

ANNOUNCING THE INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION TO DESIGNATE THE THIRD WEEK OF OCTOBER AS "NATIONAL TEEN DRIVER SAFETY WEEK"

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, today I will introduce legislation to designate the third week of October as "National Teen Driver Safety Week."

Unfortunately, roughly 7,500 teenage drivers were involved in fatal car crashes in 2005. The time has come for us to recognize this terrible problem and consider effective interventions that will help reduce the number of accidents involving teens.

On Monday, January 22, 2007, following a tragic accident that claimed the lives of two Pennsylvania high school students, the Morning Call compiled a report of fatal crashes involving teens that had occurred in the Lehigh Valley region since 2001. This report indicated that there were a total of 13 fatalities between 2001 and 2006, with alcohol involved in two of the seven accidents reported. Other contributing factors included racing and reckless behavior. Sadly, it appears these events could have been prevented, enabling these children to reach their destinations safely.

To address this troubling issue, the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia is currently conducting research that will help develop the best interventions to reduce the risk of crash injury for teen drivers and travelers sharing the road with them. The alliance of CHOP and State Farm Insurance Company, its partner in this initiative, is nationally recognized for its research and outreach involving child passenger safety. However, this year they have expanded their agenda from the car seat to the driver's seat in an effort to address the cause of motor vehicle crashes, the leading cause of death among American teenagers. Together, CHOP and State Farm have conducted research indicating that teens often drive while distracted and fatigued. I believe this alliance between CHOP and State Farm brings together a wide range of expertise in research and outreach—translating scientific evidence into actions that will help save lives.

It is important that Congress supports efforts to effectively educate teens and families about ways to address these problems. This resolution will support the goals and ideals of a week in which intensive programming will be used to encourage teens to drive more safely. By perhaps delaying exposure to risky driving conditions until they have enough supervised driving experience, managing peer-to-peer interactions around driving, and reinforcing the need to detect and react to hazards more appropriately, teens will be better prepared to drive responsibly.

Madam Speaker, teens are dying in crashes at a rate of four times that of adult drivers and we must act now to prevent future tragedies.

HONORING CAPTAIN MARK SPONENBURGH

HON. DARLENE HOOLEY

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Ms. HOOLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise honor Captain Mark Sponenburgh, a remarkable and distinguished constituent of mine from Seal Rock, OR. On this 63rd anniversary of the "D-Day" landings in Normandy, a ceremony is being held in Washington, DC to celebrate the dozen remaining "Monuments Men" who served our country with honor and valor during World War II. While Captain Sponenburgh was unable to attend today's ceremony, I wish to take this opportunity to acknowledge the countless contributions he has made to our country and community.

Over the years, Captain Sponenburgh has served others in a variety of capacities. He volunteered for the U.S. Army in 1942 where he was commissioned in the Corps of Engineers. Stationed in Britain, he served campaigns in Normandy, Northern France, and Luxembourg before requesting to be transferred to the Monuments, Fine Arts & Archives section program under the Civil Affairs and Military Government Sections of the United States Armed Forces.

During World War II, Nazi dictator Adolph Hitler ordered covert missions to locate and secure art from every region his regime conquered in Europe. As a member of the "Monuments Men," Captain Sponenburgh joined an elite multinational force of more than 350 men and women serving on frontline military units during and after WWII to preserve, protect and liberate artistic and cultural treasures in countries occupied by the Allied armies.

Responsible for having tracked, identified and catalogued millions of priceless works of art and irreplaceable cultural artifacts stolen by Hitler and the Nazis, the heroic deeds of these unsung heroes continue to benefit us all today.

In addition to having studied and taught in Britain, France, Egypt, and Pakistan, Captain Sponenburgh brought his many years of experience and skills to the University of Oregon as well as Oregon State University. Admired by his students for his passion and intellect, he was sorely missed when he entered retirement.

I joined my colleagues in this chamber last month in passing a resolution honoring the great contributions made by all members of the "Monuments Men," but today I rise, Madam Speaker, to ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Oregon's last living member, Captain Mark Sponenburgh.

IN RECOGNITION OF D-DAY

HON. TIM MAHONEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. MAHONEY of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor our brave military forces who on this day in 1944—63 years ago—landed on Utah and Omaha beaches, two of the five beaches at Normandy on a mission known as Operation Overlord, the D-Day invasion.

Today we honor those who never made it ashore, drowning from the weight of their gear or killed by the enemy as they struggled out of the water. The ones who did make it fought valiantly on those beachheads and further on through many campaigns in Europe during World War II.

There are fewer and fewer of the Great Generation left with us today, but their sacrifice for our country and their dedication to protecting freedom and democracy lives on.

On this day, which commemorates the beginning of the Allied forces effort to liberate mainland Europe from Nazi occupation during World War II, I ask that everyone take a moment to remember all of these brave souls and salute them. We are forever grateful for their service and their sacrifice to protect freedom for future generations.

INTRODUCING THE SANCTITY OF LIFE ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Sanctity of Life Act. The Sanctity of Life Act provides that the Federal courts of the United States, up to and including the Supreme Court, do not have jurisdiction to hear abortion-related cases. The legislation also clarifies that State and local courts do not have to treat Federal cases overturning State abortion laws as binding precedent.

Abortion on demand is no doubt the most serious sociopolitical problem of our age. The lack of respect for life that permits abortion significantly contributes to our violent culture and our careless attitude toward liberty. Whether a civilized society treats human life with dignity or contempt determines the outcome of that civilization. Reaffirming the importance of the sanctity of life is crucial for the continuation of a civilized society. There is already strong evidence that we are on the slippery slope toward euthanasia and non-consensual human experimentation. Although the real problem lies within people's hearts and minds, the legal problems of protecting life stem from the ill-advised *Roe v. Wade* ruling, where the court usurped the State's authority over abortion. Congress can, and should, take a major step toward restoring respect for all life by using the authority granted to it in Article 3, Section 1 of the Constitution to rein in rogue Federal judges from interfering with a State's ability to protect unborn life.

Madam Speaker, it is my hope that my colleagues will join me in support of this bill. By following the Constitution and using the power granted to the Congress by the Constitution, we can restore respect for the sanctity of human life.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 6, 2007

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I was absent on Tuesday, June 5th, 2007. Had I been