and Head Coach Bret Bielema, for their outstanding season.

The Badgers have achieved an outstanding overall 49–15 record under Coach Bielema’s tenure. For a second consecutive season, the Badger football team was one of 22 players selected to the Academic All-Big Ten team, surpassing the previous record of 19 set a few years ago. The team also—and this is worth noting—is the least penalized team in the United States, displaying remarkable discipline and leadership on the field.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank Representative BALDWIN for introducing this resolution and once again express my support for House Resolution 1767.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of House Resolution 1767, a resolution commending the Wisconsin Badger football team for an outstanding season in the 2011 Rose Bowl bid.

The 2010 Wisconsin Badgers finished the regular season with a sterling 11–1 record, were co-champions of the Big Ten conference, and earned a trip to the Rose Bowl. The path to the Rose Bowl started early, with a victory over the number one-ranked Ohio State Buckeyes in a nationally televised game, and the season just got better from there.

The Badgers were a prolific offensive machine, averaging 45.2 points per conference game. It was the second highest per game total in conference history. Numerous players earned spots on the All-American teams for their performances on the field this year, including Gabe Carimi, John Moffitt, Lance Kendricks, J.J. Watt, and Jochen Clay. Carimi was named winner of the prestigious Outland Trophy, an award given every year to the Nation's best interior lineman.

Numerous players earned spots on the All-Conference game. It was the second highest per game total in conference history.

The following week, the Badgers barnstormed into Iowa and beat a strong Hawkeyes team in an inspiring comeback. The Badger defense cemented the 1-point win with a key defensive stand.

The Badgers’ success on the field is guided by strong guidance from University of Wisconsin leaders. I would like to acknowledge a few key folks who contributed to our outstanding season. University of Wisconsin-Madison Chancellor Biddy Martin has exhibited incredibly strong leadership for the University of Wisconsin. Chancellor Martin displays an unyielding commitment to excellence for Wisconsin’s student athletes and is assuredly a big reason behind this great season.

I also want to acknowledge Athletic Director Barry Alvarez, a three-time Rose Bowl-winner who had a strong hand in helping lead the Badgers back to Pasadena, California.

And, of course, we are grateful to the strong leadership of Head Coach Bret Bielema, who showed tremendous resolve in guiding the Badgers to an outstanding 11–1 season. Indeed, the Badgers have achieved a stellar 49–15 record overall during Coach Bielema’s tenure. In addition to his prowess on the field, Coach Bielema has always been a leader in his community. He does tremendous work to promote breast cancer awareness and survival.

In addition, our Badger defensive coordinator, Paul Chryst, is a finalist for the Broyles Award as the Nation’s top assistant coach.

Football fans watch the game because of the skill and talent of the players. At Wisconsin, we’re lucky enough to have the privilege of watching players on the field who also show exceptional leadership off the field.

Senior quarterback Scott Tolzien, the most accurate passer in college football, won the Johnny Unitas Golden Arm Award for his on-field performance as well as his character. Senior defensive end J.J. Watt is an academic All-Big Ten Team selection and winner of the Lott IMPACT Trophy, awarded nationally to a defensive player, for his athletic, academic, and community achievements.

And senior offensive lineman Gabe Carimi won the Outland Trophy, an honor given to the best interior lineman in college football, in addition to being selected to the Academic All-Big Ten Team as a civil engineering major.

As my colleagues know, the annual Rose Bowl game is the oldest college bowl game and its history and prestige have earned it the title of “The Granddaddy of Them All.” This 2011 Rose Bowl bid is exciting for the Wisconsin Badgers as well as TCU, Texas Christian University, who we will meet in Pasadena, but us in looks forward to “badgering” the Horned Frogs on New Year’s Day.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 1767, which recognizes the achievements of the players, coaches, students, alumni, and staff who were instrumental in helping the Wisconsin Badgers make it to Pasadena, California. Regardless of your political affiliation or football allegiance, there’s always an open invitation from the Wisconsin Badgers to “teach you how to Buck.”

We'll see you in Pasadena. On Wisconsin!

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, but I would like to congratulate the Wisconsin football team. It’s difficult for me to be here because they destroyed my small school this year, Austin Peay, but we do appreciate the large class today. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I ask passage of this bill, H. Res. 1767, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. ROE. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House suspend the rules and agree to the motion offered by Mr. HOLT that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1767.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. HOLT) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1767.

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The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair’s prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

The point of no quorum is considered withdrawn.
Whereas Ambassador Richard Holbrooke devoted nearly 50 years of his life to public service, working tirelessly to defend United States interests abroad and foster peace amongst warring factions for the betterment of United States and international stability and security;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke was a proud New York native who attended Scarsdale High School before continuing his education at Brown University in 1962, where he was editor of the Brown Daily Herald.

Whereas one month after graduating from university, Ambassador Holbrooke, inspired by President Kennedy’s call to service, entered the Army, where he spent the next 6 years focused on Vietnam, including serving with the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) in the Mekong Delta, as an assistant to Ambassadors Henry Cabot Lodge and Maxwell Taylor, as an author of one of the Pentagon Papers, and a member of the team led by Averell Harriman and future Secretary of State Cyrus Vance at the Paris Peace talks in 1968;

Whereas from 1970 to 1972 Ambassador Holbrooke served as the Peace Corps Director in Morocco;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke was the only person to have served as Assistant Secretary of State for two regions of the world, having served as Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs from 1977 to 1981, during which he was a tireless advocate for the expanded admission of tens of thousands of Indochinese refugees to the United States, and as Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs from 1994 to 1996;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke brokered the 1995 Dayton Accords which ended over 3 years of bloody sectarian war that took the lives of more than 100,000 Bosnians;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke marshaled many diplomatic and military tools and dealt time and again with some of the world’s most talented diplomats for the United States, and as a tireless advocate for American security, diplomatic and development interests around the world—in Southeast Asia and post-Cold War Europe, at the United Nations, and most recently in Afghanistan and Pakistan;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke’s relentless pursuit of a negotiated solution to ethnic and religious conflict in Bosnia saved tens of thousands of innocent lives;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke served as United States Ambassador to Germany from 1993 to 1994, where he helped to found the American Academy of Berlin, a center for United States-German cultural exchange; and

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke served as the United States Permanent Representative to the United Nations where he was a critical partner in the implementation of Congressionally-led efforts to lower the dues the United States paid to the United Nations, to implement certain reforms to the United Nations financial system, and to substantially and long-standing United States arrears to the United Nations, to improve management within the United Nations, to include Israel in the United States’ representation on the United Nations Human Rights Commission, and to end Israel’s longtime exclusion from regional deliberations, to render more effective the United Nations’ efforts to address conflicts and save lives in Africa and East Timor, and to raise the profile of public health as a matter of global security, including through the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria, which mobilized corporations to address HIV/AIDS, garnered CEOs to be an advocacy force in the fight, and served as an advisor to the President for the Global Fund on HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke served as a steadfast emissary of the United States as the Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, tirelessly advocating for United States interests and peace in the region, mobilizing unprecedented international support, facilitating economic, transit, trade, and security cooperation between Afghanistan and Pakistan, and working to enhance stability and prosperity, and to counter extremism and terrorism in the region;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke forged a new civil-liberal, multi-agency approach seeking to bring stability and development to the lives of millions striving for a better future;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke was one of the most talented diplomats for the United States and possessed a fierce determination and intelligence in advocating for United States interests around the world, including in Southeast Asia and post-Cold War Europe, at the United Nations, and most recently in Afghanistan and Pakistan;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke was a prolific writer and communicator, serving as the Managing Editor of Foreign Policy, authoring works such as ‘To End A War’, ‘Counsel to the President’, one volume of the Pentagon Papers, and a monthly column in The Washington Post, and sharing the art of mediation with countless audiences;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke lent his expertise toward the improvement of management and organization for a host of non-governmental organizations serving as a board member of Refugees International, the Council on Foreign Relations, the National Endowment for Democracy, the American Museum of Natural History, and the Citizens Committee for the Budget, as Chairman of the Asia Society, as Founding Chairman of the American Academy in Berlin, and as a Woodrow Wilson Scholar;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke motivated many Americans to enter public service and served as an inspirational leader and public servant, mentoring countless United States Department of State officers and future ambassadors;

Whereas from Southeast Asia to post-Cold War Europe and around the globe, people have a better chance of a peaceful future because of Ambassador Holbrooke’s lifetime of service;

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke was renowned internationally for his energy, persistence, sharp intellect, and skills of persuasion; and

Whereas Ambassador Holbrooke leaves behind his beloved wife Kati, sons David and Anthony, step-children Elizabeth and Chris, daughter-in-law Sarah, four grandchildren, and countless friends and colleagues: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the House of Representatives (the Senate concurring), That Congress—

(1) honors the exceptional achievements of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke and recognizes the significant contributions he has made to United States national security, humanitarian causes, and resolutions of international conflict; and

(2) respectfully requests that the Clerk of the House transmit an enrolled copy of this resolution to the family of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. Berman) and the gentlewoman from Florida (Ms. Ros-Lehtinen) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California.

Mr. Berman. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from California?

There was no objection.

Mr. Berman. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, which recognizes and honors the life and career of one of America’s most potent diplomatic assets, Ambassador Richard C. Holbrooke.

For opening comments, I yield as much time as the majority leader to someone who was close and a great friend of his. She is the chair of the Foreign Operations Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee, the chief sponsor of this resolution on which the ranking member and I have joined, the gentlewoman from New York (Mrs. Lowey).

Mrs. Lowey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Con. Res. 335, a concurrent resolution in remembrance and appreciation of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

The passing of Ambassador Holbrooke on Monday, December 13, is a great loss for the American people. One of our Nation’s most talented diplomats, Richard Holbrooke possessed a fierce determination and unsurpassed brilliance in advocating for American security, diplomatic and development interests around the world—in Southeast Asia and post-Cold War Europe, at the United Nations, and most recently in Afghanistan and Pakistan. His exceptional accomplishments as a peacemaker, diplomat, writer, scholar, manager, and mentor will define his legacy as one of the true great foreign policy giants of our time.

I was honored and privileged to have known Richard Holbrooke from his time brokering the Dayton Peace Accords, helping to end the ethnic cleansing and genocide in the Balkans. His political acumen, deft maneuvering and relentless, dogged pursuit of peace for millions of innocent lives in Bosnia and helped to stabilize one of the most volatile regions in the world.
In his role as Special Representative to Afghanistan and Pakistan, it was a privilege to work with him as our Nation navigates an intractable situation for regional and global security.

Throughout his career, he served the United States as a tireless worker, loyal patriot, and a superbly accomplished public servant, who made a difference for U.S. interests. Richard Holbrooke was a giant of diplomacy and a trusted voice for me and many other Members of Congress who valued his counsel. Our Nation owes him a debt of gratitude for his many years of service.

My thoughts and prayers and deepest sympathies are with his beloved wife, Kati; his children and grandchildren; and countless friends and colleagues. We will miss you, Richard. Rest in peace, my friend. However, I know your wise advice will continue to guide us. I urge all of my colleagues to support this resolution in honor of one of our country’s greatest diplomats.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I yield myself such time as I may consume in authorizing this resolution; and of course I thank my chairman, Mr. BERMAN of California, as well.

The sudden and unexpected passing of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke earlier this week has taken all of us by surprise. The depth of sadness that we felt at the news was a testament to his exemplary life of service to our country in so many different capacities.

Ambassador Holbrooke was one of the most consequential world diplomats of the last half century, and his tireless work in pursuit of United States national interests and international peace has put us all in his debt.

His advocacy for peace was, of course, most clearly shown during the conflict in Bosnia. His tenacity and force of will brought the warring parties to the negotiation table in Dayton, Ohio, where he skillfully brokered the accord that ended over 3 years of atrocities and bloody conflict.

Over 100,000 perished in the Bosnian war, and it is impossible to say how many more might have been saved by Ambassador Holbrooke’s actions at Dayton. And while that accomplishment would have been enough to mark any diplomatic career with high distinction, it was only one of the many facets of his service which continued to the very end of his life. As Assistant Secretary of State for two regions of the world, East Asia and Europe; as United States Ambassador to the United Nations; and as U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan, his mark was on many issues that remain urgent concerns today. In New York at the U.N., he did much of the heavy lifting on Congressionally led efforts to rein in U.N. spending, to make more equitable the dues paid by the United States, and to improve the standing of Israel in that multinational body.

Sadly, those concerns have returned with a renewed urgency for fundamental reform of the U.N. budgets and the virulently anti-Israel U.N. Human Rights Council—and the Congress can only hope to have such a tenacious, principled partner in the future.

Ambassador Holbrooke made his final appearance before our Committee on Foreign Affairs in the spring of last year as U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. We lament the loss of his matchless skills in those critical regions. We grieve at his passing, but let us honor his service by renewing our own commitment to success in Afghanistan.

At this time we extend our condolences, our thoughts, and our prayers on behalf of Kati and to his children. While we mourn the loss of a dedicated public servant, they mourn the loss of a husband and a father.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in this expression of gratitude for the service of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

With that, Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 2 minutes to my colleague from California (Ms. HARMAN), someone who worked for a very long time on issues with Ambassador Holbrooke.

Ms. HARMAN. I thank the gentleman for yielding and I am very pleased that our colleague NITA LOWEY has brought this resolution to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, after learning some encouraging news about Richard Holbrooke’s condition last weekend, hearing that my friend had died felt like a sucker punch. Four days later, it still does.

I suppose, in an ironic way, Richard would smile at the enormous impact he had on friend and foe alike. He was a life force, a force of nature—someone always operating on multiple levels, in high gear, and in more than three dimensions. I used to chafe when in the middle of a phone call he would put me on hold to talk to someone else. But I bet he did that to everyone.

He was, as one colleague put it, the master diplomat. He knew precisely what he was prepared to tell someone, and what he was not. Though it takes years to settle on how history will view someone, my guess is Richard Holbrooke will be considered, hands down, the best diplomat of our generation. Indeed, he will be in a small pantheon that includes Benjamin Franklin, Thomas Jefferson, and Averell Harriman.

But the public Richard is not all of it. The private Richard was a generous and loyal friend. Before joining the Obama administration, he chaired the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS. For a time, one of our grandchildren was on its staff. He loved her, and forever after asked about her life and her boyfriends. No question the huge staff he built over his many careers over many years is devastated by his untimely death. Surely Megan Quitmeyer, to Kati, who was a partner, and the extended Holbrooke family, we mourn your loss—and our country’s loss.

I like to think that Richard has just put us all on hold while he takes another call.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERNARD. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI).

Ms. PELOSI. I thank the chairman for yielding and I commend him and Ranking Member, soon-to-be Chairman LOWEY, for their timely work in authorizing this resolution presented by our chairman, Congresswoman NITA LOWEY, who chairs the Foreign Ops subcommittee.

I urge all of you on Foreign Affairs and on Foreign Ops in appropriations know full well the magnitude of the leader that Richard Holbrooke was. As I address some personal remarks about him, I want to say how significant it was that he understood the important role that Congress plays in foreign policy, whether it was as the Ambassador to the United Nations, whether it was in his work forging a peace agreement, the Dayton Accords, or whether it was in his role now as Special Envoy to Afghanistan and Pakistan.

He would come to Capitol Hill bringing his tremendous and brilliant mind, his great intellect, his boundless energy, and his sense of humor. He had a tenacity about him that was unsurpassed. His determination was palpable. You could see it in the air. When he addressed an issue, you knew that a solution would be found and he, indeed, worked very, very hard in all that he did; but he also brought, as I say, a brilliant, great intellect.

With the passing of Ambassador Holbrooke, our country has lost a brilliant and respected diplomat. We have—but his life and his legacy will continue to affect our search for peace in the world, resolving our conflicts, improving relationships among countries, having a values-based American foreign policy.

He was a strong fighter for peace throughout the world and an advocate for American values at the United Nations that Congress plays a powerful, again, for forging the agreement among bitter rivals to end 3 years of bloody sectarian war in the former Yugoslavia. Now that peace is in the region, it is hard to remember how bitter it was at times forever, that went on for a long time.

I just want to say this aside, just to tell you the magnitude of the task that
he had. When Adolf Hitler was asked how he learned the power of hatred, he said he learned it by watching the Balkans, people who had come to Vienna, settled there in some ghettos, and he saw how they interacted among themselves in a very, very bitter way. That gives you a flavor for the attitudes of people in the region. They came to the table in Dayton. Richard Holbrooke understood, he put himself in the shoes of each of these rivals, and was able to forge an agreement. It was historic. Again, the force of his determination was key to securing peace, restoring hope, and saving lives. It was really monumental. It is thought that his work in the Balkans saved thousands of lives.

Today, as the resolution states, Congress recognizes him for the monumental contributions he has made to United States national security, humanitarian causes, and peaceful resolutions of international conflict. All who have worked with him admired his great intellect and tenacity to resolve conflict. When we got news of his passing, which was shocking to all of us, we immediately flew a flag over the Capitol that evening in his name. How appropriate this great patriot—how appropriate that there would be a flag flying in his name over the Capitol of the United States. I think that is a tremendous, tremendous tribute.

I have—it is a comfort to Kati, our dear friend—many of us are personal friends of the Holbrookes—to his children and to the many who loved him that so many people in our country and throughout the world mourn their loss with a deep, deep sadness and that we are praying for them at this sad time.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I continue to reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am very pleased to yield 1 minute to my colleague from Ohio, the State where Ambassador Holbrooke during diplomatic training in 1993. Sidney and Richard had recently been appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as the Ambassadors to the Bahamas and Germany, respectively. As is required of the spouse of an incoming Ambassador, I also flew a flag over the Capitol in his honor. He had the privilege of knowing him and working with him over the years. And America is better, because of his life.

I thank the gentleman for yielding and allowing me this time on the floor today.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1 minute to our retiring colleague from California, herself with diplomatic experience, Ambassador DIANE WATSON.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, I take great honor in coming and saluting Ambassador Holbrooke. He was a person that we can all be proud of, because among ambassadors, he stood above them head and shoulders and represented the will and the morality of our country around this globe.

Being a member of that elite corps is something that will always remain in my heart and in my mind that I had the privilege of serving 2 years as an ambassador myself. And during the 6 weeks of training that we had, Ambassador Holbrooke was always held as the standard by which we performed our duties for the United States of America.

I offer my condolences to his family and his broad global family from the State of California. I’m very proud to have served with him in that department. It was a short period of time, but oh, what an experience. May God bless the family, and I know he’s up there presiding over all of the matters that will affect our countries and bring peace. God bless.

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

We have before us the Speaker of the House; from the author of the resolution, Mrs. LOWEY; from Ambassador Holbrooke’s dear friend, and of a variety of aspects both of his accomplishments and of his nature, and it was quite a series of accomplishments, in all parts of the world, in the diplomatic sphere, in the development assistance sphere, in southeast Asia, in the Balkans, obviously more recently in South Asia.

What I would love to do here on the House floor, because I think in a way it might best illustrate what I could say about his talents, was just to speak to the details of six or seven interventions and times that I dealt with him on a particular personal basis, but I feel like I would be bringing WikiLeaks to the House floor were I to go through all of those.

So I will restrain myself just to say he truly represents the Kim that I will miss his brilliance, his energy, his ability to play chess, to see the long term and the unbelievable force of his personality.

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ambassador Richard Holbrooke, who unexpectedly passed away this week. My husband, Ambassador Sidney Williams, and I are very saddened that friend is no longer with us.

We first had the opportunity to meet Ambassador Holbrooke during diplomatic training in 1993. Sidney and Richard had recently been appointed by President Bill Clinton to serve as the Ambassadors to the Bahamas and Germany, respectively. As is required of the spouse of an incoming Ambassador, I also flew a flag over the Capitol in his honor. He had the privilege of knowing him and working with him over the years. And America is better, because of his life.

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In New York at the U.N., he did much of the heavy lifting on Congressionally led efforts to rein in U.N. spending, to rationalize the dues paid by the United States, and to improve the standing of Israel in that multinational body. Sadly, those concerns have returned with a renewed urgency—with the need for fundamental reform of U.N. budgets and the virulently anti-Israel U.N. Human Rights Council (so-called)—and the Congress can only hope to have such a tenacious, principled partner in the future.

Ambassador Holbrooke made his final appearance before our Committee on Foreign Affairs in the spring of last year, as U.S. Special Representative for Afghanistan and Pakistan. We lament the loss of his matchless skills in those critical regions.

But while we grieve at his passing, let us renew our own commitment to success in Afghanistan as a fitting way to honor his service toward that end.

At this time we extend our condolences, our thoughts, and our prayers to his wife Kati, and to his children.

While we mourn the loss of a dedicated public servant, we mourn the loss of a husband and a father.

I urge all of my colleagues to join me in this expression of gratitude for the service of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

Mr. VYE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the man behind so many pivotal diplomatic achievements that have improved the lives of so many around the world and made our Nation safer: Ambassador Richard Holbrooke.

As a former Foreign Service Officer I first met Ambassador Holbrooke while I was serving at the U.S. Embassy in Macedonia, and most recently during a congressional delegation I led to Afghanistan. I will remember him as a key figure in the middle of many delicate, quintessential diplomatic negotiations. Few left as big a mark on U.S. foreign policy as Ambassador Holbrooke.

From his historic role brokering peace in the Balkans, to his final mission in the Afghanistan and Pakistan region, Ambassador Holbrooke had a fearless love for his country. He shied away from nothing, always diving head-first into the challenging issues of his time.

With the passing of Ambassador Holbrooke our country, and indeed the world, has lost a brilliant and respected diplomat. But his legacy will live on in the improved relationships we now have with countries in the world's toughest regions.

My heart and prayers are with his wife Kati, his sons David and Anthony, his stepchildren Elizabeth and Chris Jennings, and his daughter-in-law Sarah.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, I was extremely saddened to hear about the death of Ambassador Richard Holbrooke. He was a great leader and a dedicated representative of peace and democracy throughout the world. I extend my deepest condolences to Holbrooke’s family, his wife Kati Marton, his brother, Andrew, and his children, David, Anthony, Christopher and Elizabeth.

Ambassador Holbrooke has had a tremendous career with the United States State Department, which began with a response to President Kennedy’s call to service for government work in the early 1960s. Ambassador Holbrooke was undoubtedly a public servant ever since his graduation from Brown University in 1963 with a Ph.D. in government and was sent to Vietnam. At the young age of 24, Richard Holbrooke, an expert on Vietnam issues, was appointed to a team of Vietnam experts, the Phoenix Program, under President Lyndon B. Johnson. Ambassador Holbrooke oversaw an effective Vietnamization of policy, the formation of peace and democracy, and this began at a young age with a profound dedication to the United States’ international diplomatic efforts.

Since beginning his career in foreign policy at such a young age, Ambassador Holbrooke was always at the forefront of international political issues, whether it was as a public servant at the 1968 Paris Peace Talks, Director of the Peace Corps in Morocco, or as the editor of Foreign Policy magazine. Ambassador Holbrooke will always be an archetype of U.S. diplomacy, and as we mark his passing, it will serve to demonstrate how he has been consequential to diplomacy in some of our generation’s most tumultuous events.

Ambassador Holbrooke never relented in his efforts to expand his efforts to pursue U.S. interests and diplomacy internationally. In 1977, under President Carter, Richard Holbrooke was Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs. As the youngest person to have been appointed to that position, Ambassador Holbrooke oversaw the normalization of relations with China in 1978, and the warming of the cold war during his tenure. His diplomatic achievements do not culminate with the establishment of diplomatic relations with China—instead they continued, and arguably exceeded anyone’s expectations.

When President Clinton took office in 1993, Mr. Holbrooke returned to work for the United States Government with the State Department. His first appointment was as the U.S. Ambassador to Germany, where he participated in the founding of the Berlin School of Politics and Economics. In 1994, he returned to Washington after being appointed by President Clinton to be the Assistant Secretary of State for European and Canadian Affairs, where he was the lead negotiator in the Balkan Wars. He was strategic in establishing a lasting peace at the Dayton talks that undoubtedly saved thousands of lives. The 1995 Dayton peace accords ended the war in Bosnia—but it required an agreement by the three warring factions, the Serbs, Croats and Muslims. Ambassador Holbrooke’s role in this is lasting; he ended the 3-year war, and helped develop the framework for dividing Bosnia into two entities, one of the Bosnian Serbs and another of the Croats and Muslims. Ambassador Holbrooke is a hero of U.S. diplomacy, and undoubtedly had tremendous importance in facilitating peace, in whatever form, in Bosnia.

After playing a key role in the Dayton Peace Talks, President Bill Clinton named Mr. Holbrooke as the representative of the United States to the United Nations. Holbrooke’s time as United Nations Ambassador was highlighted in his addressing the problems of global HIV/AIDS. He advocated to United Nation peacekeepers that it was their responsibility to help prevent HIV/AIDS and invited Vice President Al Gore to speak before the Security Council to highlight the growing epidemic. Ambassador Holbrooke warned that the medical section of the peacekeeping department has been understaffed and suggested that all peacekeepers include the cost of AIDS testing and treatment in the budget. Mr. Holbrooke has been a strong advocate for HIV/AIDS issues having worked with the Global Business Coalition on HIV/AIDS and the Congressional Black Caucus (CBC) during his time as United Nations Ambassador to the United States. During his tenure, Ambassador Holbrooke invited members of the CBC to visit the U.N. Ambassador Holbrooke demonstrated his drive to securing international health and peace, in his lifetime of dedication to diplomatic efforts.

His work never ceased, and it continued with President Obama. Under the Obama administration, Ambassador Holbrooke was appointed Special Envoy to Pakistan and Afghanistan—a region that contains the United States' greatest national security concerns. Just as his responsibility unfolded in the Balkans, his responsibility in Pakistan and Afghanistan posed a major challenge that would not have an easy solution. As we all know, the problems in Afghanistan and Pakistan are monumental and diplomatic efforts could not be solved overnight. Ambassador Holbrooke knew this, yet he commendably took on the role, and worked courageously and diplomatically in a densely complicated region.

Ambassador Holbrooke was the intermediary between Afghanistan, Pakistan and the United States. Ambassador Holbrooke was fighting, diplomatically, to stabilize the often unpredictable and always fluctuating region. The fight continues to be multifaceted, and Ambassador Holbrooke dealt with fragile economies, containing corruption within governments and elections, destabilizing the Taliban resurgence, a rampant narcotics trade, the presence of Al Qaeda, and maintaining peace and security, all while promoting United States diplomatic efforts. Representing the United States, Ambassador Holbrooke worked to promote economic development in Pakistan through the Kerry Lugar Berman Bill, and worked with the Afghan government and administration to reduce U.S. combat troops and to forge a lasting peace in the region.

He is an example to us all, his life was foreign policy, his dedication was to the United States, and his motivation was diplomacy. Ambassador Holbrooke will always be regarded as a true American diplomat, one who strived for international peace throughout his entire career, of nearly 50 years, as a public servant.

We lost a great American peacemaker this week. Ambassador Richard Holbrooke gave his life to the cause of peace. His work over the years speaks for itself, but most importantly, the call that he accepted on behalf of Americans to serve in Afghanistan and Pakistan will resonate for decades. Ambassador Richard Holbrooke was my friend and will never be forgotten.

Mr. BERMAN. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from California (Mr. BERMAN) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the concurrent resolution, H. Con. Res. 355, as amended.
Section 2. Reducing Lead in Drinking Water

This Act may be cited as the "Reduction of Lead in Drinking Water Act."