

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING BRUCE BAUGHMAN FOR HIS SERVICE AS DIRECTOR OF THE ALABAMA EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and personal pleasure that I rise today to honor Bruce Baughman for his years of leadership and service to the state of Alabama as director of the Alabama Emergency Management Agency (AEMA).

Bruce's tenure has endured devastating natural disasters across Alabama, including Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina as well as a deadly tornado that killed 10 people at Enterprise High School. In each of these circumstances, Bruce's experience and guidance proved crucial to the entire region. In the wake of Hurricane Katrina, the recovery in south Alabama was much better than expected, and as a result of Bruce's steady hand, AEMA's response to Hurricane Katrina in 2005 received national praise.

His list of accomplishments is long enough to fill an entire volume of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Among the highlights, Bruce was the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) director of operations for response efforts at both the World Trade Center and the Pentagon in the wake of the September 11 terrorist attacks. Bruce also served as director of FEMA's Office of National Preparedness, a department created at the request of the president and charged with planning and coordinating the agency's domestic terrorism preparedness.

Bruce has served as director of FEMA's Planning and Readiness Division, coordinating the development and implementation of FEMA policies and procedures for use during presidentially declared emergencies. Prior to joining FEMA, Bruce served on the Mississippi EMA staff. Bruce is also a veteran, having served his country as an artillery officer in the U.S. Marine Corps, seeing service in Asia, Europe, and the Caribbean.

Bruce's lifetime of service has certainly not gone unnoticed. He has received numerous awards including FEMA's Distinguished Service Award and four FEMA Meritorious Service Awards.

Madam Speaker, the faithful service of outstanding Americans like Bruce Baughman has contributed in an immeasurable way to the wellbeing of our state and our Nation. I would like to offer my congratulations to Bruce for his many personal and professional achievements and offer a heartfelt "thank you" for a job well done.

I know his family and many friends join with me in honoring his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts on behalf of the people of Alabama and our great Nation.

HONORING THE 16TH INDEPENDENCE DAY FOR UKRAINE

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, 16 years ago on August 22, 1991, the Ukrainian parliament adopted the Act of Independence in which the parliament declared Ukraine as an independent democratic state. The Soviet rule over the region was finally over.

Today, August 24th, is celebrated as Ukrainian Independence Day.

Here in the United States, Ukrainian-Americans join together on this date to celebrate their nation's democracy. As an example to the rest of the world, Ukrainian democracy was created without bloodshed. Today the nation enjoys the freedoms of speech, religion and civil liberties and boasts one of Europe's strongest economies.

For the many generations of immigrants that have come from Ukraine to the United States, memories of communist rule and hard times during the Soviet reign are still prevalent in their minds. However, Ukrainian Independence Day is a day where freedom and democracy are celebrated. Especially in towns like Irondequoit, NY.

Irondequoit boosts a strong and vibrant Ukrainian community. Over 15,000 Ukrainian-Americans call this town their home. There are 2 Ukrainian churches and it is home to one of the largest annual Ukrainian festivals in the country.

In this light, I would like to recognize all the Ukrainian-Americans in Irondequoit as they gather to celebrate Ukrainian Independence Day.

STATEMENT OF CHIEF JUSTICE
PAMELA MINZNER

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, when Pamela Minzner became the first female chief justice of the New Mexico Supreme Court, lawyers wanted to know what to call her. New Mexico lawyers had never used the phrase "Madam Chief Justice," so they decided to inquire if they could call her "Chief Justice Minzner." The Chief Justice's reply speaks volumes about her personality. She told the shocked lawyers, "just call me Pam."

Pamela Minzner grew up with dreams of being a secretary. She believed the job would give her all the independence a woman could expect. But after interning at the Ohio Civil Rights Commission in the 1960s, Minzner decided to study law. In 1968 she graduated from Harvard Law School as one of 22 women in a class of 500. In 1994, she became just

the second woman to serve on the New Mexico Supreme Court, and in 1999 she became the court's first female chief justice.

Minzner will always be known for her integrity. She stood strong on principle when politics threatened to poison the court. She gave freely of her advice and compassion, and public officials across New Mexico regarded her as a mentor and a friend. Assistants remember leaving her chambers late at night with the judge still working, and her husband, Dick, recalls her commitment to the law and to her work.

I served as New Mexico's Attorney General when Justice Minzner was on the Supreme Court. I remember her ability to inspire trust in the rule of law. Justice Minzner believed in the law as a force for progress and fairness. Through the respect she showed to every lawyer who entered her court, she showed New Mexico that the legal system can be fair and just to all sides. On behalf of New Mexico, I want to honor Justice Minzner for her exemplary work and life as a wife to Dick and mother to Carl and Max.

IN RECOGNITION OF GENERAL
VICTOR E. RENUART, JR.

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of United States Air Force General Victor E. Renuart, Jr. who, on March 19, 2007, assumed command of North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command both of which are located at Peterson Air Force Base in the Fifth Congressional District of Colorado.

General Renuart began his distinguished career with the United States Air Force in 1971 and completed Officer Training School in 1972. After commanding the 76th Tactical Fighter Squadron during Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, General Renuart was appointed, in 1992, Director of Assignments, Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, Headquarters, U.S. Air Forces in Europe. He then went on to become Commander, Headquarters Support Group, Allied Air Forces Central Europe, NATO at Ramstein Air Force Base in Germany. He has served as Director of Plans for the NATO Combined Air Operations Center, Commander of the 52nd Fighter Wing, Commander of the 347th Fighter Wing, and in 2000 took command of Joint Task Force-Southwest Asia and the 9th Air and Space Expeditionary Task Force-Southwest Asia.

After serving as Director of Operations for U.S. Central Command where he supervised all joint and allied combat, as well as humanitarian and reconstruction operations for Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom, General Renuart became Vice Commander of Pacific Air Forces and Director of

• 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.

Strategic Plans and Policy on the Joint Staff. Most recently, General Renuart was the Senior Military Assistant to the Secretary of Defense, in which capacity he also served as the senior military liaison to the military services for the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the combatant commands.

I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to General Renuart for his service to our Nation and I congratulate him on this most recent achievement. NORAD and NORTHCOM are vital to our national security, and I am pleased that they will be under the command of such a capable and esteemed leader as General Renuart.

CONGRATULATING T. MICHAEL
GOODRICH ON HIS INDUCTION
INTO THE ALABAMA ACADEMY
OF HONOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor T. Michael Goodrich on the occasion of his induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor.

Michael's years of leadership and service to the State of Alabama as chief executive officer and chairman of the board of BE&K, Inc. have added in an immeasurable way to the wellbeing of our State and Nation.

His lifetime of service has certainly not gone unnoticed. He has received numerous awards including the NOVA Award from the Construction Innovation Forum and the Excellence in Construction Cornerstone Award from the Associated Builders and Contractors.

Created in 1965, the Alabama Academy of Honor was created to recognize living Alabamians for their accomplishments and service that greatly benefits or reflects credit on the State of Alabama. Ten members may be elected annually by the Academy of Honor with no greater than 100 living members at a time.

Madam Speaker, the following tribute was presented to T. Michael Goodrich at his ceremony of induction into the Academy in 2007. With your permission, I would like to add this tribute to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

T. MICHAEL GOODRICH

T. Michael Goodrich is the chief executive officer and chairman of the board of BE&K, Inc., providing engineering, construction, and maintenance services throughout the world. BE&K was recognized by author Robert Levering and by *Fortune* magazine as "One of the 100 Best Companies to Work for in America."

Thomas Michael Goodrich was born in Milan, Tennessee, and moved to Birmingham in 1948. He graduated from Indian Springs School, earned a civil engineering degree from Tulane University, and a Juris Doctorate from the University of Alabama School of Law. He served as a captain in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and as Alabama Chief Justice Howell Heflin's first law clerk and later his administrative assistant.

Goodrich began his career at BE&K in 1972 as legal counsel. His responsibility grew along with the company, and he became vice president and general counsel. In 1989, he was named president, in 1995, CEO, and in 2003, chairman. BE&K companies have built such

diverse projects as Fulton County Stadium, Ericsson Stadium, Discovery Cove for Sea World, NASCAR Hall of Fame, and numerous industrial and telecommunications projects. In addition to work in the United States, BE&K operates an industrial construction company in Poland and Russia and a biotech-engineering firm in Helsinki, Finland.

Goodrich has served as board member and officer with numerous industry and civic organizations, including Associated Builders and Contractors of Alabama; Birmingham Construction Industry Authority; Construction Industry Institute; National Building Museum; Birmingham Civil Rights Institute; Lakeshore Hospital; Leadership Council, University of Alabama at Birmingham; University of Alabama Health System; Eisenhower Exchange Fellow; Board of Governors of Indian Springs School; Leadership Alabama; Leadership Birmingham; South Highland Presbyterian Church; and state and national Boy Scouts of America. His awards and honors include the NOVA Award from the Construction Innovation Forum; the Excellence in Construction Cornerstone Award from the Associated Builders and Contractors; the President's Medal from UAB; and the Silver Antelope and Distinguished Eagle Scout awards from the Boys Scouts of America. He was inducted into the National Academy of Construction in 2002 and the State of Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame in 2004.

Mike and Gillian Goodrich have four children and two grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my congratulations to Michael for his many personal and professional achievements and offer a heartfelt "thank you" for a job well done. I know his wife, Gillian, his family, and many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years for the State of Alabama.

HONORING THE LIFE AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF OLIVER W. HILL, SR.

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of civil rights pioneer Oliver W. Hill of Richmond, Virginia, who passed away on August 5, 2007.

Oliver Hill will be remembered for his many achievements and contributions to the causes of equality and justice. He worked tirelessly to ensure that all people are given the same rights and opportunities under the law.

His landmark successes in the field of law, including a crucial role in the U.S. Supreme Court's *Brown v. Board of Education* decision in 1954, paved the way for the elimination of segregation in this country.

His steady leadership and unwavering dedication to principled change sets him apart as a true hero of our time. His service to the Commonwealth of Virginia and to this Nation is a legacy that will continue for future generations of Americans.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Oliver Hill.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, on March 28, 2007, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 204, concerning H. Res. 274. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

On May 14, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 344, concerning H. Res. 385. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

On August 3, I inadvertently failed to cast a recorded vote on rollcall vote 822, concerning H. Res. 612. Had I cast my vote, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE ON THE 75TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAVE THE CHILDREN

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, this year, Save the Children marks its 75th year of service to children. This is certainly an achievement worth celebrating—and Save the Children did so last night at an Anniversary Benefit in New York City. Seventy-five years ago, a group of concerned business people first gathered in New York City to respond to the needs of children in Appalachia, hit hard by the Great Depression. Save the Children USA began with a hot lunch program for undernourished schoolchildren in rural Kentucky. This brought about an almost immediate rise in attendance and academic achievement, and the program became one of the models for the Federal school lunch program. Throughout its history, Save the Children has focused on transforming children's lives by providing families and communities with the tools they need to break the cycle of poverty. And Save the Children continues to respond to crises resulting from conflicts or natural disasters. Save the Children's mission remains the same in war-torn Afghanistan, tsunami-stricken Indonesia and the United States' coastal area hit by Hurricane Katrina. In addition to 12 states in the U.S., Save the Children is now in more than 50 countries.

Today, when one in every six children in the U.S. are still living in poverty, and one-third of American children and adolescents are either obese or at risk of becoming obese, Save the Children remains hard at work in rural communities providing literacy, physical activity and nutrition, and early childhood support to children in need. Save the Children is working in some of the Nation's poorest communities: in Appalachia, the Southeast, the Mississippi River Delta, the Gulf Coast, the Southwest and California's Central Valley. In rural communities like these, 2.6 million children live in poverty, and many lack access to the recreational opportunities and affordable, fresh produce they need to sustain healthy lives.

Save the Children's international programs began in the 1940's with sponsorships of children caught in the crossfire of World War II. Today, Save the Children reaches the world's

most marginalized children—those who urgently need education, health services, nutrition and economic security to survive and thrive in more than 50 countries around the world. Half as many children under age 5 die each year as compared to 1960 and the number of children who can read and write has increased by nearly 50 percent. Save the Children has played a lead role in some unprecedented global successes for children over the years. Yet, there is still much more work to be done. More than 600,000 children in developing countries live in families that must survive on less than \$1 a day. Moreover, 77 million children around the world are out of school, and 28,000 children under the age of 5 die each and every day. That is not acceptable. Save the Children has launched initiatives to tackle these challenges.

I am proud Save the Children has its headquarters in the Fourth Congressional District, in Westport, Connecticut, and applaud them for their accomplishments over the last 75 years. I also appreciate the leadership of Charlie MacCormack and look forward to witnessing the future lasting, positive changes Save the Children will make in the lives of children. I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing and supporting this fine organization and their noteworthy mission.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
DONALD CRUMPTON MOSLEY, SR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Donald Crumpton Mosley, Sr., former dean of the business college of the University of South Alabama. A consummate educator who brought out the best in his students and colleagues, Dr. Mosley devoted his life to education.

Don Mosley spent 10 years at the University of South Alabama as its business college's second dean, achieving accreditation from the Association of Advance Collegiate Schools of Business before the school was even 10 years old. He left the school in 1982 to pursue teaching and consulting opportunities and returned in 1999 as the Emeritus Professor of Management. The University of South Alabama's National Alumni Association honored Dean Mosley as an outstanding professor, a sentiment echoed by his former students.

Dean Mosley brought the Alabama Banking School to the University of South Alabama, establishing a week-long program that brings together banking officials from across the state. In addition to serving as dean of the USA business school, Don served as dean of Leadership Alabama and Leadership Mississippi.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community member and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Don Mosley will be deeply missed by those who knew him. He is survived by his wife, Susan Young Mosley of Mobile; his son, Donald C. Mosley of Mobile; his brother, Joe Thomas Mosley of Starkville; and two granddaughters. He will be remembered in the thoughts and prayers of all those whose lives he touched and whose minds he lit with the spark of learning.

RECOGNITION OF THE 35TH ANNUAL ST. JOSAPHAT'S UKRAINIAN FESTIVAL

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, for the past 35 years, local parishioners from St. Josaphat's Ukrainian Catholic Church have been gathering to celebrate their heritage during the annual Ukrainian Festival in Irondequoit, NY.

Starting as a small event for the church congregation, over the years the festival has grown into an annual tradition. This year, August 16, 2007, marked the starting of the festival's 35th year. Such a milestone is a testament to the strong Ukrainian heritage throughout Irondequoit and Greater Rochester.

The festival is known for its traditional Ukrainian food, music and dancing. The 35th Ukrainian Festival will feature singing groups from Ukraine, local dancers as well as musical performances on the Bandura, a traditional string instrument. The festival includes rides and activities for kids and adults along with a diverse display of Ukrainian crafts, clothing, music and other collectibles such as pysanky. It's the premier Ukrainian Arts and Crafts Festival of the northeast. This year, organizers made more than 44,000 pyrohy and 20,000 holubsti—all homemade from one recipe by the parishioners.

The overwhelming success of the Ukrainian Festival has made it an institution in the Rochester area. Undoubtedly, the next 35 years will see even more success.

STATEMENT ON REPORTER AND
ACTIVIST BOB JOHNSON

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, if Bob Johnson had only one career, he would still be worthy of our admiration. If he had been only a hard working and talented reporter, a reporter who was loved by his co-workers and revered by the many he mentored, he would deserve our respect. Had he been only a crusader for open government, a tireless advocate for freedom of the press and the people, he would deserve our appreciation. But Bob Johnson was all of these things: A no-nonsense former marine who kept people informed about their government and changed government to make it more responsive to the people.

Bob Johnson wrote the Associated Press' first bulletin on the assassination of President John F. Kennedy. His coverage of that tragedy shaped the response of a mourning nation and quelled public panic with prompt information. As an editor, Johnson taught young reporters the ins and outs of the newspaper business. Those who worked with him remember a ball of energy who was never too busy to pass along a hard-learned lesson or counsel a colleague in need. He covered everything from the Apollo space flights to the taking of hostages at the 1972 Munich Olympics

with the same diligence, precision and enthusiasm.

In his "retirement," Johnson founded and ran the New Mexico Foundation for Open Government. With a reporter's instinct for bringing public scrutiny to private places, Johnson has helped file more than 70 successful complaints under the Open Meetings Act. The organization he founded has helped the New Mexico Legislature craft laws to protect freedom of information and teach young people about their First Amendment rights. By educating and empowering citizens around the state, the Foundation for Open Government has helped put government transparency on the public agenda in New Mexico. Thanks to Johnson, we know more about the decisions that affect our lives.

Bob Johnson's life will always remind us that a commitment to truth is powerful. For his more than 60 years of dedicated work in the public interest, I wish to honor Robert H. Johnson.

RECOGNITION OF ADMIRAL
TIMOTHY J. KEATING

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. LAMBORN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of ADM Timothy J. Keating. I would like to thank ADM Keating for his recent service as Commander of North American Aerospace Defense Command and United States Northern Command, from November 5, 2004 until March 19, 2007, and congratulate him on becoming the Commander of the U.S. Pacific Command, at Camp H.M. Smith in Hawaii.

ADM Keating, who graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1971, completed his flight training in 1973 and has gone on to amass over 5,000 flight hours. From 1982 to 1984 he was the Administrative Officer, Operations Officer and Maintenance Officer with the VA-94, during which time he deployed twice to the western Pacific. In 1987 ADM Keating commanded VFA-87 and deployed to the North Atlantic and the Mediterranean aboard USS *Theodore Roosevelt*. Following this assignment, ADM Keating served at the Naval Military Personnel Command in Washington, DC as Head of the Aviation Junior Officer Assignments Branch. In 1991 he became Deputy Commander, Carrier Air Wing Seventeen where he participated in combat operations supporting Operation Desert Storm.

In addition to serving as Chief of Naval Operations Fellow with the Strategic Studies Group, and at the Joint Task Force Southwest Asia in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, ADM Keating has also been Deputy Commander and Commander of Carrier Air Wing Nine aboard USS *Nimitz* in the Arabian Gulf, Commander of the Naval Strike Warfare Center in Fallon, Nevada, and Director of the Aviation Officer Distribution Division in the Naval Military Personnel Command. In 1998 he became Commander of Carrier Group Five in Yokosuka, Japan and, in 2000, Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Plans, Policy and Operations at OPNAV. Prior to Commanding NORAD and USNORTHCOM, ADM Keating was the Commander of U.S. Naval Forces Central Command and U.S. Fifth Fleet, as well as Director of the Joint Staff.

A highly decorated and distinguished leader, ADM Keating has served our country honorably for over three decades. I commend him for his invaluable contributions to our Nation's defense and know that U.S. Pacific Command will benefit from his extensive experience.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
SAMUEL CARLMAN BURTON

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Samuel Carlman Burton. As the first principal of Mattie T. Blount High School in Prichard, Alabama, Mr. Burton worked tirelessly for the growth and development of his students and of his school.

Mr. Burton served Prichard as the principal of Mattie T. Blount High School from 1957 to 1979, and before that was an employee of the Mobile County Public School System for eight years. He also served as principal of Mount Vernon Elementary School.

Fond of quoting from "The Bridge Builder" by Will Allen Dromgoole, Sam Burton often talked about the legacy teachers and educators leave for future generations. The poem's last lines read: "He, too, must cross in the twilight dim; Good friend, I am building the bridge for him."

Mr. Burton is survived by his daughter Sallie Johnson of Mobile; his brother Frederick Burton of Atlanta; his granddaughter Carlee Johnson of Mobile; and two great-granddaughters, Adrian Johnson and Emily Johnson of Mobile. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Samuel Carlman Burton, a principal who spent his life building bridges.

TRIBUTE TO THE 250TH BIRTHDAY
OF THE MARQUIS DE LAFAYETTE

HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to mark the 250th birthday of the Marquis de Lafayette, born 6 September 1757.

By the age of 20, Lafayette had already served for several years as an officer in the French army. Inspired by the concept of American independence, in 1777 Lafayette came to the United States to volunteer his services, and was appointed a Major General by the Continental Congress.

He became a stalwart friend of General George Washington, and also of future President James Monroe. Lafayette fought and was wounded at Brandywine, and wintered at Valley Forge.

Returning to France late in 1778 to rally support for the American cause, he was instrumental in France's decision to join the Revolutionary War in support of the United States. He returned to America in 1780 to help lead a new infusion of French troops.

Working closely with General George Washington, Lafayette led the French forces which helped to trap Lord Cornwallis at Yorktown, and forced the British surrender there in October 1781.

After the victory at Yorktown, Lafayette returned to France, but came back to the United States in 1794 at the invitation of President George Washington, and again in 1824–1825 at the invitation of President James Monroe.

Declared an honorary citizen of both the United States and Virginia, the Marquis de Lafayette truly played a vital role in the American Revolution.

In Virginia, in celebration of Lafayette's 250th birthday, ceremonies will be held in Richmond with various historical and lineage societies on Saturday, September 8 at Mason's Hall, the State Capitol and the John Marshall House, all venues visited by Lafayette, to commemorate this anniversary.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring Marquis de Lafayette on his birthday.

THE PRAIRIE ROSE CHAPTER OF
THE DAUGHTERS OF THE AMERICAN
REVOLUTION SALUTES
CONSTITUTION WEEK

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, the week of September 17–23 has been officially designated as Constitution Week. This marks the 220th anniversary of the signing of our Constitution.

The guardian of our liberties, our Constitution established our republic as a self-governing nation dedicated to rule by law. This document is the cornerstone of our freedom. It was written to protect every American from the abuse of power by government. Without that restraint, our founders believed the republic would perish.

The ideals upon which our Constitution is based are reinforced each day by the success of our political system to which it gave birth. The success of our way of government requires an enlightened citizenry.

Constitution Week provides an opportunity for all Americans to recall the achievements of our founders, the nature of limited government, and the rights, privileges and responsibilities of citizenship. It provides us the opportunity to be better informed about our rights, freedoms and duties as citizens.

Madam Speaker, at this time I particularly want to take note of the outstanding work of the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution, which is actively involved in the Third Congressional District in events this week commemorating Constitution Week. The Prairie Rose Chapter has been involved with this effort in our communities for a number of years and I commend them for doing so.

Our Constitution has served us well for over 200 years, but it will continue as a strong, vibrant, and vital foundation for freedom only so long as the American people remain dedicated to the basic principles on which it rests. Thus, as the United States continues into its third century of constitutional democracy, let us renew our commitment to, in the words of our Constitution's preamble: "form a more perfect Union, establish Justice, insure domestic Tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the general Welfare, and secure the

Blessings of Liberty to ourselves and our Posterity . . ." I know that the Prairie Rose Chapter of the Kansas Society of the Daughters of the American Revolution joins with me in urging all Americans to renew their commitment to, and understanding of, our Constitution, particularly during our current time of crisis, when Americans are fighting overseas to defend our liberties here at home.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER SHAYS

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. SHAYS. Madam Speaker, on September 5, 2007, I missed 1 recorded vote. I take my voting responsibility very seriously. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on recorded vote No. 853.

CONGRATULATING HENRY L.
AARON ON HIS INDUCTION INTO
THE ALABAMA ACADEMY OF
HONOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Henry L. Aaron on the occasion of his induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor.

Henry Aaron, who is better known to his fans throughout the world as "Hank," set more major league batting records than any player in the game's history and held Major League Baseball's record for home runs until just last month. The Mobile native was inducted into the baseball Hall of Fame in 1982, and played for the Milwaukee Braves, the Atlanta Braves, and the Milwaukee Brewers.

Created in 1965, the Alabama Academy of Honor was created to recognize living Alabamians for their accomplishments and service that greatly benefits or reflects credit on the state of Alabama. Ten members may be elected annually by the Academy of Honor with no greater than 100 living members at a time.

Madam Speaker, the following tribute was presented to Hank Aaron at his ceremony of induction into the Academy in 2007. With your permission, I would like to add this tribute to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HENRY L. AARON

Henry L. Aaron rewrote the hitting records book during a stellar career in major league baseball. Today he is senior vice president of Atlanta National League Baseball Club, Inc.—the Atlanta Braves—and is a successful businessman and civic leader.

Born in 1934 in Mobile, Aaron was a star student athlete in football and baseball, playing semi-pro in the latter sport while still in high school. He was later signed by the Indianapolis Clowns and helped lead that team to win the 1952 Negro League World Series. That same year he was signed by the Boston (later Milwaukee, then Atlanta) Braves. He dominated both Braves farm teams he was on, and by 1954 was in the major leagues, homering in his first spring

training game in a Milwaukee uniform. That was just the beginning.

Over the next twenty-three years, he set more major league batting records than any player in the game's history, including most home runs, lifetime, 755; most years with 30 or more home runs, 15; most extra-base hits, 1,477; most total bases, 6,856; and most runs batted in, lifetime, 2,297. On May 17, 1970, Aaron became the first player to achieve both 3,000 career hits and more than 500 homers. He was also an outstanding fielder, winning three Gold Gloves, and he was elected to a record 24 All-Star teams. He was inducted into the Hall of Fame at Cooperstown, New York, on August 1, 1982. His autobiography, *I Had a Hammer*, was published in 1990, and in 1997, a new minor league baseball stadium in his hometown was named in his honor.

Since retiring from playing, he has been an eloquent ambassador for baseball and sports in general, and has been an outspoken leader on the issue of minority hiring in baseball executive jobs. In the business world, Aaron developed a number of auto dealerships and still owns Hank Aaron Toyota. He is a longtime Church's and Popeye's restaurant franchisee and also operates Krispy Kreme franchises in Atlanta and Columbus, Georgia.

Aaron sits on the board of Retail Ventures, Inc., Medallion Financial Corporation, Atlanta Technical Institute, the Atlanta Braves, and Atlanta Falcons. He is a member of the Board of Governors for Boys and Girls Clubs of America and is a member of the Board of Councilors of the Carter Center. With his wife Billye, he is the founder of the Hank Aaron Chasing the Dream Foundation. Aaron has received numerous civic awards, including the Medal of Freedom, awarded by President George W. Bush, and the Presidential Citizens Medal, awarded by President Bill Clinton.

Throughout his life, Hank Aaron has been an outstanding role model for both children and adults alike. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating him on this remarkable achievement and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of the citizens of the First Congressional District and the state of Alabama.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE PAUL E. GILLMOR,
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES T. WALSH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. WALSH of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my friend and colleague, the Honorable PAUL GILLMOR.

Throughout his life PAUL was a dedicated servant for the people of his home state of Ohio and his country. He proudly served in the United States Air Force, attaining the rank of Captain.

In 1967 PAUL began what would become a long and successful political career. He served 22 years in the Ohio State Senate, and he served as Republican leader five times. A classmate of mine, in 1989 he began the first

of 10 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives serving the people of the 5th District in Ohio. PAUL was the senior member of the Committee on Financial Services and the Ranking Republican on the Financial Institutions Subcommittee. He also served as a member of the Subcommittees on Capital Markets and Housing. PAUL had a lot of responsibilities in serving the second largest district in Ohio, but he did so valiantly and with tremendous success, showing that he was a true leader. He served eight terms as a member of the Republican Whip Team, including serving as Deputy Minority Whip. PAUL was also unanimously elected to serve as Vice President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. His ability to lead earned PAUL great respect amongst his colleagues and his constituents.

His length and success of service was evidence of how he truly listened to his constituents and did all that he could to help them. He was the consummate professional—always putting the best interests of his constituents and his country ahead of partisanship by being willing to work across party lines to successfully achieve goals.

PAUL was a soldier, a state senator, and a congressman, but the roles he cherished most were that of husband and father. Few things meant more to PAUL than his constituency, but his family definitely ranked number one in his life. PAUL's five children were his pride and joy. His happiest times were spent with his wife and children.

My deepest heartfelt condolences go out to PAUL's wife Karen and his children Linda, Julie, Paul Michael, Connor, and Adam. My thoughts and prayers and those of my wife Dede are with them at this difficult time, and we thank them for sharing PAUL with us for so many years. He was a wonderful friend and colleague and will be sorely missed.

IN MEMORY OF THE HONORABLE
JENNIFER DUNN, 1941–2007

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. SESSIONS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my fellow colleagues in mourning the passing of the Honorable Jennifer Dunn. My friend and an honorable representative for the people of the 8th district of Washington passed away on Wednesday. I was greatly saddened when I was told the terrible news of her passing. This Chamber, and the State of Washington has lost a friend and one of our most capable and dedicated former Members.

Words cannot fully express the sorrow that is felt by those who have known and loved Jennifer. My heart goes out to Jennifer's husband, Keith Thomson, her two sons, Bryant and Reagan Dunn, her stepson, Angus Thomson, and her two grandchildren during this difficult time. I will be keeping her memory and her surviving family in my thoughts and prayers. I pray for her former Washington, DC, and Washington State congressional staffers who served her and the people of the 8th Congressional District of Washington.

Congresswoman Dunn was a highly-respected Member of Congress, dutifully serving six terms before she retired in 2005. She

achieved an inspiring career of many firsts: first woman to chair the Washington State Republican party; first freshman woman to win a place in the House Republican leadership team; and the highest ranking Republican woman in leadership as the vice chair of the conference. More than anything, Jennifer will be remembered for her generosity and compassion for others. She is leaving us for a better place, but leaves behind a lasting legacy of service to this House. Words cannot fully express my sorrow in her passing. God Bless.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to submit a record of how I would have voted on Saturday, August 4, when I was tending to a family commitment, for which the timing was not flexible.

Had I voted, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall No. 824; "yes" on rollcall No. 825; "yes" on rollcall No. 826; "yes" on rollcall No. 827; "yes" on rollcall No. 828; "yes" on rollcall No. 829; "yes" on rollcall No. 830; "nay" on rollcall No. 831; "yes" on rollcall No. 832; "yes" on rollcall No. 833; "nay" on rollcall No. 834; "yes" on rollcall No. 835; "nay" on rollcall No. 836; "yes" on rollcall No. 837; "nay" on rollcall No. 838; "no" on rollcall No. 839; "nay" on rollcall No. 840; "nay" on rollcall No. 841; "nay" on rollcall No. 842; "nay" on rollcall No. 843; "nay" on rollcall No. 844; "nay" on rollcall No. 845; and "yes" on rollcall No. 846.

CONGRATULATING LEAH RAWLS
ATKINS ON HER INDUCTION INTO
THE ALABAMA ACADEMY OF
HONOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Leah Rawls Atkins on the occasion of her induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor.

A student of history, Mrs. Atkins has cemented her own place in the history books of the great State of Alabama. A woman of firsts—she was the first woman inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame and the first recipient of a Ph.D. awarded by Auburn University.

Created in 1965, the Alabama Academy of Honor was created to recognize living Alabamians for their accomplishments and service that greatly benefits or reflects credit on the State of Alabama. Ten members may be elected annually by the Academy of Honor with no greater than 100 living members at a time.

Madam Speaker, the following tribute was presented to Leah Rawls Atkins at her ceremony of induction into the Academy in 2007. With your permission, I would like to add this tribute to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

LEAH RAWLS ATKINS

Leah Rawls Atkins has spent her life teaching and writing about American and

Alabama history. She was born in Birmingham, growing up in a family compound of four houses that included the homes of her grandparents and great-grandparents near Oak Hill Cemetery. World War II was the formative event of her childhood and kindled her love of history, her country, and her state.

In high school and college, she was a competitive water skier. In 1953 she won both the U.S. Women's Overall National Championship and the Women's Overall World Championship. She was the first woman senior judge of the American Water Ski Association, and the first woman AWSA board member. In 1976, she was the first woman inducted into the Alabama Sports Hall of Fame.

Atkins holds three degrees from Auburn University, receiving her doctorate in history in 1974, the first time a Ph.D. in history was awarded at AU. She taught history at Auburn, briefly at the University of Alabama at Birmingham, and at Samford University, where in 1984 she became the founding director of the Samford London Study Centre. The next year she became the founding director of the Auburn University Center for the Arts and Humanities (now the Caroline Marshall Draughon Center), which she directed for a decade, bringing university scholars and citizens together to explore the ideas and experiences that inform the human condition, connecting the local to the universal, and providing an opportunity for learning and dialogue.

Atkins is a longtime member, former president, and for 15 years served as secretary of the Alabama Historical Association.

She was a founding board member of the Friends of the Alabama Archives, the editor of the Friends' first newsletter, and is on the board of the Alabama Archives and History Foundation. She has published many articles and books on Alabama history, including a study of the admission of women to Auburn University and the University of Alabama, a history of Birmingham and Jefferson County, and a biography of builder John M. Harbert III. She is also author of a corporate history of Brasfield & Gorrie and, most recently, of a history of Alabama Power Company which won the 2007 James Sulzby Book Award for the best book on Alabama history. She is a co-author of the Pulitzer Prize-nominated *Alabama: History of a Deep South State*, which also won the Sulzby Award.

She and her husband, George, have been married for 54 years and have four children and 13 grandchildren.

Leah Atkins is an outstanding example of the quality individuals who have devoted their lives to education. Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating her on this remarkable achievement. I know her husband, George, her family, and many friends join with me in praising her accomplishments and extending thanks for her many efforts over the years on behalf of the State of Alabama.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, on rollcall vote 856, the Westmoreland amendment to H.R. 2786, please accept my apologies as I was unavoidably detained and was not able to cast my vote in the allotted time. It was my intention to vote "yes" on this amendment.

TRIBUTE TO THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AIR NATIONAL GUARD BASE AT MCGHEE TYSON AIRPORT

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a piece of history in the Second District of Tennessee.

For the past 50 years, as people flew into my district, they weren't just landing in Knoxville but also touching down at a historic Tennessee Air National Guard Base.

Military planes taking off from that runway have been a part of some of the noblest causes of modern times, from the Berlin Air Lift to Operation Enduring Freedom.

It's a history of service that exemplifies the spirit that gave Tennessee the nickname of the Volunteer State, and once again the Knoxville community is at the forefront of that service.

The base is now celebrating 50 years of operations, and it is currently the proud home of the 134th Refueling Wing, as well as the 228th Combat Communications Squadron, the 119th Command and Control Squadron, the I.G. Brown Training and Education Center, the Academy of Innovative Ministries, and the 572nd Air Force Band.

It's not just the longevity of the base that is so remarkable, but also the quality of the men and women who serve there. The 134th has been consistently ranked nationally for its superb performance.

I would like to congratulate the nearly 2,000 full-time military and civilian personnel at the base and the many thousands more who pass through the facility each year for training. Their professionalism makes us proud.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I urge my colleagues to join me as I salute the 50th anniversary of the Air National Guard Base at McGhee Tyson Airport in Blount County, Tennessee. I know the facility and the men and women who operate it will play an important part in protecting our Nation for decades to come.

A TRIBUTE TO ST. ROBERT BELLARMINE CATHOLIC CHURCH

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. SCHIFF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay special recognition to St. Robert Bellarmine Church upon the celebration of its 100th anniversary.

The church was founded as Holy Trinity Parish in 1907 by Father Edward Wright. In 1939, the church was remodeled and given its present name. The choice of 17th century Italian cardinal St. Robert Bellarmine as patron saint reflects the church's modern-day identity as a spiritual, educational and charitable institution. St. Robert Bellarmine embodied an ideal blend of spirituality, intellect, public service and charity. He would certainly be proud of Burbank's St. Robert Bellarmine Church, which throughout its 100 years has dem-

onstrated a passionate commitment to these same ideals.

Today, St. Robert Bellarmine Catholic Church serves the spiritual, educational, and charitable needs of its community. Its elementary school, as well as Bellarmine Jefferson High School, offers a Christ-centered learning environment with a challenging curriculum that educates students both academically and morally, preparing them for a lifetime of service to both God and their communities.

In addition, St. Robert Bellarmine sponsors and facilitates service-oriented groups that serve the homeless, the sick, and others in need in the Burbank community and beyond by actively engaging in food drives and raising charitable funds. Many leaders of St. Robert Bellarmine have used their leadership as a means for serving the community. Monsignor Martin Cody Keating, for example, served the church for 37 years after his work as an Army chaplain in World War I. During his priesthood, he worked as an advocate for labor and war veterans' issues. The current Priests and staff continue this legacy of public service today.

I ask all Members to join me today in honoring St. Robert Bellarmine Church upon the celebration of its 100th anniversary. The entire community joins me in thanking the parishioners of St. Robert Bellarmine Church for their religious, educational, and charitable contributions to California's 29th Congressional District.

CONGRATULATING JAMES I. HARRISON JR. ON HIS INDUCTION INTO THE ALABAMA ACADEMY OF HONOR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor James I. Harrison Jr., on the occasion of his induction into the Alabama Academy of Honor.

Jimmy Harrison is one of the most influential men in the drug store business not only in Alabama but throughout the United States. He was a star on both the basketball court and on the baseball field at the University of Alabama, but he is an even better businessman and pharmacist. His success in the board room is only exceeded by his generosity and charitable spirit. His lifetime of service to his community and support of education have added in an immeasurable way to the well-being of our state.

Created in 1965, the Alabama Academy of Honor was created to recognize living Alabamians for their accomplishments and service that greatly benefits or reflects credit on the state of Alabama. Ten members may be elected annually by the Academy of Honor with no greater than 100 living members at a time.

Madam Speaker, the following tribute was presented to James I. Harrison at his ceremony of induction into the Academy in 2007. With your permission, I would like to add this tribute to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

JAMES I. HARRISON JR.

James I. Harrison, Jr., was born in Tuscaloosa on July 11, 1932. He attended St. John's Parochial School in Tuscaloosa and was one of the four graduates of the school's last

class in 1949. After a post-graduate year at Chattanooga's Baylor School, he entered the University of Alabama where he played basketball and baseball. After two years, he transferred to Howard College (now Samford University) and graduated with honors from the School of Pharmacy.

His parents had purchased Central Drug Store in downtown Tuscaloosa and turned it into a success. When Harrison graduated from college, his father purchased another struggling drug store near the University of Alabama. Druid Drug became successful and famous as the favorite coffee hangout of Coach Bear Bryant and his staff. Three more Tuscaloosa stores were added over the next several years. In 1967, Harco, Inc., was founded. Harco, Inc., would eventually operate 153 Harco Drug stores, 55 Carport Auto Parts stores, and 7 Harco Totalcare (home healthcare) stores. The company was sold in 1997 to Rite Aid.

During Harrison's years as CEO of Harco, he served as chairman of the National Association of Chain Drug Stores, Affiliated Drug Stores, and the Southern Drug Store Association. Harco and Harrison received many national business and pharmacy industry honors and awards.

Harrison's charitable spirit and support of education have dynamically impacted his community and state. He established the James I. Harrison School of Pharmacy, Auburn University; the Harrison Center for Academic Excellence, Judson College; the James I. Harrison Family Endowed Teaching Excellence Faculty Fellow, University of Alabama; and the Caritas Community Service Award, University of Alabama. Harrison is a member and past chairman of the UA President's Cabinet. He is a founding member of Success by Six Educational Initiative in Tuscaloosa County; a founding member and first president of the Alexis de Tocqueville Society chapter supporting United Way of West Alabama; and a member of the Mayor's Pre-K Advisory Board, Tuscaloosa. He is a patron to Children's Hands-on Museum and to the UA Rural Infant Stimulation Environmental Center.

He holds honorary doctorates from the University of Alabama and Judson College, is in several business and civic halls of fame, and serves on many corporate and civic boards. Harrison and his wife, Peggy, have five children and fifteen grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my congratulations to James I. Harrison, Jr. for his many personal and professional achievements and offer a heartfelt "thank you" for a job well done. I know his wife, Peggy, his family, and many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years for the State of Alabama.

THE GREEN CHEMISTRY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 4, 2007

Mr. WELCH of Vermont. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank my colleagues on the Science & Technology Committee for their efforts in bringing H.R. 2850, the Green Chemistry Research and Development Act of 2007 to the House floor. This legislation is important and very necessary.

"Green chemistry and engineering" is the term used to describe the environmentally conscious design of chemical products and processes that are made safer to human health and the environment by reducing or eliminating the use or creation of hazardous and harmful substances.

Like many Americans, I am dedicated to reducing the causes and effects of global warming. Many of the solutions to global warming and other serious environmental problems need to be addressed at the molecular design level. This legislation does just that. It provides a path forward so that our chemists and engineers are able to conduct their work and research in an environmentally friendly manner.

This bill is also in alignment with the innovations legislation that was signed into law in August. It will help to sustain the United States' position as a global leader in the science and engineering fields and promote our ability to compete with other nations. The National Academies report, "Rising Above the Gathering Storm", commissioned by the House Science & Technology Committee, points out the growing concern for America's ability to compete in today's global economy. H.R. 2850 supports innovation by:

Authorizing funding for green chemistry and engineering research;

Investing in young researchers;

Fostering collaborative R&D partnerships among our universities, industry, and nonprofit organizations;

Promoting education and training of undergraduate and graduate students, as well as professional chemists and chemical engineers;

Recognizing the value of the Manufacturing Extension Partnerships in the adoption of green chemistry and engineering innovations; and

Providing for much needed science research to identify barriers to commercialization of safer chemistry and engineering practices.

This legislation is supported by my constituents who are members of the Green Mountain American Chemical Society. This organization includes members from Vermont's universities and colleges, and from Vermont industries, such as IBM, BF Goodrich, Seventh Generation, and Biotek. Other supporters of H.R. 2850 include Vermont's Manufacturing Extension Partnerships and the Vermont Technology Council.

Vermont's business community is advocating "green chemistry and engineering" research. Vermont-based Seventh Generation Inc. is a leading nationwide distributor of environmentally sensitive household soaps, detergents, paper products and diapers. According to Jeff Hollender and Martin Wolfe at Seventh Generation, on the face of it, green chemistry is pretty basic: find ways to make non-toxic or less harmful chemical alternatives from non-toxic or less harmful raw materials using processes that don't create pollution, and manufacture goods using less water, energy, and other natural resources. While the concept is simple, the reality is far from it. However, instead of representing failure, the current lack of alternatives just means that a lot of work still needs to be done.

Educators in Vermont are also supportive of increasing resources for green chemistry research. Dr. Daniel Savin of the University of Vermont is doing critical green chemistry research on the development and use of biodegradable plastics that are derived from re-

newable biomass resources as an alternative to the traditional petroleum-based plastics, whose production results in harmful greenhouse gas emissions. Dr. Savin is investigating the extraction of the feedstock for a new plastics material from whey-protein, a natural byproduct of Vermont's very important cheese production. These plastics could be used in pest control applications, weed suppression, and water retention; reducing the use of harmful chemicals and the depletion of natural resources. This is just one example of the value of investing in green chemistry and engineering research.

H.R. 2850 represents an important investment in green chemistry and engineering research and education. I am pleased to support its passage and urge my colleagues to support this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIALIST ERIC M. HOLKE, CALIFORNIA NATIONAL GUARD

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. CALVERT. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a hero from my congressional district, California National Guardsman Eric Holke. Today I ask that the House of Representatives honor and remember this incredible young man who died in service to his country.

Eric grew up in Riverside and Crestline, California. He graduated from Rim of the World High School in 1995 and was interested in working with children. Before Eric was deployed in December, he worked with autistic children and was attending college in hopes of becoming a teacher. Specialist Holke had a strong sense of duty: he had served two tours previously, one in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. During his tour in Iraq he was injured but dedicated himself to getting better so that he could reenlist, which he did. Specialist Holke was called up in December 2006 and on July 15, 2007 he was killed in action in Iraq.

In reading about Eric's life, I was impressed by his devotion to family, friends and children. He is survived by his wife Cassidhe and son Steven. Our community has lost a great man and Cassidhe and Steven have lost a wonderful husband and father.

As we look at the incredibly rich military history of our country we realize that this history is comprised of men, just like Eric, who bravely fought for the ideals of freedom and democracy. Each story is unique and humbling for those of us who, far from the dangers they have faced, live our lives in relative comfort and ease. The day the Holke family had to lay Eric to rest was probably the hardest moment the family has ever faced and my thoughts, prayers and deepest gratitude for their sacrifice goes out to them. There are no words that can relieve their pain and what words I offer only begin to convey my deep respect and highest appreciation.

Specialist Holke's wife, son, relatives and friends have given a part of themselves in the loss of their loved one and I hope they know that Specialist Holke, the goodness he brought to this world and the sacrifice he has made, will be remembered.

TRIBUTE TO TERRY FRIDAY

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the life of Mr. Terry Friday and to express my deepest sympathy to his family on his passing on September 1, 2007.

Terry Friday was born on December 26, 1950, in Columbia, South Carolina to Joseph C. and Leola Lee Friday. A child prodigy, his musical genius became evident during his early years, and his family began to expose him to the world of music.

At the age of 6, he began his formal music training under his first piano teacher, Mrs. Margaret Thornton, who nurtured his love for music and encouraged what would become Terry's lifelong passion, sharing his musical gift with others. As he progressed through the Columbia public schools, other nurturing music teachers included Mrs. Haggler at Roosevelt Village Elementary School, Mrs. Barbara Bailey, and Mrs. Edna Pough, all of whom had a profound influence on his early training.

Terry excelled in almost all instruments, not only piano and organ. His special gift allowed him to play the flute, clarinet, French horn, drums, bells, and saxophone. His musical repertoire spanned the full range of music—classical, jazz, religious, hymns, spirituals and anthems, and contemporary gospel music.

Mr. Friday graduated from Booker T. Washington High School in 1969, where he was a member of the Marching 100 school band under the direction of the late Mr. "Pop" June. He continued his education at the University of South Carolina where he received his Bachelor of Arts (1973) and Master's (1979) degrees in Music.

During his high school years, Terry began his Church music ministry at Friendship African Methodist Episcopal Church, a church founded by his grandparents. He later served the Union Baptist Church of Columbia. In 1970, at only 20 years old, he became the organist at Ridgewood Missionary Baptist Church, where he served until 1989. It was during his tenure that the Ridgewood choir earned a national reputation for musical excellence.

In 1989, Mr. Friday was called to Washington, DC as the minister of music at the historic Metropolitan African Methodist Episcopal Church, the national cathedral of the AME church. During his tenure at Metropolitan, he served as musician/director at many prestigious events and ceremonies, most notably the Inaugural Prayer Services for President William Jefferson Clinton in 1993 and 1997 respectively.

In September of 1998, Terry was named Minister of Music at the Nineteenth Street Baptist Church of Washington, the oldest African American Baptist congregation in the nation's capital. Highly sought after by churches and choral groups, one of Terry's crowning achievements was playing the organ at the Washington National Cathedral.

Mr. Friday leaves behind legions of choirs, orchestras, and ensembles, all of whom benefited from his musical genius. One of his greatest joys was to feel the response of great choirs, as he accompanied them on the organ.

On Saturday, September 7, friends and colleagues from across the country will gather at the Union Baptist Church in Columbia, South Carolina for funeral services and to celebrate the life of this great musician.

Madam Speaker, please join me in honoring the life and legacy of Mr. Terry Friday, and I offer my deepest condolences to his family and friends.

CONGRATULATIONS TO JOANN DIGENNARO, PRESIDENT, CENTER FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION, FOR BEING HONORED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF BULGARIA AND THE ST. CYRIL AND ST. METHODIUS INTERNATIONAL FOUNDATION

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize and celebrate the honor that was bestowed by the Government of Bulgaria and the St. Cyril and St. Methodius International Foundation to Joann DiGennaro, President of the Center for Excellence in Education.

Founded in 1983 and located in McLean, Virginia, the mission of the Center for Excellence in Education is to nurture young scholars to careers in excellence and leadership in science and technology and to encourage international collaborations in the global community. The Center has a 23-year record of achievement in identifying and motivating future leaders in science and technology. All programs provided by the Center are free of cost to participating students.

As co-chair of the Bulgaria Caucus, I would like to congratulate Joann on her philanthropic and educational work benefiting the United States and Bulgaria. Joann's leadership as President of the Center for Excellence in Education has allowed her to secure donations of educational and medical equipment in Bulgaria. She has been pivotal in creating a stronger relationship between the U.S. and Bulgaria. Her hard work should be commended as Bulgaria continues to strengthen its democracy. America is a grateful partner with Bulgaria in NATO, and this year we celebrate Bulgaria's admission to the European Union.

I want to wish Mrs. DiGennaro best wishes and good fortune in her future projects.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STAFF SERGEANT JASON M. BUTKUS

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I wish to honor the life of Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus 34, of New Jersey, who died in Bagdad, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom on August 30, 2007. Staff Sergeant Butkus died of injuries sustained when his mounted patrol was struck by a rocket-propelled grenade.

Staff Sergeant Butkus was assigned to A company, 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry Regiment, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, Kansas. He enlisted in the army in 1995 and completed basic training at Fort Benning, Georgia. Prior to enlisting in our Nation's armed forces, Staff Sergeant Butkus graduated from West Milford High School in West Milford, New Jersey, where he was a scholar-athlete and member of the wrestling and track teams.

Staff Sergeant Butkus's 12-year military career took him to Fort Bragg, North Carolina, where he served with the 82nd Airborne Division, and to Alaska and South Korea. Among his many assignments over the years, Butkus served as an instructor at the U.S. Army Training Center at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Additionally, Staff Sergeant Butkus was commended on two separate occasions for his leadership as a noncommissioned officer.

Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus dedicated his life to protecting and ensuring our Nation's freedom. He served his country, his community, and his fellow soldiers with the determination, integrity, and courage that is exemplary of a true soldier. He demonstrated his courage on the battlefield while fighting for democracy abroad. His service is a shining example for future soldiers.

Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus is survived by a loving mother, father, and a 9-year-old son, Connor. Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring the life of Staff Sergeant Jason M. Butkus.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF DANIEL BAUGH BREWSTER

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor the memory of Daniel Baugh Brewster, a former U.S. Representative and U.S. Senator from Maryland.

Daniel Brewster was born in Baltimore County, Maryland on November 23, 1923. He attended Gilman School in Baltimore, Maryland and St. Paul School in Concord, New Hampshire.

Mr. Brewster attended Princeton University before enlisting in the Marine Corps in 1942. At the age of 19, he commanded troops in the South Pacific as a lieutenant with the 4th Marine Regiment of the 6th Marine Division. Mr. Brewster led assault waves on Guam in 1944 and on Sugar Loaf Mountain in Okinawa in 1945. He was wounded seven times during the assaults, and was awarded a Purple Heart, two Gold Stars and two Bronze Stars.

He attended school both day and night at the Johns Hopkins University to earn enough credits to enroll in the University of Maryland School of Law. He graduated in 1949 by supplementing his course work with night classes at George Washington University's Law School. Shortly thereafter, he then formed a law practice with John Grason Turnbull, then majority leader of the Maryland Senate. He was elected to a countywide Maryland House of Delegates seat representing Baltimore County, Maryland in 1950, at age 26, and served two terms.

In 1958, Mr. Brewster was elected to Congress from Maryland's 2nd District, which then

encompassed Harford, Carroll and Baltimore Counties. He served two terms in the House of Representatives.

Mr. Brewster was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1962 at age 39. He was the sole sponsor of legislation that created the Assateague Island National Seashore in Maryland and Virginia in 1963. In 1964, he was the stand-in candidate for President Lyndon B. Johnson when Alabama Governor George C. Wallace, a segregationist, ran in Maryland's Democratic presidential primary, a test battle amid the debate over the Civil Rights Act of 1964.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the memory of Daniel Baugh Brewster. He was a true American patriot who throughout his life went above and beyond the call of duty in his service to Maryland and the United States of America.

CELEBRATING FRUIT GROWERS
SUPPLY COMPANY CENTENNIAL

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker. I rise today to honor and congratulate Fruit Growers Supply Company as it celebrates its 100th anniversary.

Fruit Growers Supply Company was born out of adversity. Organized in 1907 by the members of the Southern California Fruit Growers Exchange (now known as Sunkist Growers) it owes its beginnings to the infamous 1906 San Francisco earthquake and fire. Following that disaster, the demand for lumber for rebuilding increased dramatically—and lumber used (or citrus crates became very scarce and very expensive. The Exchange members formed a separate cooperative, Fruit Growers Supply, to assure the availability of the materials needed to grow, harvest, package and ship its member's citrus.

FGS worked with small lumber companies to obtain boxes at a reasonable cost. As citrus production increased, Fruit Growers continued to expand, purchasing additional timberlands in Northern California. While FGS no longer owns any sawmills, it still is one of the largest private landowners in California, with additional recently acquired holdings in Oregon and Washington.

In 1916, to meet the growing needs of its members, FGS opened its first Operations Center in Porterville to warehouse supplies needed for the citrus industry. Today, FGS has six Operations Centers throughout the growing regions of California and Arizona available to serve its grower and packer members.

In the early 1950s the citrus industry began replacing the standard wooden box with fiberboard cartons. In 1961, FGS built its first carton plant to assure its members of a lower cost, higher quality container in which to ship their Sunkist citrus. Today, FGS' highly efficient corrugated manufacturing plant in Ontario, California produces millions of cartons, not only for Sunkist citrus, but for other agricultural producers as well.

FGS' member support continues to expand as needs change. When citrus growers needed efficient water delivery systems, they turned to FGS to design the systems and pro-

vide technical support. FGS now is one of the irrigation leaders in agriculture.

FGS also owns a manufacturing facility through a subsidiary, United Wholesale Lumber Company, in Visalia, California. United is one of the largest suppliers of pallets to the West Coast shipping industry. In 2002, FGS acquired a group which provides wax and related equipment and services to the agricultural industry. Renamed FGS Packing Services, the groups business grew 50 percent in its first 3 years with FGS.

Fruit Growers' proud heritage and ongoing efforts to best serve the needs of its members, and the agricultural community, stand it in good stead for its next 100 years.

I ask all members to join me in honoring Fruit Growers Supply Company upon the celebration of its centennial and in commending Fruit Growers for its past and present commitment to providing services and support to the agricultural community.

EXPRESSING SYMPATHY AND
PLEDGING SUPPORT FOR VIC-
TIMS OF SEVERE FLOODING IN
EASTERN KANSAS

SPEECH OF

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, on June 26th, rains began to fall in eastern Kansas, and they barely paused for the next 3 days. Storms dumped as much as 21 inches of rain in some places, triggering floods that washed over dozens of counties.

When the rains finally stopped, I joined Mr. MOORE, Mr. TIAHRT, Mr. MORAN, and our governor, Kathleen Sebelius, to tour the flood-damaged regions. We saw heartbreaking sights: homes covered in water, streets rendered inaccessible by floods, and the populations of whole towns camping in middle schools. We also saw countless acts of kindness, from the very large to the very small. Friends and neighbors gave generously of their time, their shelter, their food, and their hearts. As devastating as the floods were, they brought out the very best in Kansans.

I'm pleased that the House is pausing today to reflect upon what we've lost and to honor the hard work of rebuilding Kansas. Votes such as this are sometimes called "symbolic," but that is not the same thing as "meaningless." To the Americans who have heard little news from Kansas since the flood waters receded, this vote serves as notice that we're rebuilding, stronger than ever before. And to the thousands of Kansans who lost everything, it is a show of support from their community and their country.

Today, 2 months after the rain stopped, eastern Kansas is well on its way to recovery. For that, we owe our deepest thanks to our friends and neighbors, to the emergency personnel who worked so tirelessly for so long, and to FEMA for its helping hand. You've shown us how to meet a disaster with courage and compassion, and you've shown America the very best of Kansas.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CPL. JUAN
ALCÁNTARA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, today I rise to ask my colleagues to take a moment to remember all of our military men and women who died in the line of service during this recess period. Men like Cpl. Juan Alcántara, who died on August 6, 2007, in Baqubah, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

According to Department of Defense reports, Corporal Alcántara died of injuries sustained when an improvised explosive device detonated near his dismounted patrol. This news was especially heart wrenching for me because Cpl. Alcántara was assigned to the 2nd Infantry Division out of Fort Lewis, Washington, the same infantry division that I served in during the Korean War.

This fallen hero moved to the United States from the Dominican Republic at the age of 5 and graduated from Edward Reynolds West Side High School in my district. Like many soldiers who are fighting in Iraq, he enlisted in the Army with the hopes of one day being able to earn enough money to attend college and to secure the military's lucrative post-service benefits. He dreamed of obtaining 60 college credits to become a police academy cadet and following the footsteps of his sisters, Cathy and Ferdelinda Pena, by joining the NYPD.

My District, like many communities in this country, have seen too many of their best and brightest come home in body bags. Young Americans searching for opportunity to get a college education, decent health care, and/or own a home are increasingly having to make the choice to stare into the barrel of a gun or dodge a roadside bomb in order to have their fair shot at the American Dream.

Because this young warrior's service was extended as part of the president's new "surge" strategy, he asked the Army if he could come home to New York to see his daughter, who was born on June 29, 2007. His request was denied and his life tragically came to an end, never being able to feel the warmth of his newborn baby girl, Jayleni Alcántara. She will hear the heroic tales of her father but she will never experience his smile, affection, and the sanctuary of a fatherly hug.

In the eyes of some, Cpl. Alcántara's selflessness and willingness to make the ultimate sacrifice for this Nation is made even more remarkable when one considers that he was not even an American citizen. However, it should be no surprise that immigrant soldiers defend their newly established homeland with the same vigor as American born citizens. I've lived in this country long enough to know that no birth certificate can ever determine how deeply one loves this country. It only saddens me that he died never having realized so many dreams, including the one of taking the oath to our Constitution. Yet I am proud to call him a constituent and now that he has been awarded citizenship posthumously, a fellow American citizen.

Gen. MacArthur once said, "The soldier above all others pray for peace, for it is the soldier who must suffer and bear the deepest wounds and scars of war." Let us all hope that

his death was not in vain and that it moves our forces one step closer to home and to peace in the Middle East.

We may disagree with the wars that are being waged by our Commander in Chief, but that should never negate the courage of our Nation's immigrants who have answered the call to duty and have made the ultimate sacrifice.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF FIRST
LIEUTENANT GEORGE WESLEY
HOFSESS

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and memory of First Lieutenant George Wesley Hofsess, who recently passed away at his Ventura, CA home on July 21, 2007. Lieutenant Hofsess dedicated his life to his family and his country. His courage and his commitment to excellence were exemplary both at home and on duty.

Lieutenant Hofsess was born on August 5, 1915 in Partridge, Kansas where he grew up on a small farm. He attended Kansas State University where he met the love of his life, Frances Ann Esmond. They were happily married on June 8, 1940. Upon graduating from Kansas State University, Lieutenant Hofsess decided to dedicate his life to the service, enlisting in the U.S. Army Air Force on May 28, 1942.

Lieutenant Hofsess was assigned to the 709th Bomb Squadron, 447th Bomb Group, as a pilot of a B-17 Bomber, Plane 1091. He was stationed in England during World War II and served valiantly there, flying 28 missions over Nazi-occupied Europe. For a time, Lieutenant Hofsess was reported missing in action over France.

Eventually, Mrs. Hofsess was notified by the Washington Provost Marshall General that Second Lieutenant George W. Hofsess was a prisoner of war in Nuremburg concentration camp #4274.

On December 28, 1944, Mrs. Hofsess received a letter from the War Department, stating that by direction of the President, the Air Medal and one Oak-leaf Cluster had been awarded to Second Lieutenant George W. Hofsess for "exceptionally meritorious achievement" and for displaying "courage, coolness and skill." As these awards could not be formally presented to Lieutenant Hofsess, they were presented to Mrs. Hofsess.

Lieutenant Hofsess earned his medals many times over. At the time his plane was shot down, he suffered burns to his face and hands while successfully evacuating his entire crew from the plane. During his imprisonment in the concentration camp, his older brother, Lieutenant Colonel Russell Hofsess, with the famous Seventh Army, began a tireless search for him.

Finally, just before Germany surrendered, Lieutenant Hofsess was found. He walked out of the prison camp and into the arms of his older brother.

First Lieutenant George W. Hofsess was Honorably Discharged from service on November 25, 1945. He lived the following years as a civilian, caring for his family and his friends.

On July 21, 2007, First Lieutenant George Wesley Hofsess peacefully passed at the age of 91. He is survived by his wife of 67 years, Frances Ann Hofsess; his daughter Anne Stamos and her husband Lucas of San Jose, CA; his daughter Julie Antal and her husband Tom of Minneapolis, MN; and his grandson, Grant Murray, of San Jose. Lieutenant Hofsess left a legacy of bravery and selflessness through his service to his country. Throughout his life, he fought to protect peace and freedom and was a loving husband and father. We are forever grateful for his service to this nation and the world. The contributions of First Lieutenant George W. Hofsess will not be forgotten and he will be sorely missed.

LIFELONG IMPROVEMENTS IN
FOOD AND EXERCISE ACT (LIFE)

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the Lifelong Improvements in Food and Exercise Act (LIFE), a national initiative to attack growing problems of overweight and obesity now found in Americans of every age, race, and major demographic group. The LIFE bill would provide \$15 million in funding to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) for a major effort to reverse increasingly sedentary lifestyles and diets that are high in fat and sugar.

I introduce the bill today because of the startling and steadily increasing rates of obesity among adults and children in the United States. Currently, 64.5 percent of adults, aged 20 years and older, are overweight and 32.2 percent of adults (over 66 million) are obese. According to the National Women's Health Information Center, 50 percent of women aged 20 to 74 are overweight or obese. Young people are no better off—the percentage of children who are overweight has more than doubled, and among adolescents the rates have tripled since 1980 increasing from 5 percent to 17.1 percent. The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) reports that Type 2 diabetes, considered an adult disease, is now widespread in children. The health care system is already paying the price, and the consequences to kids will follow them throughout their lives. These kids, ages 10 to 15, have a 80 percent chance of being overweight adults, with the health conditions that follow, such as high blood pressure, heart disease and cancer.

The LIFE bill directs the CDC to pursue obesity and sedentary lifestyles in three ways: train health professionals to recognize the signs of obesity early and educate people concerning healthful alternatives, such as proper nutrition and regular exercise; conduct public education campaigns to teach the public about how to recognize and address overweight and obesity; and develop intervention strategies to be used in everyday life in worksites and community settings. This important legislation is the minimum necessary to address this major health care crisis. Already, chronic diseases, many of which are caused or exacerbated by overweight or obesity, account for 70 percent of all deaths in the U.S., which is 1.7 million each year and 60 percent of U.S. medical care expenses yearly. According to the Surgeon General's Call to Action to Prevent and

Decrease Overweight and Obesity, the cost of obesity in the United States in 2000 was more than \$117 billion.

A focused national health initiative is necessary because unhealthy lifestyles have become a normal part of everyday life. Participation in high school physical education classes has dropped from 42 percent in 1991 to 33 percent in 2005, accounting at least for part of the reason that one-third of young people in grades 9–12 do not regularly engage in physical activities. National data show an increase in unhealthy eating habits for adults and no change in physical activity. Changes in nutrition are equally critical because 60 percent of young people consume too much fat, a factor in the doubling in the percentage of overweight youth.

I urge my colleagues to join with me in support of this important legislation to mobilize the country now before entirely preventable health conditions that begin in children overwhelm the nation's health care system.

TRIBUTE TO MASTER WAN KO YEE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. LANTOS. Madam Speaker, one of the fundamental principles on which this Nation was founded is freedom of religion and respect for the religious beliefs of others. Religious tolerance and the freedom of religion for individuals to believe what they choose is one of the underlying concepts essential to our democratic system of government. Madam Speaker, it is in that spirit that I want to pay tribute to Master Wan Ko Yee, who has been recognized by world-renowned Buddhist masters as Dorje Chang Buddha III, the true incarnation of the primordial Buddha of the Buddhist faith in accordance with the rules of recognizing the incarnation in Buddhism.

Master Yee was born in Sichuan, China, and like many individuals over the last four centuries, has come to this land where there is greater opportunity and freedom to teach and practice his religion. As Master Yee said, "The American people are kind and noble. People can freely believe in religion in the United States, a country that is spiritually wealthy, powerful, and blessed."

I am pleased that he has found a new home in my own home state of California, where many Americans of diverse backgrounds have embraced principles of Buddhism, which include showing compassion toward others, benefiting others, being selfless, and striving for enlightenment and liberation.

Master Yee, who is recognized as His Holiness Wan Ko Yeshe Norbu, the Buddha Vajradhara Great Dharma King by the leaders of different sects of Buddhism in the world, has established a temple in San Francisco. Other similar places of worship for the benefit of believers have been established in other cities in California, New York, Washington, DC and abroad.

Master Yee not only is a widely recognized and admired Buddhist thinker and teacher, Madam Speaker, but he also is an artist whose work has been widely acknowledged and exhibited. His work includes a number of very different styles and media, including traditional Chinese calligraphy, traditional Chinese

painting, abstract painting, and a new style of art that is called Yun sculpture in which Master Yee has created beautiful colors and shapes.

In recognition of his artistic work, he has been named a "Fellow" by the Royal Academy of Art in the United Kingdom. His works of art have been displayed in a number of exhibits, including two recently here in Washington, DC at the Organization of American States and in the Gold Room of the Rayburn House Office Building, which was sponsored by our friend and colleague, DAVID DREIER of California. An exhibit of his Yun sculpture in San Francisco last year was widely attended, and his work has been exhibited in a number of other locations.

Madam Speaker, I invite my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Master Wan Ko Yee, Dorje Chang Buddha III, a Buddhist leader of particular renown who has chosen to make his home here in the United States, and who is an outstanding artist, scholar, and religious thinker.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, on September 6, I was attending a funeral in my district and missed several votes. If present I would have voted on the following Rollcall votes, Rollcall No. 854, approving the Journal, "aye". Rollcall No. 855, H. Res. 633, "Aye". Rollcall No. 856, anti-Native Hawaiian amendment to H.R. 2786, "Nay". Rollcall No. 857, King of Iowa amendment to H.R. 2786, "Nay". Rollcall No. 858, Price of Georgia amendment to H.R. 2786, "Nay". Rollcall No. 859, final passage of H.R. 2786, "Aye".

HONORING THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF AUSTIN HIGH SCHOOL IN HOUSTON, TEXAS

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate Stephen F. Austin High School of Houston. This school, located in our district, opened in September of 1937, and for 70 years, it has held education and its students in the highest regard.

Austin High School focuses on the development of their students and the community surrounding them to attain full potential and academic achievement. The student body has grown to almost two thousand students, 99% of which are minority students. Through the use of their magnet program, Advanced Placement courses, Dual Credit Courses for college credit and many more avenues, approximately \$1,000,000 in scholarship funding for the graduating seniors of 2007 has been secured. This is quite the accomplishment and deserves much recognition. The school's magnet program also deserves notice as it focuses on the

teaching profession and prepares students for academic success in college and their future careers.

Another notable contribution to the community will be the unveiling of the Fallen Heroes Memorial honoring Austin High graduates who lost their lives in faithful service during WWII, the Korean War, and in Vietnam.

It is with great pleasure that I bring due attention to Austin High School, commend them on their accomplishments and challenge them to grow even further and continue their outstanding example in our community.

HONORING BUENA VISTA CARNEROS WINERY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Buena Vista Carneros on the 150th anniversary of the founding of this historic estate. Buena Vista Carneros was the first premium winery established in California, and 150 years later it remains one of the leading wineries in, the world's foremost wine producing region.

The estate was founded in 1857 by Hungarian Count Agoston Haraszthy after he was introduced to the Sonoma wines by General Mariano Guadalupe Vallejo. General Vallejo learned of his interest in winemaking when the Count first arrived in the Sonoma Valley, and after a tasting session the Count decided to remain in the region and plant his own vineyards. With the success of the winery, Count Haraszthy was commissioned by the California State Legislature to travel through Europe in order to gather the finest European cuttings to bring back to California. In total, the Count gathered more than 100,000 cuttings of 350 varieties for the nascent California wine industry. In 1969, in recognition both of his famous winery and his contribution to California viticulture, Congress recognized Count Haraszthy as 'The Father of Californian Winemaking'. Today, Buena Vista Winery and Vineyards is recognized as a California Registered Historic Landmark.

Buena Vista winery's storied history truly takes off with the acquisition of 700 acres in the Carneros appellation in 1969. This initial holding was quickly expanded to a total of 1,000 acres, and coincided with the rise to prominence of the Carneros region, built largely on a reputation for producing excellent cool-weather wines. Since that time, as Sonoma Valley has gained prominence as one of the world's premier wine regions, Carneros' fame has continued to rise. In 2005, Buena Vista winery was renamed Buena Vista Carneros to coincide with a replanting of its estate vineyards into small blocks arranged to best capture Carneros' subtle variations.

Madam Speaker, it is appropriate at this time that we acknowledge Buena Vista Carneros on the 150th anniversary of its founding. As California's first winery, Buena Vista Carneros is truly a testament to the enduring quality and character of California wine, and today it remains among the Sonoma Valley's finest wineries.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ARTHUR MONETTI

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Arthur Monetti, a veteran of World War II, for his exemplary service in defense of freedom and award him with the Jubilee of Liberty Medal. On June 6, 1944 the United States and its allies embarked on the largest air, land, and sea invasion ever undertaken. This massive effort included 5,000 ships, 10,000 airplanes, and over 150,000 American, British, Canadian, Free French, and Polish Troops. During the 50th anniversary of this historic event, the French Government awarded the Jubilee of Liberty Medal to American servicemen for their participation in the Battle of Normandy.

Arthur served in the United States Army, Battery B 491st Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion. Arthur fought ground combat during the Battle of Normandy in Northern France, Rhineland. For his heroism and valor, Harry was awarded the American Service Medal, European African Middle Eastern Service Medal, Good Conduct Medal and the World War II Victory Medal.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Arthur Monetti for his heroic service in the United States Army. His dedication to this country in the theater of war is truly exemplary. I commend the sacrifices he has made to protect our freedoms and I am pleased to have the opportunity to recognize his service. I applaud Arthur Monetti for his successes and I wish him the best in his future endeavors.

HONORING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CITY OF WASCO

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the City of Wasco on the celebration of their 100th anniversary.

The birth of the town of Wasco dates back to 1897, when the Santa Fe Railroad laid tracks through the area. Soon after, over 300 families relocated there through the efforts of Marshall V. Hartranft, who secured land for resale to the settlers from the Kern County Land Company. This effort was known as the "Fourth Home Extension Colony." Originally named "Dewey," then "Deweyville," Wasco was renamed by William Bonham, a settler from Wasco County in Oregon, and the town name was recorded by the Post Office in 1900.

In 1904 Delta-Shamrock School was born serving as a multi-purpose institution including a school, a civic center and a welcoming place for settlers who arrived in 1907. A few years later, a business district was born which included a depot, a general store, a post office, two saloons, a blacksmith shop and a hotel. Eventually, the school was renamed "The Wasco School" and, in 1919, it became the Wasco Unified School District.

In 1929, the Wasco Union High School Auditorium was completed. This architectural

gem was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1997. The building, with its renaissance style architecture and aesthetic charm, still functions as a venue for educational, civic, and cultural purposes.

The City of Wasco has since flourished into a growing and vibrant community located in the heart of the most diversified agricultural region in the world. Wasco is nestled among blooming rose fields, almond and pistachio orchards, sugar beets, grapes, and white cotton fields among many other fruits and vegetables.

Wasco is also universally known as the Rose Capital of the Nation. Over 60 percent of all roses grown in the United States are grown in the Wasco area. Seven major rose companies grow more than 50 million plants in the North Kern County area. Rose companies were looking for a good climate, the right kind of soil, good land to lease, a desirable growing season, as well as an available labor force and water. Wasco has been home to many of these rose companies for over 50 years.

The history of this city further demonstrates that it is only by embracing the importance of community, cooperation and shared vision that such success can be achieved. I am honored to stand and shine a spotlight on the City of Wasco, as they celebrate a century of pride and progress.

STATEMENT HONORING THE LIFE
OF FORMER TEXAS SOUTHERN
UNIVERSITY PRESIDENT EVERETT
O. BELL

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a wonderful man and the former president of Texas Southern University, Everett O. Bell. Mr. Bell passed away last Thursday after a lengthy illness and he will be deeply missed.

Everett Bell was born on September 23, 1918 in Kosciusko, Mississippi to Ebb Owens Bell and Allie Glee, as one of ten children. He quickly showed his dedication to serving his community and his country, attaining the rank of Captain during his service in the United States Army during World War II. After leaving the service, Mr. Bell returned to the University of Kansas to attain his Bachelor of Arts degree.

Mr. Bell first came to Texas Southern in 1948 as a registrar and assistant professor at my alma mater, Texas Southern's School of Law, later to become the Thurgood Marshall School of Law. This marked the beginning of 46 years of distinguished service to the university in various capacities. He served as director of personnel, acting dean of the School of Law, assistant to the president under seven different administrations, vice president for administrative affairs, and executive director for regent relations, among other positions. From 1979 to 1980, Mr. Bell served as Texas Southern's fifth president following the departure of President Granville Sawyer. He continued working at the school through 1994, when he retired after his extremely distinguished career.

Mr. Bell served Texas Southern University and the rest of his community admirably

throughout the course of his life. In 1983, Texas Southern recognized his tireless service by naming the Student Services Building in his honor as Everett O. Bell Hall. He also served admirably in the Episcopal Church, where he served on the Diocese of Texas' Executive Board and Race Relations Board. Mr. Bell also demonstrated his commitment to his community by serving on the Board of St. Luke's Episcopal Hospital.

I would like to express my condolences to Everett Bell's family, friends and all those who will miss him dearly. I would also like to express my admiration for his lifelong dedicated service to his community and his country.

PERCY SUTTON POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise to express my support for the resolution to name the post office at 365 West 125th Street in New York City as the "Percy Sutton Post Office Building."

A civil rights leader and businessman, Percy Sutton was a pre-eminent fixture of New York politics, serving as a member of the New York State Assembly and from 1966 through 1977 as Manhattan Borough President. Most of all, Percy Sutton was one of the architects of the effort to revive Upper Manhattan.

Percy Sutton once said, "If you pray for only one thing, let it be for an idea." He was a man of innumerable ideas—many of them profoundly important for New York City and for the community he represented. He lived an astonishingly full life that included stints as a stunt pilot, military intelligence officer, lawyer, civil rights activist, politician, media baron and technology executive.

Most of all, Percy Sutton dared to dream the impossible. At a time when Harlem was crumbling, he believed that it could become a tourist attraction. When the famous Apollo Theatre closed, it threatened to become another vacant shell on a street of shuttered stores. He acquired the theater, in a move that is widely considered the first step to the renewal of 125th Street.

Percy Sutton had an important and lasting impact on the community surrounding the post office, and it is fitting to have a federal building named in his honor. I am proud to support H.R. 954.

RECOGNIZING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF THE SOUTHWEST DIGEST

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Madam Speaker, I congratulate the Southwest Digest for 30 years of service in the Lubbock community. Over the past 30 years, the Southwest Digest has provided the African American community of Lubbock with news and current events. The news-

paper has strongly advocated for economic and community development and against drugs and violence. Its editors have also focused on the special needs of senior citizens, young people, and the poor in the community.

Eddie Richardson and T.J. Patterson co-founded the Southwest Digest in 1977. In addition to their work with the newspaper, both men have been active in serving the Lubbock community and state of Texas, and both also served their country in the U.S. armed forces.

After working with Texas State Representative Al Edwards for many years, Eddie Richardson was appointed by the governor as a commissioner on Texas' Juneteenth Cultural and Historical Commission. T.J. Patterson's career in education included teaching in Lubbock and serving as Assistant Dean at the Texas Tech College of Business. He was also a leader in local government, becoming the first African American elected to the Lubbock City Council in 1984. He was named Mayor Pro-Tem in 1990 and stepped down from the Lubbock City Council in 2004.

Under the leadership of Eddie Richardson and T.J. Patterson, the Southwest Digest has made many notable contributions to the Lubbock area. Some of these include participating in 85 marches against gangs, drugs and violence over the years. In 2002, the editors established the Southwest Digest Foundation to help support disadvantaged young people. Through the years, the Southwest Digest has continued to spread the message that drugs and crime should not be tolerated in the Lubbock community.

This newspaper has had a positive impact on Lubbock for the past 30 years. I congratulate the editors on their work and wish the Southwest Digest continued success for many years to come.

HONORING THE 30TH ANNIVERSARY
OF BURKE CENTRE CONSERVANCY

HON. TOM DAVIS

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the Burke Centre Conservancy, located in Fairfax County, Virginia.

The Burke Centre Conservancy is a home owners association representing 5,862 homes on 1,700 acres of land. A planned residential community, Burke Centre is comprised of single family homes, townhouses, condominiums, co-ops, duplexes and quad units. The variety of housing located in Burke Centre provides the Conservancy with unique and pressing challenges in ensuring a healthy quality of life for all of its residents.

Burke Centre is governed by an annually-elected board of trustees with seven volunteer members. The board acts to maintain community assets; address resident concerns; manage the financial assets of the corporation; execute the yearly budget; enforce Conservancy rules; administer community programs; encourage volunteer efforts; and to provide services to enhance a positive lifestyle within the Burke Centre community.

Significant accomplishments of the Burke Centre Conservancy include a community risk

management plan and stream bank instability study by the Board of Trustees; a \$250,000 wetlands remediation project; and the establishment of a community parking district.

Burke Centre was also honored with the 2007 Best of Braddock Award for Neighborhood Enhancement and Beautification.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I commend and congratulate the Burke Centre Conservancy on 30 years of excellence. I call upon my colleagues to join me in applauding the Conservancy on its continued growth and success for many years to come.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO PATRICIA GRAY

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Patricia Gray for her unwavering dedication and service as Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court in Nevada.

Patricia has recently retired from the U.S. Bankruptcy Court after dutifully serving it for over 36 years. Patricia came to Las Vegas in 1968, moving with her family from her birthplace of Carlsbad, New Mexico. She graduated from Las Vegas High School in 1969.

In September of 1970, Patricia was appointed as a deputy clerk for the U.S. Bankruptcy Court. Her immense talents and indomitable work ethic were recognized and she rose quickly through the ranks, becoming the Chief Deputy Clerk in 1974. In 1979, Patricia was appointed as the Clerk of the U.S. Bankruptcy Court under the Bankruptcy Code for the District of Nevada.

During her 36 years with the court system, Patricia has actively served the judicial branch, serving on many committees in both the 9th Circuit and Administrative Office of U.S. Courts. She has served on the Local Rules Subcommittee for Bankruptcy Rules and as Chair of the 9th Circuit Bankruptcy Liaison Committee. Patricia is also a notable member of the Las Vegas community for her service as a member of the Board of Directors for the Clark County Chapter of the American Red Cross.

Patricia's enduring legacy is recognized by her peers in the U.S. Bankruptcy Court, where they describe her as being a great leader who has shown dedication and compassion for both the members of the court and for the public. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Patricia Gray. I wish her the greatest happiness in her retirement and I offer my sincere thanks for her many years of service.

IN HONOR OF SOUTH BAY STAND DOWN FOR HOMELESS VETERANS

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation and support for South Bay Stand Down For Homeless Veterans. From September 8th through September 10, 2007, the United States Depart-

ment of Veterans Affairs is reaching out to homeless military veterans living in the South San Francisco Bay region.

Held in Santa Cruz County, South Bay Stand Down aims to reduce the many barriers faced by homeless veterans and to assist them with a wide variety of services. For three days, veterans will be able to access clothing, food, water, and shelter, and can interface with a wide variety of government and public service organizations. Veterans will have the ability to learn about benefits that they may be entitled to, and even access free legal assistance and health services.

I am truly inspired to see that the South Bay Stand Down for Homeless Veterans is a community effort. A diverse array of organizations have come together to ensure that the problem of homelessness among military veterans is properly addressed. Notable participants include the Veterans Transition Center, the County of Santa Cruz Veterans Services Office, Capitola Vet Center, Shelter Network, Not This Time Vets, Easter Seals, and the Red Cross.

Homeless veterans face incredible hurdles in areas of life that many people simply take for granted. Access to shelter, food, and employment are immeasurably more difficult to attain. With as many as 50,000 homeless veterans living in the state of California alone, it is imperative that the government and local communities reach out to assist those who have served our nation. The South Bay Stand Down accomplishes just that. I commend the participating veterans and organizations for their willingness to better the lives of our community members.

Madam Speaker, I wish to express my gratitude to the organizers of South Bay Stand Down and to all of the participating organizations. To the veterans who attend, I offer my most sincere appreciation for your service in the armed forces of our nation. I can think of no other group more deserving of community support and recognition than the men and women who served in the United States military.

HONORING THE 1966 TEXAS WESTERN NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP BASKETBALL TEAM ON THEIR INDUCTION INTO THE NAISMITH MEMORIAL BASKETBALL HALL OF FAME

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of the Texas Western Miners, the 1966 NCAA championship basketball team that is being inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame today. Texas Western College is now known as the University of Texas at El Paso (UTEP), and is in the district that I am honored to represent. The victory of the 1966 Texas Western team made a groundbreaking impact on diversity in sports and civil rights in America, and this team is only one of six to be enshrined forever as a legend of the basketball world.

Texas Western was coached by Don Haskins, "the Bear," who has become an El Paso icon and legend and who was himself in-

ducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame in 1997 as a coach.

The Texas Western team, a tight-knit group of blacks, whites, and one Hispanic, finished the 1965–66 regular season with a 23–1 record. The Miners then played their way to the NCAA championship game. On the night of March 19, 1966, in College Park, MD, history was made when Haskins started, for the first time ever, an all-black lineup in the final NCAA championship game against Adolph Rupp's No. 1-ranked Kentucky Wildcats, an all-white team. The Texas Western team won the national title with a 72–65 victory. More important than the basketball victory was the profound statement that was made that night regarding an issue that was causing great national controversy and strife—civil rights.

The win soon became a symbol for the breakthrough of black athletes into college sports and is an event defined by many as the "Brown v. Board of Education of athletics". After the '66 championship, college teams throughout the South began aggressively recruiting black athletes, ending years of shameful segregation. You may recall that the 2006 film "Glory Road" is based on the story of the 1966 Texas Western team. Years later, when recounting his coaching successes and historic contribution to civil rights, Haskins said, "I just played my best guys, like any coach would do."

This team will be remembered forever. This is a great day for El Paso and for basketball enthusiasts all over the world; a great day to remember the civil rights struggle and some of the strides that have been made; and a great day to recognize and honor the contributions of the 1966 Texas Western NCAA championship basketball team as they are inducted into the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame.

I am proud of this team—Bobby Joe Hill (Detroit, Michigan), Orsten Artis (Gary, Indiana), Togo Railey (El Paso, Texas), Willie Worsley (New York, New York), David Palacio (El Paso, Texas), Dick Myers (Peabody, Kansas), Harry Flournoy (Gary, Indiana), Louis Baudoin (Albuquerque, New Mexico), Nevil Shed (New York, New York), Jerry Armstrong (Eagleville, Missouri), Willie Cager (New York, New York), David 'Big Daddy' Lattin (Houston, Texas) and their legendary coach, Don "the Bear" Haskins, and congratulate them on this slam dunk!

CELEBRATING THE GIFT OF LIFE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of a new record for the State of Florida; our first set of sextuplets, born this weekend to new parents Karoline and Ben Byler of Wesley Chapel in my district.

As someone who raised three wonderful girls, I know the joys of motherhood, albeit one at a time. The Bylers, who already have a 4-year-old at home, now get six times the challenge of raising young children, welcoming five little boys and one girl into their home.

The boys were named Brady Christopher, Eli Benjamin, Ryan Patrick, Jackson Robert

and Charlie Craig. The girl is MacKenzie Margaret.

Madam Speaker, the residents of my district are like so many others around the Nation; good, caring and generous American citizens. Since the babies were born this weekend, the parents have been showered with gifts and support, including clothing, diapers, baby wipes, baby formula and gift cards.

While every child is a precious gift, to be blessed with six babies at one time is truly an accomplishment. In fact, this is the first time in Florida history, and only the fourteenth time in the United States that sextuplets have been born. My thoughts, prayers and best wishes go out to Karoline and Ben Byler as they begin an amazing journey as parents to six new children while ensuring that the older sister feels just as loved.

H.R. 3162, THE CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND MEDICARE PROTECTION ACT

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the Children's Health and Medicare Protection, CHAMP, Act to help ensure that the 68,000 children in Minnesota without health insurance, and the more than 9 million children around the country that are uninsured and underinsured, have access to the critical health care services they need.

The State Children's Health Insurance Program, SCHIP, in our state, MinnesotaCare, plays an important role in providing health care coverage for millions of lower-income children around the country. It is available for children whose families do not have health insurance, but who do not qualify for Medicaid. Unfortunately, without action from Congress, the law authorizing funding for this important program will expire at the end of September.

The CHAMP Act reauthorizes SCHIP and improves the program by providing health care for an additional 5 million uninsured children in our nation who are eligible, but not currently enrolled in SCHIP. This bill also grants states the option to expand SCHIP coverage of pregnant women, as well as allowing states to offer health care coverage for older children up to age 21.

In order to be healthy, children need access to comprehensive health care. For this reason, I joined several of my colleagues to send a letter to Chairman DINGELL urging him to include a dental benefit in SCHIP. I strongly support that under this legislation, children enrolled in SCHIP will receive a guaranteed dental benefit.

Further, because at least 1 in 5 American children and adolescents have a mental health disorder, it is critical that H.R. 3162 requires parity for mental health coverage.

Not only does this legislation strengthen health care for our kids, it also helps our nation's seniors. The CHAMP Act preserves seniors' access to physicians by preventing a scheduled 10 percent payment cut from going into affect, and actually increasing payments to Medicare physicians by 0.5 percent for the next 2 years.

H.R. 3162 also includes several provisions to improve the Medicare Part D prescription drug benefit. It caps out-of-pocket spending under Part D to 5 percent of annual income and eliminates late enrollment penalties for the lowest income Medicare beneficiaries. Additionally, this legislation expedites the process to qualify for low-income assistance and allows any beneficiary to change plans if a plan changes the formulary in a way that results in reduced access to a prescription for the individual.

Further, because there are many concerns about rapidly increasing health care costs, this legislation stops overpayments to private Medicare Advantage plans, which will save the 82 percent of Minnesota beneficiaries enrolled in traditional Medicare plans \$10.2 million in Part 8 premiums. This bill gradually implements the payment changes, which will allow Medicare beneficiaries to choose the plan that best meets their needs. H.R. 3162 also raises the asset limits to \$17,000 for individuals and \$34,000 for couples, making it easier for seniors to qualify for assistance with Medicare Part 8 and D costs.

H.R. 3162 is endorsed by numerous organizations including the AARP, the American Medical Association, the American Academy of Pediatrics, the Children's Defense Fund, Families USA, and the National Rural Health Association. I have included for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD a list of organizations that have sent letters in support of this legislation.

Madam Speaker, it is essential that all Americans have access to comprehensive, quality, and appropriate health care. I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for this important bill.

CHAMP LETTERS OF SUPPORT

AARP, July 26, 2007; Acute Long Term Hospital Association, July 25, 2007; AFL-CIO, July 26, 2007; AFSCME, July 25, 2007; Alliance for Better Health Care, July 26, 2007; Alliance for Retired Americans, July 25, 2007; American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry, July 26, 2007; American Academy of Family Physicians, July 25, 2007; American Academy of HIV Medicine, July 26, 2007; American Academy of Ophthalmology, July 25, 2007; American Academy of Pediatrics, July 25, 2007; American Association of Neurological Surgeons, July 25, 2007; American Clinical Laboratory Association, College of American Pathologists, Genzyme Corporation, Federation of American Hospitals, National Rural Health Association, July 26, 2007; American College of Physicians, June 24, 2007; American Counseling Association & American Mental Health Counselors Association, July 25, 2007; American Diabetes Association, July 26, 2007; American Federation of Teachers, July 25, 2007; American Gastroenterological Association, July 25, 2007; American Hospital Association, July 26, 2007; American Psychological Association, July 25, 2007;

American Society of Cataract and Refractive Surgery, July 24, 2007; Child Welfare League of America, July 26, 2007; Children's Dental Health Project, July 25, 2007; Coalition of Full Service Community Hospitals, July 25, 2007; Coalition to Preserve Rehabilitation, July 26, 2007; Disability Policy Collaboration, July 26, 2007; Easter Seals, July 26, 2007; Families USA, July 25, 2007; Federation of American Hospitals, July 25, 2007; First Focus, July 26, 2007; Friends of NQF, July 25, 2007; Generic Pharmaceutical Association, July 25, 2007; HIV Medicaid/Medicare Working Group, July 25, 2007; National Alliance on Mental Illness, July 25, 2007; Na-

tional Association of Insurance Commissioners, July 25, 2007; National Council on Aging, July 26, 2007; National Rural Health Association, July 26, 2007; Illinois Governor Blagojevich, July 26, 2007; Incenter Strategies, July 23, 2007; Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation International, July 25, 2007; March of Dimes, July 25, 2007; NAACP, July 26, 2007;

National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, July 25, 2007; National Hispanic Medical Association, July 25, 2007; National Medical Association, July 26, 2007; Premier, July 26, 2007; The Arc and United Cerebral Palsy, July 26, 2007; The Medicare Cost Contractors Alliance, July 25, 2007; The Society of Thoracic Surgeons, July 26, 2007; Three State of New York Healthcare Organizations, July 25, 2007; Washington State Labor Council, AFL-CIO, July 25, 2007.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO BRENT EUGENE TYLER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Brent Eugene Tyler for a lifetime of community and business service in Nevada.

Brent was born in 1928 in Thatcher, Arizona. After graduating from high school, he went on to serve his country in the U.S. Navy from 1946 to 1948. Brent moved to Nevada in 1950 with his wife, Anne. He graduated from the University of Nevada, Reno in 1953 with a degree in Business Accounting. Brent and Anne had three children, Joe, Brent, and Stephanie.

Brent found his professional calling in the blossoming neon sign business in Reno. He spent more than two decades as the top local salesman for the Young Electric Sign Company, becoming a respected businessman with many friends in Nevada that he maintained throughout his life.

In 1967, Brent made a bid for Reno City Council; while he did not win the office, it did not diminish his contribution to public service, as he went on to assist countless northern Nevadans achieve local and state offices.

Mr. Tyler was admired by his community for his strong dedication to volunteerism. For several years he served as a full time VISTA volunteer with the Washoe County Senior Law Project, and he served as the volunteer chairman of the state sanctioned Renter's Hotline. Brent also worked with the National Association for the Mentally Ill of Northern Nevada along with his son, Joe. He spearheaded the effort to establish Yori Park because of his concerns for low income families not having a safe place to play. Additionally, with the help of his son Bret, he helped to create a low income, non-profit mobile home park in Lockwood.

Brent's lifelong commitment to the business and volunteer communities in Nevada serves as an inspiration to us all. Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Brent Eugene Tyler for a lifetime of public service. The legacy he leaves behind will long be remembered by his community.

TRIBUTE TO JASMINE CLARK

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a champion athlete from Georgia's 3rd Congressional District.

Jasmine Clark, a 9-year-old from Tyrone, took her taekwondo skills to the 2007 Junior Olympics in July and came home with a gold medal. Jasmine's victory earns her the title of national champion for female blue belts in her age range.

Jasmine began competing in taekwondo just three years ago but quickly proved to be a natural. Nevertheless, she entered the Junior Olympics as an underdog, and with grit and determination took the gold in the elite open division and then the world class division.

Every champion, of course, has a supporting cast that plays an important role in any victory. For Jasmine, those supporters include her parents, Louis and Yongmi Clark, and her coach at Tiger Martial Arts in Fayetteville, Ehud Kojak. These mentors rightfully bask in Jasmine's reflected glory.

I join Jasmine's peers and teachers at Robert J. Burch Elementary School and the people of Fayette County in stating our pride in Jasmine's gold medal victory in taekwondo at the Junior Olympics. I hope and trust that this is merely the opening of an outstanding athletic career for Jasmine Clark. I congratulate her and wish her the best in all her future endeavors in the sport.

IN HONOR OF JAMES F. DRAKE

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of Mobile's finest sons, James F. Drake, a survivor of the Bataan Death March, who spent 42 months as a prisoner of the Japanese during World War II.

In April 1942, James Drake was a young mess sergeant with the Army Air Corps' 27th Bomb Group when he was captured along with the nearly 75,000 Filipino and American soldiers by the Japanese. The captives were forced to march to a prison camp more than 60 miles away without food or water. Thousands of the prisoners died during the week-long march that became known as the Bataan Death March. During the 42 months Mr. Drake was held prisoner at Camp O'Donnell, he survived on small helpings of rice. Upon his release, he weighed a mere 89 pounds.

In the 65 years that followed, Mr. Drake dedicated his life to caring for others. Due to the injuries he received as a prisoner of war, Mr. Drake had to have one of his legs amputated; however, he was known for driving fellow veterans to VA facilities for medical treatment in Biloxi, Montgomery, and Pensacola.

Mr. Drake was inducted into the Alabama Military Hall of Honor in 2000 and named a Mobile Veteran of the Year in 2005. He truly was the embodiment of service to country.

Madam Speaker, the life and actions of James Drake personified the very best of

America. I feel certain his many friends and family, while mourning the loss of this courageous man, are also taking this opportunity to remember his many accomplishments and to recall the fine gift they each received simply from knowing him and having him as an integral part of their lives. I urge my colleagues to take a moment and pay tribute to James Drake and his selfless devotion to our country and the freedom we enjoy.

Make no mistake; James Drake was a true American hero.

TRIBUTE TO DR. RONALD M. SEGA

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the retirement of Dr. Ronald Segal, Under Secretary of the Air Force, and to recognize him for his distinguished public service as Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, from August 2001 to July 2005; and as Under Secretary of the Air Force, from August 2005 to August 2007.

As the Chief Technology Officer for the Department of Defense, Dr. Segal interacted with the Executive Branch, Congress, industry, academia, and other Federal agencies to develop strategies and support plans to align scientific research and engineering development with Department goals and objectives to ensure U.S. military technological superiority. Following the September 11, 2001, terrorist attacks on the Nation, he established the Department of Defense Combating Terrorism Technology Task Force to spearhead the rapid development and fielding of defense capabilities critical to the successful execution of military operations in support of the global war on terrorism. Dr. Segal established Department of Defense technology focus areas on energy and power technology, surveillance and knowledge systems, and in the National Aerospace Initiative to guide investment and capitalize on emerging technological opportunities. Dr. Segal's tireless efforts and diplomacy significantly advanced Defense Department international engagement and cooperation.

As the Under Secretary of the Air Force, Dr. Segal oversaw, on behalf of the Secretary of the Air Force, the recruiting, training, and equipping of approximately 690,000 airmen and a budget of approximately \$110 billion committed to the effective integration of air, space, and cyberspace capabilities in support of the Nation's defense. As the designated Department of Defense Executive Agent for Space, Dr. Segal developed, coordinated, and integrated plans and programs across the national security space enterprise instituting a back-to-basics approach to space acquisition which redistributed risk from system procurement to early-stage science and technology activities. He also established the Operationally Responsive Space Office to launch, activate, and employ low-cost satellites to provide surge capability, to reconstitute or augment existing constellation, or to provide timely availability of tailored or new capabilities. As the Air Force Senior Executive for Energy, he led the development of the Air Force Energy

Strategy to incorporate energy consideration in all Air Force operations. Dr. Segal instituted best business practices in defense space acquisition, championed advances in the science and technology workforce, and tirelessly supported the Nation's men and women in uniform.

Dr. Segal is an extraordinary leader, patriot, and intellectual whose distinctive accomplishments reflect great credit upon himself and the Department of Defense. I am particularly pleased that he will return to Colorado to share his skills and experience as vice president at the Colorado State University Research Foundation and as a professor of systems engineering at Colorado State University.

I hope my colleagues will join me not only in recognizing the past accomplishments of Dr. Segal but also in wishing him all the best in his future pursuits.

IN MEMORY OF DONOVAN WITHAM

HON. MIKE ROSS

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. ROSS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Specialist Donovan D. Witham of Malvern, Arkansas, who died on August 20, 2007, fighting for our country in Iraq while supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom. He was 20 years old when he selflessly gave his life for his country during combat operations.

Specialist Witham graduated from Glen Rose High School in 2005 where he was active in athletics and numerous extracurricular activities as a student. As a member of the student council, drama club and choir, as well as the football and track teams, he was a natural leader who demonstrated hard work and teamwork both in the classroom and on the field. Before joining the Army, he continued to give back to his community and state by working at the Ouachita River Correctional Unit. He was also an avid sportsman who enjoyed hunting and fishing at every opportunity.

Specialist Witham joined the Army in November 2005, and his proud service will continue to live on and serve as an inspiration to the many soldiers who knew him and fought alongside him in combat. He was a military police officer with the 1st Squadron, 73rd Cavalry Regiment, 2nd Brigade Combat Team, in the 82nd Airborne Division. His bravery and courage as a military police officer and as a paratrooper were exemplified by his numerous awards and military decorations, including the Bronze Star Medal and the Purple Heart Medal.

Specialist Donovan Witham gave his life to serve our country and he will forever be remembered as a leader, a hero, a son, a brother and a friend. My deepest condolences go out to his mother, Martha Launius, and his stepfather, Richard Launius of Malvern; and his three sisters, Amber Sharp of Magnolia, Jamie Witham of Benton and Virginia Bennett of Magnolia. He will be missed by his family, his community, his country and all those who knew him. I will continue to keep Specialist Donovan Witham's family in my deepest thoughts and prayers.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RICHARD
BUNKER

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Richard Bunker. Mr. Bunker has served the Colorado River Commission for fourteen years, and has served as Chairman for ten years.

During his time at the Colorado River Commission, Mr. Bunker served Nevada's interests on a negotiating team with six other representatives from Colorado River Basin states and the Bureau of Reclamation, in order to establish programs allowing interstate banking in the Lower Colorado River Basin. His innovative work has allowed the state of Nevada to take a more aggressive role in the procurement of electrical power. In 1996, the Commission partnered with the Southern Nevada Water Authority to build the Newport Substation which provides electrical power for the regional water system. The time and energy that Mr. Bunker has given to the Colorado River Commission is admirable.

Richard Bunker's achievements extend beyond that of Chairman of the Colorado River Commission. Richard has received many prestigious awards such as the Lifetime Achievement Award from the Nevada Gaming Attorneys and the Clark County Bar Association in recognition of his contributions to the gaming industry as a gaming regulator, chief executive of gaming resorts, and president of the nation's leading gaming industry association. He was also the recipient of the National Jewish Medical and Research Center's Humanitarian Award in recognition of his work to foster human welfare and champion social reform.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Richard Bunker. His service to Nevada in his years with the Colorado River Commission, as well as his work with other organizations is something to be admired and commended. I wish him well in his retirement and heartily thank him for his service to Nevada.

HONORING SERGEANT CORY
LUTTREL CLARK, SR.

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sergeant Cory L. Clark, Sr., of Plant City, FL, who was killed in Afghanistan on August 28, 2007, in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Assigned to the 585th Pipeline Company, 864th Engineer Combat Battalion, stationed in Fort Lewis, WA, Sgt. Clark was an Army engineer who was rebuilding roads and bridges in war-torn Afghanistan when he was fatally wounded by an improvised explosive device while his unit crossed a bridge in Jaji, Afghanistan.

I did not have the privilege of knowing Sgt. Clark personally, but by all accounts he was a courageous young man who was devoted to his country and family. Prior to joining the Army in April 2001, Cory grew up on Jenkins

Street in Plant City and was a 2000 graduate of Durant High School in eastern Hillsborough County.

Cory enjoyed life, seeing the world, making others smile and his mother, Wrenita's, home cooking. Most importantly, he was a beloved husband, son and father, who cherished spending time with his family.

Recently promoted to Sergeant, Cory earned a great deal of recognition for his service. Among his many awards and honors are the Bronze Star Medal, Purple Heart, Army Commendation Medal, 2 Army Good Conduct Medals, National Defense Service Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, NATO Medal and Combat Action and Weapons Qualification Badges.

Madam Speaker, my heart aches for Cory's family. He is survived by his wife, Monica, and his four children, Malik Mitchell, 6; twins Cory Jr. and Quinton, both 3; and Kar-Yahna, 9 months. May God bless the Clark family and continue to watch over the country that Sgt. Clark so loved. We shall never forget him.

EXPRESSING THE CONDOLENCES
OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
ON THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE PAUL E. GILLMOR,
A REPRESENTATIVE OF THE
STATE OF OHIO

SPEECH OF

HON. VERNON J. EHLERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 5, 2007

Mr. EHLERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my good friend, Representative PAUL GILLMOR. I learned of his sudden passing on Wednesday, and my wife and I are greatly saddened by this news. I offer my prayers of support to his wife Karen and their two daughters, Linda and Julie and their three sons, Paul Michael and twins Connor and Adam.

I take great pride in knowing such an honorable gentleman who humbly served his country and constituents. PAUL began his life of public service as a Judge Advocate in the Air Force during the Vietnam Conflict from 1965–1966. He continued his service as a State Senator for twenty-two years and was President of the Ohio Senate for three General Assemblies. Ever since he was first elected to Congress in 1988, he has honorably represented his constituents in the most ethical manner. He was reelected to each subsequent Congress by substantial margins, indicating the trust and confidence his constituents placed in him. He served them well and diligently.

Representative GILLMOR and I were both long-time congressional representatives to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. PAUL was particularly active in this organization and served several years as Chair of the important Economic Committee, and most recently has been serving as the Vice Chair of the entire Assembly. In all Assembly activities, Representative GILLMOR conscientiously and honorably represented the interests of the United States.

Above all, PAUL was a good friend, confidante, and advisor to me. He was a fountain of wisdom and sage advice, and I deeply ap-

preciated his friendship and that of his wife Karen. My wife and I both enjoyed their company as we traveled together to NATO meetings to represent the U.S. Karen and PAUL were particularly proud of their children, and often told us about their development and prowess.

We will all miss PAUL, and express our condolences to Karen and the children. He made an important mark on the history of our Nation and the world. Our country is the better for his participation in the Congress and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly.

May God bless Karen, the children and all PAUL's relatives, and give them comfort and strength during this time of sorrow.

HONORING LEWIS J. BAZAKOS

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. KING of New York. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Lewis J. Bazakos, a constituent of mine and the outgoing chairman of the American Chiropractic Association (ACA)—the Nation's largest professional association for doctors of chiropractic medicine.

Dr. Bazakos, a 1978 graduate of the New York Chiropractic College has practiced chiropractics for more than 25 years. He was elected chairman of the Board of Governors during the ACA's 43rd Annual Business Meeting on September 22, 2005. In addition, Dr. Bazakos serves as chairman of the New York Chiropractic College Board of Trustees.

Dr. Bazakos has been elected or appointed to numerous leadership positions within the chiropractic profession. Prior to his election as chairman, Dr. Bazakos served on the ACA Board of Governors since 2000 and on its executive committee since 2003. In addition, Dr. Bazakos has served as the ACA's New York-Metro Delegate and was chairman of the Finance Committee.

On the state level, Dr. Bazakos has a long-time affiliation with the New York State Chiropractic Association (NYSCA). He is past president of the NYSCA and served as its legislative chairman for 15 years.

Throughout his career, Dr. Bazakos has been recognized for his commitment and service to the chiropractic profession. In 1991, he was named as Chiropractor of the Year by the NYSCA and also received the NYSCA's prestigious "Ernest G. Napolitano Award," an honor presented to a doctor in recognition of his selfless contributions to the NYSCA and the chiropractic profession.

In addition to his doctor of chiropractics degree, Dr. Bazakos holds a master's degree in clinical nutrition from the University of Bridgeport. Currently, he is involved in clinical private practice at Nassau County Pain Management & Rehabilitation and Medical Offices located in Valley Stream, NY.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to have Dr. Bazakos as a constituent and even prouder of his more than 25 years of service to patients throughout the Empire State.

HOMEOWNERS INSURANCE

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, on September 6 the Financial Services Subcommittees held a hearing on a proposal to help Florida homeowners with their skyrocketing insurance costs. I am very troubled by the Administration's testimony and comments during that hearing.

The Administration alluded that homeowners are not paying enough for their premiums. The Administration claims that the insurance market is "active and effective."

Furthermore, the Administration's bipartisan opposition to any proposal by my colleagues or me to help homeowners along the Gulf Coast is a position we cannot accept.

Madam Speaker, I am troubled that the Administration continues to take a "let them eat cake" attitude while families and seniors are being forced from their homes, simply because they cannot afford property insurance. I hope the Administration takes notice of this problem soon, and begins to work with my colleagues and me to bring some relief to our constituents.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS
OF PAULA SZYPKO, M.D., FCAP**HON. VIRGINIA FOXX**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a fine doctor from North Carolina, my friend Dr. Paula Szytko of High Point. Her commitment to advocating for quality care for her patients is truly admirable.

Dr. Szytko will be stepping down at the end of this month as chair of the Federal and State Affairs Committee of the College of American Pathologists. Pathologists are physicians who help care for patients every day by providing doctors with the information they need to ensure appropriate patient care.

As a pathologist specializing in anatomic and clinical pathology at the North State Pathology Associates in High Point, she has been a leading advocate for early cancer screening tests, especially Pap tests. No screening test in medical history has been as effective for early detection of cervical cancer in women as the Pap examination.

As a member of the American College of Pathologists' Spokesperson Network, she has made numerous television appearances to advance this cause. For her effort she was awarded the CAP William H. Kuehn, Ph.D., Outstanding Communicator Award in 1999.

Her commitment to patient access to quality health care led her to meet with President George Bush in 2002, along with former Health and Human Services Secretary Tommy Thompson, at the High Point Regional Health System in High Point, NC, to discuss her concerns about the rising cost of medical liability insurance.

Dr. Szytko received her medical degree from the Wake Forest University School of Medicine in Winston-Salem. Following medical

school, Dr. Szytko completed an internship in internal medicine at Georgetown University Hospital in Washington, DC, and served her residency at North Carolina Baptist Hospital in Winston-Salem.

While Dr. Szytko will be stepping down as chair of the College of American Pathologists' Federal and State Committee, I know that she will be a strong voice for promoting quality health care excellence in her profession. Please join me in recognizing this outstanding physician for her advocacy and commitment to the patients she serves.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO ROGER
BRYAN**HON. JON C. PORTER**

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Roger Bryan. Mr. Bryan served the Clark County School District as an educator and administrator for over 35 years, and this year he will be celebrating the 10th anniversary of an elementary school being named in his honor.

Roger Bryan began his career as an educator before the age of 20. After only five years of teaching Roger was offered a principal position. In his 25 years in that capacity, he had the honor of opening three new schools and positively influencing innumerable young minds. He is an outstanding educator whose commitment to our community has made a profound difference to the students of Clark County. Roger was considered to be a "hands-on" administrator. It was not uncommon for him to stop by classes in order to teach a lesson in math or reading. Later on in his career, Roger went on to serve the Clark County School District as a school facilitator and as a member of the Elementary Division Administrative Team. In Roger's 35 years as a teacher, principal, and central office administrator, he never used a single sick day. Roger's commitment to education throughout his career is admirable.

Roger has not only served the Clark County School District, but he has also managed to coach basketball and be actively involved in the Boy Scouts of America. He has coached school and community basketball teams, many of which have gone to state and national championships. Being an Eagle Scout himself, Roger has continued to be involved in the organization by serving as a member of the Council Training Team and as an Explorer Unit leader.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Roger Bryan. His commitment to education as well as his involvement in the community should serve as an example to us all. I applaud his dedication and wish him the best.

TRIBUTE TO DAISAKU IKEDA

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend an

admirable leader Daisaku Ikeda on the 50th anniversary of Soka Gakkai International. As president, Mr. Ikeda is an exemplary humanitarian committed to developing a peaceful world.

As a young man, Mr. Ikeda was a disciple of Josei Toda, founder of Soka Gakkai International, of which 5,000 members reside in Dallas, TX. During this time, he adopted the mission to embrace the movement of human revolution based on daily efforts to transform their individual lives from within through a consistent and essential aspect of the historical challenge of nuclear disarmament, abolition and peace.

Mr. Ikeda is a prolific writer, poet, peace activist, pianist, environmentalist, photographer and interpreter of Nichiren Buddhism. In 1983, Mr. Ikeda proposed his first peace proposal in response to challenges of our global society grounded in his Buddhist perspective. This proposal is submitted each year to the United Nations.

As president of Soka Gakkai International, Mr. Ikeda has founded several institutions, such as Soka schools, the Min-On Concert Association, the Tokyo Fuji Art Museum, the Institute of Oriental Science and the Toda Institute for Global Peace and Policy Research to promote educational, cultural, and artistic activities and to conduct exchanges with like groups and institutions on a global scale.

He has also initiated a wide range of grassroots exchange programs and delivered speeches at a number of institutions of higher learning around the world, including Harvard University, the Institut de France and Beijing University.

On behalf of the 30th Congressional District of Texas, I am honored to commend the life of an astounding man, Daisaku Ikeda and congratulate him on the 50th anniversary of Soka Gakkai International.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
KENNETH PRUITT, JR.**HON. C. W. BILL YOUNG**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Madam Speaker, Kenneth P. Pruitt, Jr. was known to his family and friends as "KP." he had great wit, a sharp intellect, and demonstrated a sincere kindness to everyone who came across his path. That life was cut too short when Kenneth died on August 15, 2007, in Tallahassee, Florida, at the young age of 29.

Kenneth was the son of our Florida Senate President Ken Pruitt and Dianne Peters of Tampa.

Kenneth had an exceptional capacity for understanding computer systems and software from a very young age. He used this talent in the marketplace and in the public sector. Kenneth served as a network administrator at the State of Florida's Department of Revenue where he worked in the Child Support Enforcement Division. At the time of his death, Kenneth was working in the Information Technology department at Tallahassee HealthCare.

He was also rich in friends and family. He is survived by his daughter Chloe, age four, step-mother Aileen Pruitt of Port St. Lucie; siblings Steven, Mark, Ashley, and Michelle;

step-father Ron Peters of Tampa; and sister Samantha. He is also survived by his grandparents Jeannette Dufresne of New Port Richey, Robert and Fay Pruitt of Inverness, and many other friends and family members.

In honor of his memory, the Indian River Community College established the "Kenneth P. Pruitt, Jr. Scholarship" in order to provide assistance to students wishing to follow in Kenneth's footsteps and make a career in the field of computer technology. In this way, the spirit of this bright and talented young man will carry on to inspire others.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the RECORD that I intended to vote "aye" on rollcall vote 859 taken on September 6, 2007 supporting passage of H.R. 2786, the Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Reauthorization Act.

HONORING THE ASHEVILLE DIVISION U.S. NAVAL SEA CADETS

HON. HEATH SHULER

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. SHULER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the hard work and dedication of the cadets and volunteers of the Asheville Division U.S. Naval Sea Cadets. The U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps program is a federally chartered youth training organization for students ages eleven to seventeen that is designed to educate young people about service in the Navy and Coast Guard both ashore and afloat.

The Asheville Division provides the young people of Western North Carolina with unparalleled opportunities to learn new skills and experience new challenges in a safe, alcohol and drug free environment. Some Cadets choose to continue to serve their country through military service, while many others go on to pursue civilian careers. Regardless of their future path, cadets benefit from the lessons learned in the program—good citizenship, self-discipline, a sense of responsibility, and leadership skills.

I would also like to take this opportunity to congratulate Katelyn Kassel for reaching the rank of Chief Petty Officer, the highest rank a cadet can achieve while participating in the U.S. Naval Sea Cadet Corps Program. CPO Kassel is the first in the history of the Asheville Division to reach this honor. She is currently enrolled at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte where she is participating in the Army ROTC program and studying as a pre-law student.

I am extremely proud of CPO Kassel for her hard work and dedication to this program. She was a wonderful asset to the program at her high school and serves as an excellent role model to other students. I have no doubt that CPO Kassel will serve our country well in the U.S. military.

I commend each of the cadets for their service in this important program, as well as the volunteers who keep this program going, especially Commanding Officer LTJG Heath Collins and Executive Officer R. Scott Lunsford. I ask each of my colleagues to join me in congratulating the cadets and volunteers of the U.S. Naval Sea Cadets in Asheville and throughout the United States.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO CHRISTINE C. SCHULZE

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Christine C. Schulze who passed away on July 19, 2007.

Christine was born May 14, 1915, in Ladysmith, Wisconsin. She was educated in southern Wisconsin and was employed by the U.S. Naval Training Station in Waukegan, Illinois during World War II. After the war she worked for Needham, Louis and Brorby Advertising Agency in Chicago. Christine then owned and operated a ladies' dress shop in Burbank, California before retiring with her husband, Werner in 1979 to Las Vegas, Nevada.

In addition to her professional endeavors, Christine also became interested in aviation. This interest evolved into a philanthropic project which provided an educational scholarship fund for students pursuing careers in aviation. In 2002, she established a scholarship fund for Rancho High School's Aviation Academy. Since its inception, the scholarship has provided over 500 student pilots with funding. In recognition of her philanthropic support to the students at Rancho High School, the school dedicated the Christine C. Schulze Aerospace Laboratory in her honor because of her generous donations to aviation and flight scholarships.

In a personal capacity, Christine was extremely active and dedicated to her community. She was a member of the Eastern Star, President of the Zonta Club, President of the Board of Retired Senior Volunteer Program, and established the Senior Auxiliary Board of the Retired Senior Volunteers of Henderson. She was active in the Republican Women of Henderson, Eta Chapter of Beta Sigma Phi, and Safe House of Henderson, to which she donated the first beds and linens for the facility. She also donated her time and efforts to St. Jude's Ranch for Children, in Boulder City, Nevada. Christine was a long-time Episcopalian and was a member of Christ Episcopal Church in Las Vegas and was influential in the development of the Christ Church Endowment Fund.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor the life and legacy of Christine C. Schulze. Her dedication to the community and philanthropic devotion to students should serve as an example to us all. I applaud all her efforts.

TAIWAN

HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. MARIO DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment with the United Nation's rejection of Taiwan's membership bid. More than 14 times, the U.N. has denied Taiwan's application. It is unclear to me why this sovereign state, with a democratically elected government, should be refused entry into the international institution of the United Nations. I have heard the argument that granting Taiwan U.N. membership would upset the status quo Taiwan has with China. But, Madam Speaker, such arguments are weak. I suspect the real reason for the denial of Taiwan's recognition in the U.N. is the U.N.'s fear of upsetting the status quo the U.N. has with China's communist regime. It is outrageous to deny Taiwan's 23 million citizens representation in what should be a fair international organization. I am dismayed by the U.N.'s decision Madam Speaker, but frankly, I am not surprised by it. It is obvious to me that the problem does not lie with Taiwan; rather, it lies with an incompetent, corrupt, and dictator-appeasing U.N.

PROTECT AMERICA ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, August 4, 2007

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my disappointment regarding the House of Representatives' approval of S. 1927, legislation greatly expanding the Bush Administration's eavesdropping authority beyond even what Administration officials requested. I urge the House Judiciary Committee to promptly consider and report improved legislation that will provide the necessary surveillance authority our intelligence services need to protect our nation, while protecting our citizens' most basic expectation of privacy and fundamental civil liberties that are guaranteed by our constitution. Specifically, the Fourth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution states plainly: "The right of the people to be secure in their persons, houses, papers, and effects, against unreasonable searches and seizures, shall not be violated, and no Warrants shall issue, but upon probable cause, supported by Oath or affirmation, and particularly describing the place to be searched, and the persons or things to be seized."

I have been a longstanding supporter of efforts to provide our intelligence and law enforcement agencies with all the necessary tools they need to monitor potential agents with terrorist intentions against the United States. Following the awful terrorist attacks of September 11, 2001, on our country, I joined 356 of my House colleagues to vote for the USA PATRIOT Act of 2001 (P.L. 107-56). The legislation gave federal officials greater authority to track and intercept communications, both for law enforcement and foreign intelligence

gathering purposes. Among other additional provisions, the law also created new crimes, new penalties, and new procedural efficiencies for use against domestic and international terrorists.

The law contained, however, provisions that allowed for enhanced surveillance procedures that many citizens were concerned restricted civil liberties. I subsequently supported several amendments to various appropriations measures that would have improved civil liberties protections, namely: (1) Rep. BERNIE SANDERS' amendment to fiscal year 2006 Science, State, Justice and Commerce Appropriations Act which would have exempted libraries and bookstores from section 215 of the PATRIOT Act while increasing congressional oversight; and (2) Rep. Butch Otter's amendment to a fiscal year 2004 appropriations measure that would have prevented the use of section 213 of the PATRIOT Act that extended so-called "sneak and peek" authority to local police that previously was made available only to foreign intelligence investigators. Previously, police had to "knock and announce" their intention of searching before executing any warrant. Even though the Sanders amendment passed the House by a vote of 238–187, and the Otter amendment passed by a vote of 309–118, they both were unfortunately pulled from their respective appropriations measures before they were signed into law by the President.

Several sections of the PATRIOT Act were set to expire on December 31, 2005, unless they were extended. These "sunset provisions" included wiretapping privileges, sharing wiretap and foreign intelligence information, FISA authority and jurisdiction, voicemail warrants, and various other powers. On July 21, 2005, the House approved H.R. 3199 by a vote of 257–171. This legislation would have made permanent 14 of the 16 provisions that were set to expire in 2005. The remaining two provisions, involving the government's ability to use roving wiretaps and the government's access to business and library records, were assigned 10-year sunsets, at which point they will either be renewed or will expire. While the majority of the sections remained unchanged, during consideration of this legislation, the House adopted a few measures that would help protect government abuses of civil liberties. Among these were amendments that would require the Director of the FBI to personally review any and all requests for library or bookstore records under Section 215 of the PATRIOT Act, as well as an amendment that would allow the recipient of a national security letter (NSL) to consult with an attorney and challenge the issuance of the letter in court. I voted for both of these amendments. I voted against H.R. 3199, however, because I didn't believe it was a good idea to make permanent policy for the United States concerning our fundamental rights and freedoms during extraordinary times of war. We must never allow terrorists to alter the freedoms that define our country and make us the greatest nation in the world.

On July 29, 2005, the Senate approved legislation that would also make permanent 14 of the 16 provisions set to expire in 2005; however, it would have placed 4-year sunsets on the two remaining provisions and would have placed additional checks on government power that would help ensure the preservation of our valuable civil liberties. These two pieces of legislation were sent to a House-Senate

conference committee to resolve their differences; In December 2005, a new agreement was reached in conference proposing 4-year expiration dates for the two provisions involving the government's ability to use roving wiretaps and the government's access to business and library records, as well as a 4-year sunset to a provision in the 2004 intelligence overhaul law (P.L. 108–458) that allows law enforcement to seek warrants against "lone wolf" terrorists not connected to foreign powers. On December 14, 2005, the House agreed to the conference report by a vote of 251–174. I voted for the final version of the legislation because I was satisfied with the shorter expirations on some of the more contentious provisions and I was concerned about the possible effect on our national security if these provisions of the PATRIOT Act were allowed to expire.

After being approved in the House, however, several members of the Senate remained concerned about the government's ability to acquire records and obtain administrative search warrants. Several Senators later announced an agreement they had reached with the White House, to make three changes to the previously agreed-to conference report relating to the government seizure of records. Specifically, these changes: (1) Allow recipients of a business records request to challenge a gag order, although to overturn it they would have to wait one year and prove the government acted in "bad faith"; (2) remove a requirement that recipients of national security letters, which do not require court approval, disclose the name of any attorney they consult or intend to consult; and (3) clarify language in the 2001 law to ensure that libraries operating in traditional roles and not as Internet service providers would not be subject to national security letters. The House later agreed to these amendments by a vote of 280–138, which I supported. On March 9, 2006, President Bush signed the final version of H.R. 3199 (P.L. 109–177) and the S. 2271 amendments (P.L. 109–178) into law.

In order to effectively fight the war on terror we need intelligence, but this intelligence should be gathered in a legal manner and consistent with our constitution. Traditionally, the NSA's intelligence-gathering role has been limited to intercepting international communications as part of the government's foreign spying activities. Under the 1978 Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA, P.L. 95–511), the federal government is required to obtain a warrant to conduct domestic wiretaps, but the NSA program disclosed by President Bush and his administration appears to have operated outside the FISA law.

In the 109th Congress, Rep. HEATHER WILSON introduced H.R. 5825, the Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act. This legislation would have given the President expanded authority to authorize electronic surveillance of communications by suspected terrorists without first obtaining approval from the FISA court. Specifically, it allowed the President to authorize warrantless electronic surveillance for up to 90 days in three circumstances—an armed attack against the United States, a terrorist attack against the United States, or if there is an "imminent threat" that is likely to cause death or widespread harm. The measure also would have extended the amount of time intelligence agencies can conduct warrantless electronic surveillance in "emer-

gency situations" to seven days, from the current three-day limit.

The FISA law then contained certain exceptions for intelligence operations on U.S. soil—it permitted the president to authorize the Justice Department to conduct electronic surveillance or physical searches without approval by the FISA court to gather foreign intelligence for up to 15 days after Congress enacted a declaration of war. In addition, it allowed the federal government to conduct electronic surveillance without the court's approval in "emergency situations," provided that the government seeks approval from the FISA court within three days of initiating emergency surveillance.

The Electronic Surveillance Modernization Act, however, represented a significant departure from the protections put in place under FISA in 1978. Nowhere in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act does it state that the president can bypass the process of seeking a court order to spy on American citizens through an executive order. I was concerned that this legislation was a political attempt to retroactively justify the President breaking the law. I fully believe that if the President followed the law and approached the FISA court and Congress for approval of such programs, that Congress and the FISA court would gladly give the President the powers he needs to combat terrorism. For these reasons, I voted against H.R. 5825 when it was brought to the House floor for a vote on September 28, 2006. This legislation was approved in the House by a vote of 232–191, but did not receive a vote in the Senate, effectively killing the legislation in the last Congress.

Attorney General Alberto Gonzales announced on January 17, 2007, that the FISA court authorized and issued orders on January 10, 2007, granting wiretaps that the Administration requested. Subsequently, the Justice Department has shared those classified documents with the House and Senate Intelligence Committees, as well as the Chairmen and Ranking Members of the House and Senate Judiciary Committees.

The U.S. Department of Justice's Office of the Inspector General released a 126-page audit report on March 9, 2007, entitled "A Review of the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Use of National Security Letters." In this report, it was revealed that FBI agents were using national security letters to obtain personal information such as phone, internet, and financial records of individuals without court orders. The audit also found that 22 percent of these letters were not recorded and of those that were recorded, some were issued without proper authority. Senators ARLEN SPECTER and PATRICK LEAHY have voiced concern over the findings of this report. I am deeply troubled by this report and strongly believe vital intelligence should be gathered in a manner that is fully consistent with our laws and constitution.

The congressional leadership spent many months in 2007 negotiating a reauthorization of the FISA law with the Bush Administration and Admiral Michael McConnell, Director of National Intelligence (DNI). Both Democrats and Republicans agree that we need to update the FISA law to incorporate new technologies, such as cell phones and e-mail, which did not exist when the original FISA law was written. Prior to the August District Work Period, the Bush Administration pressed the

congressional leadership to pass a short-term FISA update. During negotiations, Director McConnell told the congressional leadership that he supported several technical changes that: (1) allowed foreign targets to be added a "basket warrant" after the warrant was approved; (2) expanded the draft bill to apply to "all foreign intelligence" from only intelligence "relating to terrorism"; and (3) eliminated the requirement that the FISA court adjudicate how recurring communications into the United States from foreign targets would be handled. Following these improvements to the draft bill, the DNI told congressional leadership that with these changes, he could support the bill because it would "significantly enhance America's security." I voted for the final version of this legislation, H.R. 3356, the Improving Foreign Intelligence Surveillance to Defend the Nation and the Constitution Act of 2007. Even though a majority (218–207) voted in favor of H.R. 3356, the bill did not pass as it was considered under suspension of the rules (2/3 vote to approve required).

The Senate passed a much different version of FISA legislation, S. 1927, the Protect America Act sponsored by Senators MITCH MCCONNELL and KIT BOND. This legislation greatly exceeds what the Bush Administration requested in legislation, providing a virtual blank check for intelligence agencies to eavesdrop, including on the conversations of U.S. citizens, with essentially no oversight by the FISA court or Congress. The legislation allows the U.S. Attorney General to decide when to eavesdrop on any e-mail message or phone call without a warrant, so long as one of the people communicating is "reasonably believed" to be outside the country. That is a vague term that the Administration is allowed to interpret however they want, greatly expanding its surveillance powers, while the legislation does not provide the courts with any real power to supervise this surveillance. Proponents of S. 1927 point out that the legislation has a six month sunset and will expire in February 2009. This sunset is artificial, as the orders in effect in February 2009 could last for up to a year, essentially for the remainder of the Bush Administration with no oversight. For these reasons, I voted against S. 1927 when the House considered the measure on August 4, 2007. The House approved the legislation by a vote of 227–183, and the President signed it into law on August 5, 2007 (P.L. 110–55).

Speaker NANCY PELOSI wrote a letter to Judiciary Chairman JOHN CONYERS and Select Intelligence Chairman SILVESTRE REYES on August 4, 2007, urging that the House of Representatives should consider comprehensive FISA reauthorization legislation. I agree with her statement that: "Many provisions of this legislation are unacceptable, and although the bill has a six-month sunset clause, I do not believe the American people will want to wait that long before corrective action is taken."

As a co-equal branch of government, it is necessary that Congress fully understand how the Bush Administration executes intelligence activities in order to exercise proper oversight. I look forward to working with my colleagues in Congress to ensure that law enforcement agencies have strong, flexible tools to intercept the communications of terrorists, and at the same time protect our citizens' civil liberties from unwarranted government probing.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO FRED C.
ALBRECHT

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Fred C. Albrecht, who has honorably served the University of Nevada, Las Vegas for 38 years.

In his 38 years of service AT UNLV Fred Albrecht spent 18 years in the athletics department as the assistant men's basketball coach, men's tennis coach, Executive Director of Athletic Fundraising, and served as the interim Athletic Director twice. He has also served as the Vice President for University and Community Relations for the past ten years in conjunction with serving as the Executive Director of Alumni Relations for 35 years.

Since being hired in 1973 as the University's first Alumni Director, Fred has made numerous significant contributions to the UNLV community. As the alumni and government relations lobbyist he raised \$3 million in 1989 to build the 23,000 square foot Richard Tam Alumni Center. He has also raised money to build the Alumni Park at the Sam Boyd Football Stadium, and the Alumni Amphitheater on campus.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Fred Albrecht for his many outstanding achievements and congratulate him and his wife, Connie. His 38 year dedication to UNLV has been commendable, and he has greatly enriched the lives of countless people in the UNLV community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I was with my daughter on her first day of school and was detained from voting on Thursday, September 6, 2007. Had I been present I would have voted "yea" on the following rollcall vote: roll No. 859.

Had I been present I would have voted "nay" on the following rollcall votes: roll No. 856, roll No. 857, and roll No. 858.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO RADM
KENNETH P. MORITSUGU

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor RADM Kenneth P. Moritsugu, who has served as the Acting Surgeon General since 2006, and congratulate him upon his retirement. Prior to this appointment, he served as Deputy Surgeon General, the principal assistant and advisor to the Surgeon General, which he was appointed on October 1, 1998. He had been a career officer in the Commissioned Corps of the U.S. Public Health Service since 1968 and began his service as an Assistant Surgeon General beginning in 1988.

Dr. Moritsugu was born and raised in Honolulu, HI. He received his baccalaureate degree with honors in classical languages from the University of Hawaii in 1967, an M.D. from the George Washington University School of Medicine in 1971, and an M.P.H. in health administration and planning from the University of California, Berkeley, in 1975. Having completed residencies in internal medicine and in preventive medicine, Dr. Moritsugu is Board Certified in preventive medicine. He holds Fellowships in the American College of Preventive Medicine, the Royal Society of Health, and the Royal Society of Medicine. He is also a Certified Correctional Health Professional.

Throughout his career, Admiral Moritsugu has served in many diverse assignments including: Medical Officer on the U.S. Coast Guard cutter *Taney*; Chief of International Medical Education Programs; Director of the National Health Service Corps; and Medical Director of the U.S. Department of Justice's Federal Bureau of Prisons. Admiral Moritsugu has been the Federal representative to numerous national health care agencies and has been consultant to several international organizations and governments and served as the official U.S. representative to the 75th anniversary of the Pan American Health Board in Havana, Cuba.

Dr. Moritsugu has received numerous honors and awards, including the Surgeon General's Medallion, the Army Achievement Medal, and the Coast Guard Arctic Service Medal, among many others. He was deemed an Honorary Deputy United States Marshal by the U.S. Marshals Service, and received the Director's Special Achievement Award from the Federal Bureau of Investigation. In 2003, Rear Admiral Moritsugu was named Health Leader of the Year by the Commissioned Officers Association of the U.S. Public Health Service. He was awarded with the first William B. Miller Award from the American Association of Colleges of Osteopathic Medicine, a recipient of the John D. Chase Award from the Association of Military Surgeons of the United States and a Special Achievement Award from the National Commission on Correctional Health Care.

Admiral Moritsugu has received honorary doctor of science degrees from the University of New England, Midwestern University of Chicago, and the University of North Texas College of Osteopathic Medicine. In 1997, the American Academy of Physician Assistants deemed him an honorary Lifetime Member; additionally, in 2002, he has been granted honorary doctorates of humane letters from Alliant International University and from Western University of Health Sciences. As an educator, he is an adjunct professor at the George Washington University School, and an adjunct associate professor at the Uniformed Services University of Health Sciences. He has spoken and written extensively in many diverse areas, including health professions education, international health, HIV, and most recently bioterrorism.

In his official capacity, Admiral Moritsugu has been a dedicated advocate for organ and tissue donation and transportation. He has been an active participant in the Donor Family Recognition Programs in Washington, DC, as a key speaker at numerous local and national programs. In his private capacity, he has been a member of several boards of directors, including the Washington Regional Transplant

Consortium; several boards of trustees, including the National Kidney Foundation; and on the National Advisory Board for MOTTEP. As an additional service to his community he is

an active volunteer of the Transplant Recipients International Organization.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor RADM Kenneth P. Moritsugu for his dedication

and commitment to his profession, and commend him upon his retirement from serving as Acting Surgeon General. I applaud all of his hard work and wish him the best.