

was the first, and thus far, the only woman director to serve on the Board of Western United Dairymen Association. She has also served as secretary of Dairy Management Inc., and as director of Dairy Council of California from 1992–2004. Mary is presently on the board of directors for the Kings County Farm Bureau. Her awards include Kings County 2001 Agriculturalist of the year, the 2003 Woman of Distinction award by Soroptomist International of Hanford, CA and the 2003 Common Threads Honoree by California State University of Fresno.

Mary is truly a remarkable woman; always persistent, always engaged. Mary is definitely the sort of advocate that the dairy industry needs on its side. So I congratulate Mary Atsma-Cameron today on the receipt of this distinguished honor and to commend her before you, my colleagues, for her on-going contributions the dairy industry of California, indeed, the nation.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOTTIE
FOX

HON. TRAVIS W. CHILDERS

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. CHILDERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today with deep sadness by the passing away of such a wonderful, spiritual, gentle, native Mississippian, Mrs. Lottie Fox. Mrs. Fox just celebrated, remarkably, her 104th birthday on Thursday, February 5, 2009. She was the oldest of fifteen siblings.

Lottie was dutiful and diligent and contributed tirelessly as an agricultural farmer to her native Calhoun County community for several years. Upon her retirement from farming, she made Water Valley, Mississippi, her home for over 30 years.

Lottie was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and great-great grandmother. She is survived by her daughters, Opeal Trice; Ella Harris; Army Woodward; Bernice Minor; Molly Simmons; Dolly Fant; Catherine Brown; Rudy Swift; her son, Willie Fox and Step-daughters; Ella Coleman and Lela Doolittle. Lottie is also survived by 47 grandchildren, 69 great-grandchildren and 14 great-great grandchildren. Lottie was also a proud and devout member of Everdale Baptist Church.

Madam Speaker, with distinct honor and pride, I along with the citizens of both Yalobusha and Calhoun County, sadly mourn the death of such an inspirational Mississippian, as the 104 year old, Mrs. Lottie Fox. I want to personally thank her for her contributions. Her memory will live on.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GILBERT ROBERT CRAFT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the city of Citronelle and the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor Gilbert Robert Craft and pay tribute to his memory.

Known to his many friends as “Bobby,” he was a lifelong resident of Citronelle. He graduated from Citronelle High School and Spring Hill College. He also served in the U.S. Army and attained the rank of captain.

Bobby began his career in public service in 1968 when he was elected to the Citronelle Town Council. In 1970, he was appointed to Citronelle’s Utility Board, which later became South Alabama Utilities. He served as chairman from 1972 until 1984 when he was named executive director, a position he held for more than 39 years. Under Bobby’s leadership, the local utility company encompassing one municipality grew to become one of the most respected utilities in the South, expanding into Semmes, west Mobile County, and at one time, southern Mobile County.

In honor of his service and unwavering devotion to his city, Bobby was twice named Citronelle’s Citizen of the Year. He was the owner of two companies, Craft Auto Parts and Craft Oil Company, and was a devoted member of St. Thomas Aquinas Catholic Church where he was a member for more than 70 years.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader and friend to many throughout south Alabama. Gilbert Robert Craft will be dearly missed by his family—his wife, Patricia; his children, Gilbert Robert Craft Jr. and his wife Deena, Patricia D’Nette Fagan, and Matthew Reed Craft and his wife Kirsten; his five grandchildren, Tiffani Marie Craft, Joshua Robert Craft, Blakely Danelle Fagan, Reed Alexander Craft, and Raleigh Connell Craft; and his three brothers, Joseph P. Craft, James B. Craft, and William M. Craft—as well as the countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all during this difficult time.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TAX RELIEF FOR TRANSPORTATION WORKERS ACT

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. PAUL. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act. This legislation helps those who work in the port industry cope with the costs of complying with Congress’s mandate that all those working on a port obtain a Transportation Worker Identity Card, TWIC. The Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act provides a tax credit to workers who pay the costs of obtaining TWICs. The credit is refundable against both income and payroll tax liabilities.

When Congress created the TWIC requirement, it placed the burden of paying the cost of obtaining the card on individual workers. Imposing the costs of obtaining TWICs on port workers has several negative economic impacts that Congress should help mitigate by making the cost associated with obtaining a TWIC tax deductible. According to the Department of Homeland Security, a port worker will have to pay between \$100 and \$132 to obtain a card. The worker will also have to pay a \$60 fee for every card that is lost or damaged. Even those employers whose employers pay the substantial costs of obtaining TWICs for

their workforce are adversely affected by the TWIC requirement, as the money employers pay for TWICs is money that cannot go into increasing their workers’ salaries. The costs of the TWIC requirement may also cause some employers to refrain from hiring new employees.

Ironically, many of the employees whose employers are unable to pay the TWIC are part-time or temporary workers at the lower end of the income scale. Obviously, the TWIC requirement hits these workers the hardest. According to Recana, an employer of port workers in my district, the fee will have a “significant impact” on port workers.

Unless Congress acts to relieve some of the economic burden the TWIC requirement places on those who work in the port industry, the damage done could reach beyond the port employers and employees to harm businesses that depend on a strong American port industry. This could be very harmful to both interstate and international trade.

Regardless of what one thinks of the merits of the TWIC card, it is simply not right for Congress to make the port industry bear all the costs of TWIC. I therefore urge my colleagues to stand up for those who perform vital tasks at America’s ports by cosponsoring the Tax Relief for Transportation Workers Act.

CALL FOR CONGRESSIONAL INVESTIGATION INTO WHITE HOUSE POLITICIZATION OF THE CENSUS BUREAU

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Madam Speaker, yesterday we learned of two important developments as the White House plans to grab control of the day-to-day management of the U.S. Census Bureau: (1) The U.S. Senate’s chief committee on government oversight scheduled its first hearing of the year to investigate the matter; (2) Senator GREGG withdrew his name for the consideration of the Commerce Secretary position, citing “irreconcilable difference” with the President on the future of the U.S. Census.

These developments solidify what we already know: a political grab of the Census will jeopardize the non-partisan operations of the Bureau, and potentially disrupt the completion of a competent, reliable census.

My Republican colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee unanimously joined my call for an oversight hearing in the House. The Senate has heard our call. What do House Democrats have to hide? Americans deserve a non-partisan and accurate census, not one driven by partisan politics. Let’s hold a hearing and ensure that we give them that.

RECOGNIZING THE FOUNDING OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 13, 2009

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I wish to take a moment to acknowledge the