe tap water, while Congress appropriates less than \$1 billion.

As seen by the recent lead water crisis in Flint, MI, the costs of inaction are not just

numbers in a needs assessment. Our failure to adequately invest in aging infrastructure is having detrimental effects on our health and economy. Last year alone, Americans across the country suffered from more than 240,000 water main breaks and saw overflowing combined sewer systems—causing contamination, property damage, disruptions in the water supply, and massive traffic jams.

In order to address this, the Water Infrastructure Trust Fund Act will provide needed revenue for states and local governments to make overdue investments in wastewater and drinking water infrastructure and will also take a hard look at the systemic challenges affecting access to safe water in low-income populations.

The Water Infrastructure Trust Fund Act allows businesses to choose to place a small label on their products indicating their commitment to protecting America's clean water, contributing \$0.03 to the Water Infrastructure Trust Fund for each unit bearing the label. The Trust Fund revenue will be distributed to the states as grants and loans through the Clean Water State Revolving Fund (CWSRF) and the Drinking Water State Revolving Fund (DWSRF) to help public water systems finance wastewater and drinking water infrastructure projects. The legislation also commissions an EPA study of the water affordability gap facing low-income populations and an analysis of solutions to systemic barriers affecting access to safe water systems.

Congress must do more, not only to meet the huge need for water infrastructure investments, but also to understand why failing infrastructure hits the most vulnerable communities the hardest.

## RECOGNIZING AND CONGRATULATING GARY FAULKNER, JR. FOR WINNING THE 2015 ROLLTECH PROFESSIONAL BOWLERS ASSOCIATION WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP

**HON. STEVE COHEN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Gary Faulkner, Jr. of Memphis, Tennessee for winning the 2015 Rolltech Professional Bowlers Association World Championship at the National Bowling Stadium in Reno, Nevada. In his first professional television appearance, Gary Faulkner beat top qualifier EJ Tackett to become the second African American ever to win a PBA Tour title in the PBA's 57-year history after George Branham III won the Brunswick Memorial World Open in 1986.

Gary learned the game of bowling at the early age of two when he bowled with his father, Pastor Gary Faulkner, Sr. of Cummings Street Baptist Church. As a sophomore at Germantown High School, Gary won the Division I Bowling Championship title in the Tennessee Secondary School Athletic Association individual bowling tournament. At that time, his best series bowling score was 833. While enrolled at Webber International University, Gary helped lead his team to the 2012 Intercollegiate Team Championship.

Gary Faulkner maintained his focus and determination to win the Rolltech Championship.

On his way to victory, Gary threw 10 strikes on his first 11 shots to ultimately defeat Scott Norton of Mission Viejo, California 262–218. He also defeated Ryan Ciminelli of Cheektowaga, New York, 247–237, who was seeking to win his third title, back-to-back, to become the first player to win three consecutive PBA titles on American soil since 1971. Gary opened this match with a spare and four strikes. In his final three-game match, Gary impressively rolled six strikes on his first eight attempts and threw only two bad shots. Gary's opponent, EJ Tackett of Huntington, Indiana, on the other hand, left three splits in his first five frames, setting up a 49 pin deficit from which he could not rebound against Faulkner. Gary Faulkner won the title 216–178.

After winning, Gary said, "The first shot I was nervous, but after that I didn't think about anything. My mind was free. I didn't watch the other guys. I don't show a lot of emotions. My goal is always to win; I didn't come here to lose." With a goal set in mind to win, Gary Faulkner has represented his family and the city of Memphis well, and I look forward to reading about his future accomplishments. Mr. Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in congratulating Gary Faulkner, Jr. on winning the 2015 Rolltech Professional Bowlers Association World Championship.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF DR.  
CARTER G. WOODSON

**HON. EVAN H. JENKINS**

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the legacy of Dr. Carter G. Woodson. I am proud to celebrate his achievements with my friends at Marshall University and the city of Huntington as they commemorate Dr. Carter G. Woodson Day.

Dr. Woodson, a former Huntington, West Virginia, resident, is known as the "Father of African-American History." He believed in the importance of education, and early in his career served as principal of Douglass High School, his alma mater. Dr. Woodson then became one of the first African Americans to earn a doctorate in history from Harvard University. Dr. Woodson also pioneered the observation of Black History Month each February and devoted his life to documenting the important contributions African Americans have made to our nation's history.

I would also like to congratulate Marshall University's Carter G. Woodson Professor of Journalism and Mass Communications, Burnis Morris. He was recently honored as a 2016 History Hero at West Virginia History Day in Charleston, West Virginia. Mr. Morris' extensive research on Dr. Woodson has helped preserve Dr. Woodson's legacy and ensures that future generations have the opportunity to learn about the legacy of this remarkable historical icon.

I extended my wishes for a successful event celebrating the life of Dr. Woodson and all that he has achieved—he is one of Huntington's greatest icons and contributed greatly to ensuring that the stories of African Americans continue to be honored by all Americans.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL  
LEAGUE OF AMERICAN PEN  
WOMEN, INC. (NLAPW)

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing a treasured historical landmark in our midst, The National League of American Pen Women, Inc. (NLAPW). The League's headquarters is located in the heart of the nation's capital between Dupont Circle and Scott Circle, just blocks away from the White House. With affiliates all across the United States, the League is a key nonprofit neighbor, whose headquarters building is a magnificent architectural gem.

The League is dedicated to the recognition and advancement of women in the arts and letters in the District of Columbia and nationwide. Its mission is to represent and foster women's outstanding cultural and educational contributions to the nation. The League's membership, comprising some 82 branches throughout the country, encompasses a cross section of American women—all ages, races, religions, and cultures. For generations, the League has highlighted the great contributions and careers of creative American Women. Since its founding in 1897, luminaries such as Nobel Laureate Pearl Buck, Margaret Mitchell and Eudora Welty were illustrious members, among many others. Eleanor Roosevelt was a very active Pen Woman, as was Vinnie Ream, who sculpted the Lincoln statue that stands in the Capitol's Rotunda, as well as the statue of Admiral Farragut at Farragut Square.

It should also be noted that the League's beautiful, mansion-class headquarters at 1300 17th Street NW is steeped in history. Its interior has been lovingly maintained. To walk through it, as so many did during the recent Dupont Circle House Tour sponsored by the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, is to experience the elegance and inspiration of a bygone era. It is also to realize that the Pen Arts Building was once the home of Robert Todd Lincoln, Abraham Lincoln's oldest son. That is an especially noteworthy historical perspective in this 150th anniversary year of the death of Abraham Lincoln.

Regrettably, the League has become financially stressed, a situation hindering the preservation efforts of many nonprofits today. Losing the League, which has been in the District for 64 years, would be a terrible blow to the city, to the Dupont Circle neighborhood, to preservation, and to history itself. I also ask the House to recognize the League's unfortunate current financial plight, and the efforts of TENAC, the D.C. Tenants' Advocacy Coalition, to help preserve this beautiful landmark. Under the leadership of its chairman, Jim McGrath, TENAC has long been the District's unrivaled champion of tenants' rights, helping the homeless, and historic preservation.

Helping the League remain in the District and maintain its magnificent headquarters building here is a very worthy cause, enthusiastically supported by a broad variety of others in the city, including D.C. Councilmember Jack Evans, the Dupont Circle Citizens Association, and the historic Tabard Inn, among many others. I ask the House to recognize

these efforts, and join in supporting this cause. At a time when women seem to be under attack in this country and all over the globe, assisting the National League of American Pen Women would be a worthy step in trying to redress that balance.

For all of these reasons, I ask the House to join me in expressing support for the League and its successful mission, and to recognize the importance of saving it. I know the League would be profoundly grateful for that support.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, I was detained and unable to cast my vote. Had I been present, I would have voted No on Roll Call Vote 55.

TRIBUTE TO DR. HAROLD  
MCFARLANE

**HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON**

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my thanks to a dedicated public servant. After forty-three years of service, achievement and recognition, Dr. Harold McFarlane is retiring from the Idaho National Laboratory. Speaking at a colleague's retirement ceremony years ago, Harold noted that his colleague "came to work every day and made a difference." The same can be said of Dr. McFarlane, he came to work every day and he made a difference.

If you are going to try to pay tribute to Harold McFarlane, you are going to need lots of time and lots of paper. Harold's accomplishments and contributions as a scientist, an administrator, and a leader are as impactful as they are extensive.

After graduating from high school in Texas, Harold earned a Bachelor of Science degree from the University of Texas. Harold then went to the California Institute of Technology to earn his PhD in engineering science. After a short stint teaching nuclear engineering at New York University, in 1973 Harold moved his young family to Idaho to join Argonne-West National Laboratory to start up the Zero Power Plutonium Reactor, or ZPPR as it is known in Idaho. Thus began Harold's forty-three year career at Argonne-West and the Idaho National Laboratory. At the labs, Harold became involved in almost every major Department of Energy advanced reactor, nuclear fuel cycle, international collaboration, and space power project.

While working at Argonne-West, Harold took up another challenge and earned his Master's in Business Administration from the University of Chicago. As recognition of his skills and leadership became better known, in 2006 Harold was elected President of the American Nuclear Society.

In 2011, Harold served special assignment in Washington, DC supporting the Office of Nuclear Energy, and in the wake of the

Fukushima earthquake and tsunami, Harold became a key technical source for Secretary Chu and others at the Department of Energy (DOE) explaining what was happening on the ground. Harold later received a special commendation from DOE for his contribution during this time.

Harold continued his contribution to international nuclear collaboration when he served as the Technical Director of the Generation IV International Forum (GIF) and later Chief of Staff to the GIF chairman.

Throughout his career, Harold has been put in charge of difficult technical projects, and he led, mentored, and executed all with professionalism and distinction. Along the way, Harold accumulated a cadre of colleagues, friends and young scientists who wanted to work with him.

Since his days at the University of Texas, Harold has had one partner in this wonderful career and life, his wife Mary Ellen. Harold would be the first to acknowledge that although his work and reputation made him one of the most recognizable nuclear professionals in the world, in Idaho Falls he is best known as Mary Ellen's husband.

Harold and Mary Ellen are avid golfers and the two have played courses around the world in another pursuit of excellence. Along with their son Matt, Mary Ellen and Harold deserve our thanks and well wishes as his career at the lab ends.

Harold, thank you for coming to work every day and for making a difference.

HONORING SENATOR JAMES  
METZEN FOR HIS 42 YEARS OF  
PUBLIC SERVICE ON THE OCCA-  
SION OF HIS RETIREMENT FROM  
THE MINNESOTA SENATE

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to rise today to pay tribute to Minnesota State Senator James "Jim" Metzen. Senator Metzen has been a leader in the Minnesota legislature for more than 40 years, representing my hometown of South Saint Paul and surrounding communities. He recently announced that he plans to retire later this year at the end of his current term. His legislative work is not yet complete, however, it is well worth reflecting on his more than four decades of public service that have shaped a remarkable legacy for the community and the state.

First elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 1974, Metzen quickly established a reputation as an approachable, evenhanded and effective advocate for his constituents. In 1986 he was elected to the Minnesota Senate, bringing his "can-do" outlook with him to forge important alliances and build consensus throughout the state and the community—among constituents, Democrats and Republicans, business and labor leaders.

During his time in the Senate, leaders have recognized Senator Metzen's extensive knowledge about the legislative process and the respect he has earned among his colleagues. It was no surprise in 2003 when he was elected by his peers to be Senate President, a role he served for seven years. Additionally, he has

been appointed chair of several influential committees. Currently, he chairs the Senate Commerce Committee.

Senator Metzen's ability to build bridges between Democrats and the business community and get important things done has come naturally through the executive roles he has served in local community banks. Throughout his public and private sector service, improving his community has been his priority. He has always delivered—both large and small, from supporting the Mighty Ducks youth hockey program, to the transformation of industrial landfill into the Kaposia Landing park, to the replacement of the Wakota Bridge over the Mississippi River. His influential advocacy continues on projects like developing the Robert Street transit corridor. Residents of South Saint Paul, West Saint Paul, Inver Grove Heights, Mendota and Mendota Heights have been fortunate to have Jim working for them.

To call Jim a friend is a privilege for my family and me. I have fond memories of joining my father to put up yard signs for Jim during his early campaigns, and it is probably no coincidence that our mutual strong support of public education comes from us both attending Central Grade School in South Saint Paul. Throughout my own public service, he was always among the first to offer encouragement and help. It was wonderful to join the hundreds of "friends of Jim" last fall at the Croatian Hall in South Saint Paul to recognize his many contributions on behalf of the community. I wish Jim and his wife Sandie all the best.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to Senator James "Jim" Metzen as he prepares to retire after more than 40 years of distinguished public service.

INTRODUCTION OF MARIJUANA  
ADVERTISING IN LEGAL STATES  
ACT OF 2016 OR THE "MAILS"  
ACT OF 2016

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, I am introducing the Marijuana Advertising in Legal States Act of 2016 or the "MAILS" Act, which creates an exception to the Controlled Substances Act to allow for the written advertisement of an activity, involving marijuana, if it is in compliance with state law.

In the last few years, voters in Oregon, Washington, Colorado and Alaska overwhelmingly approved initiatives to legalize the adult use and sale of marijuana. Additionally, 23 states, the District of Columbia and Guam have legalized full medical marijuana programs, and 17 more states have approved more limited medical marijuana programs. In many of these states, state-approved dispensaries are up and running, bringing the industry out of the shadows of the black market and creating a safe, regulated system in much of America.

Despite this progress, marijuana remains stuck in the past as a Schedule I substance at the federal level. Recognizing this discrepancy, the Obama Administration issued a memorandum in 2013 which explained that so long as certain enforcement criteria were met, federal law enforcement would not interfere

with state legal marijuana activity. Congress then followed suit and barred the Department of Justice from expending resources in contravention of state medical marijuana laws.

According to the Controlled Substances Act (CSA), it is unlawful for anyone to place an advertisement for a Schedule I substance, including a medical marijuana product, in any newspaper, magazine, handbill or other publication even if that activity is legal under state law. This creates a confusing reality in states where marijuana is legal for marijuana businesses that seek to advertise in local newspapers, as well as for the many newspapers around the country that rely on advertising revenue.

In December 2015, the United States Postal Service (USPS) declared that it is illegal to mail any items, including newspapers, which contain advertisements offering to buy or sell marijuana, even if in compliance with a state law.

Small businesses and community newspapers rely on USPS to reach their customers and the USPS policy could have the effect of stopping all written marijuana advertisements in states that have already made the decision to legalize marijuana. This contradicts the will of the voters in these states as well as recent directives from the Obama Administration and Congress.

There are certainly important questions that need to be answered about how to best regulate marijuana and advertisements, to ensure it does not get in the hands of children and that it is delivered in a safe, regulated system. It is not the job of USPS to answer these questions. Until we can change the way that marijuana is treated at the federal level to allow the federal government to be a constructive partner in answering these questions, this legislation will help to ensure that they stay out of the way.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARION CAIN,  
ERNEST FANN, LEMUEL HAWKINS,  
AND ROBERT SCOTT

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, February 4, 2016*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize four Macon, Georgia natives who played Negro League baseball: Marion Cain, Ernest Fann, Lemuel Hawkins, and Robert Scott. A ceremony to honor these men has been coordinated by Gordon Smith, an Eagle Scout candidate with Boy Scouts of America, Central Georgia Council, Troop 170, and will be held on Saturday, February 6, 2016 at Luther Williams Baseball Field in Macon, Georgia.

Negro League baseball officially organized in 1920 and existed until the early 1960s. While segregation between professional teams hindered some competition for the leagues, the teams maintained a high level of professionalism and became centerpieces for economic growth in many black communities. The individuals who pursued careers in Negro League baseball contributed to a sense of pride and community during a time of oppression and segregation. As such, I would like to honor four Macon natives who continue to inspire those in their communities: Marion "Sugar" Cain, Ernest Fann, Lemuel Hawkins, and Robert Scott.

Marion "Sugar" Cain was born on February 4, 1914 in Macon, Georgia. Cain was an esteemed pitcher but doubled in the outfield. He started his career with the Pittsburgh Crawfords, and went on to the Brooklyn Royal Giants, and then the Oakland Larks.

Ernest Fann was born on July 24, 1943 and attended Ballard-Hudson High School in Macon. He led his baseball team to state championships in 1961 and 1962. He was a pitcher and catcher playing for the Atlanta Black Crackers, as well as teams in Brunswick, Georgia and Daytona, Florida.

Lemuel Hawkins was born on October 2, 1895, and was a pitcher and first baseman for the Kansas City Monarchs, Chicago Giants, and Chicago American Giants. Hawkins was

the first baseman for the Monarchs during the 1924 Negro League World Series.

Robert Scott was born on June 22, 1931 and was a pitcher for the Macon Braves and Macon Cardinals. He also played with the New York Black Yankees, Boston Blues, and the Jackie Robinson Barnstorming Team.

To commemorate these exceptional athletes, a ceremony will be held at Luther Williams Baseball Field where bronze plaques for each player will be placed. I would like to thank Gordon Smith for organizing this outstanding tribute as part of his leadership and service project as he works toward the rank of Eagle Scout. As a proud Eagle Scout myself, I am reminded of the great responsibility this signal honor carries: the responsibility to al-

ways exemplify the high principles embodied in the Scout Oath and Scout Law. Gordon's commitment to pay homage to and learn from the hard work and courage of those who came before him reflects the sincerity of his purpose, the strength of his determination, and the timbre of his character.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in recognizing the courage, determination, and legacy of these four Negro League baseball players from Macon, Georgia. Let us be grateful for the pride these men helped bring to disenfranchised communities and thankful for the changes that have since come, not only in the realm of baseball, but throughout our nation.