

developed innovative ways to grow produce in the desert. Lacking energy, it has pioneered advances in solar and wind energy. Lacking security, it has built some of the most effective defensive systems to ensure the safety and welfare of its people.

Given its record of innovation, it makes sense that Israel has more high tech start ups than any other country in the world other than the United States and is a global leader in medicine. Israeli inventions have revolutionized communication, agriculture, imaging and other industries.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating the 68th Israeli Independence Day. Today we rejoice in Israel's success, embrace its people, and renew our nation's commitment to standing alongside Israel in defense of its right to safety and prosperity.

TRIBUTE FOR CAL AND SANDY
RUNYON'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 50th wedding anniversary of a beloved couple in Eastern Kentucky, my dear friends, Cal and Sandy Runyon of Pikeville.

Cal and Sandy's commitment and love for one another is equally as strong as their devotion and loyal service to the people of Eastern Kentucky. I say that with confidence due to their combined decades of service in multiple capacities to our nation, our commonwealth and our region.

Sandy faithfully served as my Field Representative for nearly a decade. In fact, she still tries to keep me in line, advising and providing guidance about projects and politics in the Big Sandy region. She is a friend to many and has mentored countless young people and rising leaders by taking them under her wing. Sandy started in public service at a young age, landing her first job with former Pike County Commonwealth's Attorney Thomas Ratliff, and continuing on with the State Highway Department in Pikeville, serving as a former representative for the Southern Labor Union, and finally earning a gubernatorial appointment as former Pike County Circuit Court Clerk. Today, her heart of service reaches Floyd, Johnson, Magoffin, Martin and Pike Counties as Executive Director of the Big Sandy Area Development District. She has diligently sought out economic development opportunities and infrastructure enhancements to expand clean water and sewer service to people living in some of our most rural communities. She's known for getting things done in a no-nonsense approach and doesn't accept excuses. Sandy is tenacious and fights for projects that will improve the lives of Eastern Kentuckians. For those reasons, former Governor Louie B. Nunn designated Sandy as a bonafide Kentucky Colonel.

While Sandy has worked tirelessly for project funding, Cal has spent a lifetime serving and protecting our way of life. As a Corporal in the U.S. Marines, Cal served in Guantanamo Bay, Cuba and a number of other posts around the world. He later served as a member of the United States Army Security

Agency (USASA) in Kushiuro, Japan, working in cryptography communications. When Cal returned to U.S. soil, he continued to serve through the Pike County Sheriff's Department, Pikeville City Police Department, and as a Deputy U.S. Marshal Court Security Officer. He is also a Shriner and 32nd Degree Mason in Pikeville.

As individuals, they have helped transform Kentucky's Appalachian region. As a couple, they have conquered the obstacles of life, upheld their wedding vows for 50 years and shared a love that so many people spend a lifetime searching for. As a result, they have one son, Eddie, a daughter-in-law, Yvette, and two wonderful grandchildren, Triniti Shae and Jonah Brock Runyon.

My wife, Cynthia, and I wish Cal and Sandy a happy 50th Anniversary and many more years of marital bliss.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF SACRAMENTO
CHILDREN'S HOME

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th anniversary of the Sacramento Children's Home. As the staff, volunteers, and community supporters gather to celebrate this momentous occasion and the beautiful renovations on their historic home, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing this outstanding organization.

I know firsthand the incredible impact the Children's home has on our community. I have long been a supporter of the Sacramento Children's Home and I formerly served as a member of their board. I will continue to offer my support in any way that I can because I believe in their mission to serve our community's most vulnerable families. By supporting both children and parents, to create happier, more stable families, the Sacramento Children's Home is making an invaluable investment in our community.

Founded on February 14th, 1867, the Sacramento Children's home began as an orphanage for abandoned children during the time of the Gold Rush. Since then, the Sacramento Children's home has continued to serve the most urgent needs of children with unwavering dedication. Today, the Sacramento Children's Home provides a variety of services to children and families, including counseling, emergency childcare, and programs promoting healthy parenting. These wraparound programs and resources, many of which are provided at no cost to the family, fight and protect against child abuse and neglect in our community.

Mr. Speaker, as the Sacramento Children's Home gathers to celebrate their renovated home on their 150th anniversary, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring 150 years of service to Sacramento's children and families.

ASSAULTING PROPERTY RIGHTS
TO ONE'S INVENTIONS

HON. DANA ROHRBACHER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. ROHRBACHER. Mr. Speaker, I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues an analysis of our recent government actions toward intellectual property rights titled "Assaulting Property Rights to One's Inventions," which shows how we are undermining our position as the world leader in innovation and preventing the creation of new wealth.

For a country with a momentous beginning, whose intellectual-property-rights approach produced the most iconic inventors and inventions in the world, recent changes to America's patent system should be alarming.

Mark Twain wrote, "[A] country without a patent office and good patent laws was just a crab and couldn't travel any way but sideways or backwards."

America made writing "good patent laws" that secure intellectual property rights a high priority. The Founders enumerated the Patent Clause in Article I, Section 8 of our Constitution—the only individual right named in the Constitution itself.

The Founders moved quickly to implement this property right. The Patent Act of 1790 was the third law enacted by the first Congress.

What did the Founders regard as "good patent law?" Deeding newly created property to its creator. One that democratized the property right to one's inventions. The 1790 law achieved this by awarding a patent to the "first and true inventor."

But lately, Congress, the courts and the administrative branch have diverted America toward the way of the crab. Our own government has whittled away at our patent system, degraded patent rights, devalued patents and IP and diminished inherent property rights.

What would inventors like Thomas Edison, the Wright Brothers and Alexander Graham Bell think about this new direction? Or Founders such as James Madison?

In recent years, Congress has shifted patent terms to 20 years from when a patent is applied for, though the average patent application pendency is 36 months—far longer for sophisticated inventions.

Congress changed the law to require virtually all patent applications to be published 18 months after filing, even if no patent has issued. That's a problem because it gives IP thieves a head start by providing them an invention's blueprints early. If a patent doesn't issue, disclosure makes the invention "prior art" and unpatentable.

Congress enacted the antiproperty-rights "America Invents Act." AIA denies inventors de novo judicial review if the patent office invalidates a patent. AIA also lets patent infringers off the hook if they used someone's patented invention for a year before a patent was filed. It seriously disrupts the one-year grace period, when inventors could discuss their ideas with investors and partners, improve their details and make a stronger patent application.

The AIA allows third parties to anonymously submit "prior art" while a patent application is being considered. Use of an invention anywhere in the world now makes an invention subject to being invalidated here.

AIA changed from a first-to-invent to a first-to-file basis for winning the patent. This runs counter to the American principle of a property right to one's ideas.

AIA also put the post-grant challenge process, started in 1999, on steroids. Now anyone, with or without standing, may ask the Patent Trial and Appeal Board to invalidate an issued patent, with a low burden of proof. Infringers, hedge fund sharks or anyone can bring patent holders into double-jeopardy-like patent reexamination in this quasi-judicial administrative setting. Judge Randal Rader has called the PTAB a "patent death squad" because it revokes patents 80 percent of the time.

Courts are making it harder to secure a patent, in rulings like *KSR v. Teleflex*, *Bilski v. Kappos* and *Mayo v. Prometheus*. Judicial rulings have also raised the bar for patent owners to win infringement, in such cases as *Global-Tech Appliances v. SEB*, *Abbott Labs v. Sandoz* and *Quanta Computer v. LG*.

Even if an inventor gets a patent, then proves someone is infringing the patent, courts have put permanent injunction against infringers out of reach under *eBay v. MercExchange*. A patent is supposed to ensure exclusive rights, but if you can't stop infringers from making, using or selling your invention even when you've proven IP theft, where is the private property right to exclusivity?

Agencies like the Federal Trade Commission, myopically fixated on antitrust and unproven theories of patent litigation abuse, miss the core constitutional goal of patents, namely to vest in individual inventors enforceable property rights, which include the right to sell or license that intellectual property. The FTC's recent "study" of certain patent assertion entities, or PAEs, paints with such a broad brush; it sheds little light on this area of patent litigation.

The FTC lacks sufficient data to draw conclusions, especially with an unrepresentative sample of 22 firms and no data on the potentially abusive practices of large infringers. Making sweeping policy recommendations on such a thin foundation only picks sides in a manner that hurts inventors who have no interest in setting up manufacturing plants and threatens property rights, including the right to buy or license IP.

Meanwhile, countries like China, South Korea and Taiwan take advantage of the FTC's and U.S. Justice Department's efforts to weaken the rights and remedies of American patent owners.

These foreign governments enable their countries' businesses' theft of U.S. IP. How? By depriving American firms of due process, equating exclusive patent rights with "anticompetitiveness," and running judicial proceedings based on predetermined outcomes favoring domestic players, rather than the rule of law.

In Federalist 43, Madison explained that the right to inventions belongs to their inventors, and "the claims of individuals" to their IP rights "fully [coincide]" with the "public good." The exclusive property right benefits society while inventors enjoy the fruits of their creativity. It worked exceptionally well for about 200 years.

But today, our property rights-centered patent regime is shifting. These changes to America's once-world-class patent system must be reversed and our course righted if we

are to continue as the world leader in invention and creation of new wealth.

HONORING MARCUS FAUMUI

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Marcus Faumui, whom I have named a 2016 Public Safety Hero of the Year for Contra Costa County in California's 5th Congressional District. This award is given to exceptional members of our community who perform beyond their duty as a public servant.

A native of Richmond, California, Mr. Faumui attended Contra Costa College and Los Medanos College, where he earned his A.S. in Fire Technology. He then graduated from the top of his academy class and joined the Rodeo-Hercules Fire Department, where he has made a tremendous impact in a short time.

Mr. Faumui is one of the youngest firefighters at the department, but has quickly gained the respect of his peers and community with his positive attitude and willingness to contribute in any way possible. At the department, Mr. Faumui serves as the incident photographer and collects evidence used in the peer review process. He also shares his experience as a volunteer trainer at the Los Medanos College Fire Academy and oversees the school education programs for Rodeo and Hercules students.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. Faumui for his dedication to our community's safety. For this reason, it is fitting and proper that I honor him here today.

HONORING HUGH EVANS

HON. CATHY McMORRIS RODGERS

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Mrs. McMORRIS RODGERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of Hugh Evans, whose body will soon be interred at Arlington National Cemetery.

Hugh was a decorated veteran for his courage during the Vietnam War, receiving three Purple Hearts, a Bronze Star, and a Silver Star. After hearing his remarkable story, it's clear why. In 1968 he led a platoon through gunfire and across a mine-filled road to provide reinforcements to his fellow troops. Later that year, he was shot in each arm while directing artillery fire at a hidden enemy base camp amid gunfire and grenades. Hugh showed bravery in the face of danger, and a gentle, humble spirit around all who knew him.

After the war, Hugh had a fulfilling career as an attorney in Spokane, finding joy in his free time outdoors and with his family and his constantly growing list of friends. Hugh passed away in March, and his presence is sorely missed.

INTRODUCING THE STOP ARMING TERRORISTS ACT OF 2016

HON. TULSI GABBARD

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2016

Ms. GABBARD. Mr. Speaker, under U.S. law it is illegal for any American to provide money or assistance to al Qaeda, ISIS or other terrorist groups. If you or I gave money, weapons or support to al-Qaeda or ISIS, we would be thrown in jail.

Yet the U.S. government has been violating this law for years, quietly supporting allies and partners of al Qaeda, ISIL, Jabhat Fateh al Sham and other terrorist groups with money, weapons, and intelligence support, in their fight to overthrow the Syrian government.

The CIA has also been funneling weapons and money through Saudi Arabia, Turkey, Qatar and others who provide direct and indirect support to groups like ISIS and al-Qaeda. This support has allowed al-Qaeda and their fellow terrorist organizations to establish strongholds throughout Syria, including in Aleppo.

A recent New York Times article confirmed that "rebel groups" supported by the U.S. "have entered into battlefield alliances with the affiliate of al-Qaeda in Syria, formerly known as Al Nusra." This alliance has rendered the phrase "moderate rebels" meaningless.

Reports confirm that "every armed anti-Assad organization unit in those provinces [of Idlib and Aleppo] is engaged in a military structure controlled by [al-Qaeda's] Nusra militants."

A recent Wall Street Journal article reported that many rebel groups are "doubling down on their alliance" with al Nusra. Some rebel groups are renewing their alliance, while others, like Nour al-Din al-Zinki, a former CIA-backed group and one of the largest factions in Aleppo, are joining for the first time.

"The Syria Conquest Front—formerly known as the al Qaeda-linked Nusra Front—is deeply intermingled with armed opposition groups of all stripes across Syria's battlefields."

The CIA has long been supporting a group called Fursan al Haqq, providing them with salaries, weapons and support, including surface to air missiles. This group is cooperating with and fighting alongside an al-Qaeda affiliated group trying to overthrow the Syrian government.

The Levant Front is another so-called moderate umbrella group of Syrian opposition fighters. Over the past year, the United States has been working with Turkey to give this group intelligence support and other forms of military assistance. This group has joined forces with al-Qaeda's offshoot group in Syria.

This madness must end. We must stop arming terrorists. The Government must end this hypocrisy and abide by the same laws that apply to its' citizens.

That is why I've introduced the Stop Arming Terrorists bill—legislation based on congressional action during the Iran-Contra affair to stop the CIA's illegal arming of rebels in Nicaragua.

It will prohibit any Federal agency from using taxpayer dollars to provide weapons, cash, intelligence, or any support to al Qaeda, ISIS and other terrorist groups, and it will prohibit the government from funneling money