

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues please join me in recognizing the career of House Parliamentarian John Sullivan and wishing him and his family all the best in the future.

HONORING THE SISTERS OF
LORETTO

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary and continued legacy of the Sisters of Loretto upon their 200th Anniversary and Jubilee. With a current global reach in education ministry spanning multiple continents, the Sisters of Loretto and their extended network spend each day on a spiritual mission to promote peace and justice, environmental stewardship, and, above all, high-quality education for children everywhere.

On April 25, 1812, the Sisters of Loretto at the Foot of the Cross came to fruition through the humble and steadfast commitment of three American frontier women in central Kentucky named Mary Rhodes, Ann Havern and Christina Stuart. With the long-time counsel and support of local pastor, Father Charles Nerinckx, the women dedicated their lives to communal living and prayer. Little did they know at the time, that their lifetime commitment to teaching local poor children and housing orphans would spur a global movement.

The women's selfless work under extreme frontier conditions inspired scores of other women to join the religious order. In a model of faith and service, the Sisters made their special purpose the education and instruction of girls and young women of every faith and economic means, including those still enslaved under the law. Over the next two decades, membership grew to 130 women overseeing nine frontier schools in Kentucky and Missouri. And over the next century, they founded 99 additional schools in territories that would become 13 different states.

The Sisters of Loretto continued to expand the work of education westward, first by steamboat to Missouri and Louisiana. Then, by wagon train to New Mexico, mail coach to Colorado, and by train to Texas, Arizona and California. Ultimately, the order contributed to burgeoning systems of American education in more than 40 states. In one chapter of Sisters of Loretto history from 1898 to 1922, the visionary leadership of Superior General Mother Praxedes Carly SL brought greater emphasis to women's higher education goals. Mother Praxedes was one of the first leaders of her time to insist that Loretto Sisters would need master's- and doctorate-level educational training for their teaching. In 1916, a time when universities were almost exclusively off-limits to women, Mother Praxedes erected Loretto College for women in St. Louis, Missouri (now known as Webster University).

From being among the first invited women participants at Vatican II to moving toward greater, independent social peace and justice efforts in the 20th century, the organization has had a presence in China (as early as 1923), Europe, South and Central America (Guatemala, Bolivia and Peru), as well as in recent years, Uganda, Pakistan and Ghana, where they co-opened Blessed Trinity Leader-

ship Academy in 2009. The Sisters of Loretto have formed amazing partnerships with local organizations on the ground and have galvanized a network of co-member volunteers. To name a few of its many roles, the Loretto Community NGO has consultative status at the United Nations and comprises a Loretto Hunger Fund, as well as a Committee for Racial Justice. The Sisters have also built memorials for victims of slavery as well as those who have died from AIDS.

Clearly, the trailblazing roots of this frontier organization, have persisted and flourished over the last 200 years. Altogether, the Sisters of Loretto and their colleagues have founded nearly 300 U.S. schools, colleges, centers and service programs, supporting the education and growth of close to one million American citizens. And, as a proud former student of the Sisters of Loretto at St. Joseph School in El Paso, Texas, and 2002 recipient of their Mary Rhodes Award for peace and justice, I know firsthand what their movement for quality women's education has done for our nation, and the world. They planted the seeds for my work for peace and justice. And for that, I am deeply grateful.

Therefore, on behalf of California's 9th Congressional District, I salute the Sisters of Loretto and thank them for their immense service. I congratulate all of you upon this incredible milestone, and join you in looking ahead toward centuries' more work from the Sisters of Loretto in pursuit of education, enlightenment, peace and progress.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably absent from the House on April 16, 2012 due to important commitments in my district.

On rollcall 152, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 3001, the Raoul Wallenberg Centennial Celebration Act.

On rollcall 153, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 4040, providing for the award of a gold medal on behalf of Congress to Jack Nicklaus in recognition of his service to the Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LATE
HONORABLE DONALD M. PAYNE

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the late Honorable Donald M. Payne, so that we may commemorate his extraordinary life of dedication and commitment to service.

Born in 1952 in Newark, New Jersey, he graduated from Seton Hall University and pursued post graduate studies at Springfield College. A former English and social studies teacher, he also coached football at Malcolm X Shabazz High School, which was then called South Side High School. He was Vice-President of Urban Data Systems Inc. as well

as an executive at Prudential Financial. In 1970, he became the first African-American president of the National Council of YMCAs.

Representative Payne entered public life in 1972 when he was elected to the Essex County Board of Chosen Freeholders. Ten years later he was elected to the Newark Municipal Council where he served three terms. In 1988, Donald became the Representative of New Jersey's 10th Congressional District, and the first African-American to represent New Jersey in Congress. As Chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, he was a relentless defender and supporter of education related issues. He was an inspiration and a friend.

He was preceded in death by his wife, Hazel Johnson, and is succeeded by son Donald Jr., daughters Wanda and Nicole, four grandchildren and one great-grandchild.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues please join me in sending our condolences to the family and friends of Donald M. Payne who so faithfully cared for and served his community.

HONORING THEODORA J. KALIKOW

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 17, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Dr. Theodora J. Kalikow on the occasion of her retirement as President of the University of Maine at Farmington.

Since Dr. Kalikow's arrival at the University of Maine at Farmington in 1994, the university has gained national recognition as one of America's top public liberal arts colleges and is a superior model of educational excellence and academic opportunity.

As President, Dr. Kalikow has overseen the addition of many new degree programs and has presided over the construction of new campus facilities, including a community arts center, an education center, and a residence hall. She has also focused on expanding student opportunities for internships and undergraduate research.

Another of Dr. Kalikow's notable accomplishments at UMF has been her tireless pursuit of high environmental sustainability standards. Under her leadership, the University of Maine at Farmington is now recognized as one of America's "Top Green Colleges" by the Princeton Review. Dr. Kalikow's environmental efforts earned her the Green Building Leadership Award from the Maine Chapter of the U.S. Green Building Council in 2007.

Dr. Kalikow has received recognition within the state of Maine for her contributions to the community of Farmington and to the state at large. In 2001, she was inducted into the Maine Women's Hall of Fame. She has also been the recipient of the University of Maine's Maryann Hartman Award and the University of New England's Deborah Morton Award.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Dr. Theodora J. Kalikow for her many years of dedication and service to the state of Maine.