

writes, "can lead to a mutually cooperative framework between the tribe and town to improve the quality of housing, education, law enforcement, fire protection, public safety, health care, transportation, and preservation of lands and water in a way that will improve the life of all residents of Mashpee."

In essence, with these words, the Mashpee Wampanoag are bridging years of tension in a wonderfully generous and inclusive manner. Federal recognition and its financial advantages is not simply for tribal members, they are saying, it's about Mashpee, and that can be good for all of us. It's hard to contemplate a firmer foundation for the private and public talks and conversations in the months and years ahead.

HONORING MARY AND JIM HORN
FOR THEIR LIFETIME OF SERVICE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mary and Jim Horn for their lifetime of service to the city of Denton as well as the State of Texas.

Ms. Mary Horn, formerly Mary Roberts, has had an important leadership role in both the government and business realms. Before she served as the first and only female Denton County Tax Assessor-Collector, she rose from the position of a flight attendant to become the Manager of Special Operations at Braniff. She was the first woman in that company to serve as an executive. From there, she moved on to manage her own business from 1982 to 1992. After serving two terms as the Denton County Tax Assessor-Collector, she ran and was overwhelmingly elected Denton County Judge. Again, she became the first and only woman thus far to serve in that capacity.

In 1998, she was awarded the Outstanding Volunteer Award of the Denton County Republican Party. She was honored at the Texas Federation of Republican Women during their Tribute to Women at State Convention. In 1999, she was nominated for the "Tax Assessor-Collector of the Year" Award.

Representative Jim Horn served in many important leadership roles. In 1969, he led the Aerosmith Corporation as the Executive Vice President. He followed this with a move to the role of Precinct Chairman. He then served as Denton County Republican Party Chairman and as the elected Committeeman on the State Republican Executive Committee. In 1980, he became the first Republican to be elected county-wide to a State legislator in over 100 years. To top off his career, Representative Horn was recognized for his efforts with the honorable "Hat's Off" Award for his many years of loyal service to the city of Denton as well as the State of Texas.

Representative Jim Horn and his lovely wife Judge Mary Horn will be recognized in August for their many achievements with the dedication of the Mary and Jim Horn Government Center. Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand here today to recognize them for their tireless public service. It has been a pleasure working with them both and representing them in Washington. I know that the city of Denton and the State of Texas would have been at a loss without their leadership.

STATEMENT RECOGNIZING THE
ACCREDITATION OF THE FIELD
MUSEUM OF NATURAL HISTORY
IN CHICAGO BY THE AMERICAN
ASSOCIATION OF MUSEUMS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recent accreditation of the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago by the American Association of Museums. Accreditation is awarded to less than 5 percent of museums in the United States, and the Field Museum now stands among those few museums honored for its high professional standards and excellence in education and stewardship. Anyone who has ever been to the Field Museum knows that an award for excellence befits this well-known Chicago institution.

Mark Twain wrote, "It is hopeless for the occasional visitor to try to keep up with Chicago—she outgrows his prophecies faster than he can make them. She is always a novelty; for she is never the Chicago you saw when you passed through the last time." Twain's comment remains timeless. Chicago's wonderful museums are never the same since the last time you walked down their halls, especially the Field Museum.

As we speak, hundreds of thousands of advance tickets have been booked from visitors around the world who are waiting to experience the Field Museum's latest exhibition, Tutankhamun and the Golden Age of the Pharaohs. The Museum's commitment to educational programs for people from all backgrounds and educational levels, provides an important window to our world and an educational venue paralleled by few institutions of its type. The exhibits contained within the Field Museum elucidate remote and ancient cultural practices from around the world for others to learn. Their archaeological work has produced astonishing finds from the earth's past. Current groundbreaking work in avian genetics may expose important information that will help address an avian flu pandemic. Beyond traditional museum activities, the Field Museum, in collaboration with the Chicago Cultural Alliance, contributes to Chicago cultural life in many ways. Together the Alliance is developing an innovative program that targets at-risk youth by engaging them in arts workshops that allows them to address issues of identity, conflict resolution, and their heritage. These are but a few of the ways the Field Museum enriches all of our lives through discovery, education, and community outreach.

Museum staffs go to great lengths to consult State educational curricula and guidelines when designing exhibits, thereby further enhancing the quality and relevance of the museum experience. Each year, we spend over \$1 billion to create and stage educational exhibits and special programs. The men and women of the Field Museum are to be commended for their dedication to stewardship, rigorous research, and the creative educational ways they reach out to the community to feed people's curiosity and wonder for the world in which we live. Just as the American Association of Museums recognized the Field

Museum of Natural History with accreditation, today I also want to celebrate and congratulate those responsible for the amazing work that transpires within and outside its halls.

ALTERNATIVE PLURIPOTENT
STEM CELL THERAPIES EN-
HANCEMENT ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, the issue of government funding of embryonic stem cell research is one of the most divisive issues facing the country. While I sympathize with those who see embryonic stem cell research as providing a path to a cure for the dreadful diseases that have stricken so many Americans, I strongly object to forcing those Americans who believe embryonic stem cell research is immoral to subsidize such research with their tax dollars.

The main question that should concern Congress today is does the United States Government have the constitutional authority to fund any form of stem cell research. The clear answer to that question is no. A proper constitutional position would reject federal funding for stem cell research, while allowing the individual states and private citizens to decide whether to permit, ban, or fund this research. Therefore, I will vote to uphold President Bush's expected veto of H.R. 810.

Unfortunately, many opponents of embryonic stem cell research are disregarding the Constitution by supporting S. 2754, an "acceptable" alternative that funds non-embryonic stem cell research. While this approach is much less objectionable than funding embryonic stem cell research, it is still unconstitutional. Therefore, I must also oppose S. 2754.

Federal funding of medical research guarantees the politicization of decisions about what types of research for what diseases will be funded. Thus, scarce resources will be allocated according to who has the most effective lobby rather than allocated on the basis of need or even likely success. Federal funding will also cause researchers to neglect potential treatments and cures that do not qualify for federal funds.

In order to promote private medical research, I have introduced the Cures Can Be Found Act (H.R. 3444). H.R. 3444 promotes medical research by providing a tax credit for investments and donations to promote adult and umbilical cord blood stem cell research and providing a \$2,000 tax credit to new parents for the donation of umbilical cord blood from which to extract stem cells. The Cures Can Be Found Act will ensure greater resources are devoted to this valuable research. The tax credit for donations of umbilical cord blood will ensure that medical science has a continuous supply of stem cells. Thus, this bill will help scientists discover new cures using stem cells and, hopefully, make routine the use of stem cells to treat formerly incurable diseases.

H.R. 3444 will benefit companies like Prime Cell, which is making great progress in transforming non-embryonic stem cells into any cell type in the body. Prime Cell is already talking

to health care practitioners about putting its findings to use to help cure diseases.

Companies like Prime Cell are continuing the great American tradition of private medical research that is responsible for many medical breakthroughs. For example, Jonas Salk, discoverer of the polio vaccine, did not receive one dollar from the federal government for his efforts.

Mr. Speaker, there is no question that forcing taxpayers to subsidize embryonic stem cell research violates basic constitutional principles. However, S. 2754 also exceeds Congress's constitutional authority and may even retard effective adult stem cell research. Therefore, I urge my colleagues to vote against S. 2754 and vote to uphold President Bush's veto of H.R. 810. Instead, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 3444, the Cures Can Be Found Act.

SUPPORT FOR REPRESENTATIVE
MOLLOHAN

HON. JOEL HEFLEY

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. HEFLEY. Mr. Speaker, there is enough blame to go around. The minority leadership of the House has politicized the ethics process for partisan political gain. Likewise, the majority party has tried to take control of the ethics process again for partisan reasons.

I have been encouraged recently that the House Ethics Committee is again taking action in investigative matters. I am disappointed, however, that Representative ALAN MOLLOHAN (D-WV), the former ranking minority member, is being given blame by some for inactivity of the committee over the last 16 months.

If I put myself in Representative MOLLOHAN's position, I am not sure I would have acted any differently. The House Ethics Committee is the only House committee that has an even number of Republicans and Democrats. Due to the nature of the committee and the important work it conducts, all committee activity should be conducted on a bipartisan basis.

As I review the events at the start of the 109th Congress, it leads me to the conclusion that several important actions were conducted by the majority without consulting the minority. These partisan actions were contrary to the nature and spirit of the way business has been, and should be, conducted by the Ethics Committee. If I had been the ranking member of the Ethics Committee and the majority party had arbitrarily and unilaterally changed the rules I would have had an obligation to react, just as Representative MOLLOHAN did. If I had been the ranking member and the majority party unilaterally fired the senior committee staff in contradiction to rules which say both the majority and minority must agree, I would have had to react, just as Representative MOLLOHAN did. If I had been the ranking member and the majority party tried to put a partisan chief of staff in as the staff director for the Ethics Committee in contradiction to the standards of a nonpartisan staff I would have had to react, just as Representative MOLLOHAN did.

In other words, I feel Representative MOLLOHAN did exactly what was expected of him as the ranking minority member when the bi-

partisan nature of the ethics process was unilaterally challenged by the majority. He had the courage to stand up to partisan actions when he should have.

My experience with Representative MOLLOHAN when we served together on the Ethics Committee during the 108th Congress is that he was completely nonpartisan and that he would absolutely take no instructions from his leadership on the conduct of the Ethics Committee. That was my philosophy as well, and should be the stance of all who serve on this important committee.

Representative MOLLOHAN has recently been dealing with some other issues that I know nothing about and won't speak to, but as the committee chairman I couldn't have asked for a more thoughtful and considerate ranking member to work with.

His successor as ranking minority member on the Ethics Committee, Representative HOWARD BERMAN (D-CA), is an excellent choice. I have also worked with Representative BERMAN on the committee and I have the highest respect for him.

In conclusion, it is apparent to me that the leadership of both parties have forgotten the importance of a bipartisan ethics process in the House. The Ethics Committee proved during the 108th Congress that, working in a bipartisan manner, it could handle politically sensitive and difficult cases.

Both parties need to return to a bipartisan Ethics Committee and bipartisan ethics process or the House as a whole will continue to suffer.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TEACHER
CENTER ACT OF 2006

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 19, 2006

Mr. MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to introduce the Teacher Center Act of 2006.

First and foremost, I want to thank our teachers for their dedication and commitment to taking on all of the demands of their profession. We ask them to perform miracles every day in our underfunded and overcrowded system. And we owe it to them and to their students to provide more than rhetoric about our commitment to supporting teachers and helping them succeed.

Teacher quality is the number one in-school influence on student achievement. Congress recognized this when we passed the No Child Left Behind law and we've come a long way in making sure that every child is taught by a highly qualified teacher. In NCLB we also took a major step forward in improving professional development opportunities for our Nation's teachers. We moved away from 1-day workshops that were not connected to the curriculum and, instead, provided resources to help States and local school districts develop programs that provide continuous, high-quality professional development. This was—and is—essential to meeting the Nation's goal of high standards of learning for every child.

Now we have a responsibility to go to the next step, building on innovative models of dynamic professional development. Teachers tell us that in order to better meet the learning

needs of students, particularly those with the greatest needs, it is essential that we support teachers in honing their instructional skills and techniques with a full repertoire of research-based, proven strategies. We need to pay heed to their call.

The Teacher Center Act of 2006 builds on NCLB by assisting teachers in helping students meet high academic standards. Teacher Centers align professional development with state standards and district curricula and incorporate research about proven classroom strategies—all while meeting high levels of rigor and expertise in both the design and delivery of services.

Teacher Centers employ a strategy in which professional development is made available "for teachers, of teachers, and by teachers." Teachers' voices drive and design the services, which are delivered by expert, practicing teachers and other experts. Teacher Centers provide teachers with opportunities to take charge of their own professional growth and take a lead in the decision-making and implementation of staff development programs based on their needs.

One of the most exciting elements of Teacher Centers is the focus on data-driven instruction in which test results and other indicators of student need are used to drive classroom instruction and strategies. While Teacher Centers give priority focus to literacy and math, they also highlight other essential areas of the curriculum including science, social studies, art, music, foreign languages, health, and physical education. Interdisciplinary approaches to instruction are another example of the type of innovative approaches to professional development that the Teacher Centers provide.

Teacher Centers also help to bridge the gap between groups of students by promoting the effective use of technology to support instruction. Technology is changing at lightning speed and Teacher Centers are particularly helpful to teachers by helping them learn to use technology effectively in their classrooms.

Finally, as we move forward in efforts to ensure that all students receive a high-quality education, we must pay particular attention to the needs of English language learners, students with disabilities, recently arrived students from foreign countries, and other students with special needs. Teacher Centers provide a great opportunity for teachers of these students who have developed effective strategies for helping these students improve their academic achievement to share what they have learned with their peers.

The Teacher Center Act of 2006 is a positive and important step in strengthening the teaching profession and in strengthening our schools. I look forward to achieving the vision of a better school system for all of our children.

MARRIAGE PROTECTION
AMENDMENT

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 18, 2006

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, while I oppose federal efforts to redefine marriage as something