

STOP THE SEQUESTER

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, in Connecticut last week, I heard a lot of different fears from people in my district about sequestration. Almost everyone is worried about the economy. Small business owners and manufacturers in Torrington and Waterbury are worried about staying above water. Parents in Danbury are worried about their children's education. Social service providers in New Britain and Meriden are worried about losing funding to help seniors who need meal assistance and to help families who need housing assistance. People everywhere are worried about keeping their jobs.

And there's a question in common. With this imminent, self-inflicted threat to people's jobs and people's livelihoods, why isn't Congress doing anything about it? Why, at the very least, are we not voting on a balanced alternative?

Our constituents deserve more than an answer to that question, they deserve action. There is no reason businesses and families in Connecticut, or in any state, should be facing this catastrophe. It is entirely of our own doing but it's the folks back home that suffer the consequences.

I ask unanimous consent that the House now take up H.R. 699, the Stop the Sequester Job Loss Now Act, introduced by Mr. VAN HOLLEN to replace the sequestration with commonsense, cost-cutting policies—repealing subsidies for big oil and big gas, refocusing subsidies for big agriculture, and enacting a "Buffet Rule" so that the wealthiest are paying their fair share.

We should be allowed to vote on this bill, and we should vote to remove this threat to the well-being of folks in all of our districts who have worked so hard to get by and to bring our country back from recession.

HONORING AARON HONEYSUCKER

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable public servant, Mr. Aaron Honeysucker. Aaron was born in Camden, Mississippi in 1948. He is the father of three adult children—Felicia A. Berry, Marcus M. Honeysucker, and Chelsie B. Coleman. Mr. Honeysucker is a retired military veteran who served during the Vietnam War.

While serving in the military, Mr. Honeysucker also worked as an insurance salesman from 1972–1980. He's currently a small business owner and sells real estate. Mr. Honeysucker graduated from Velma Jackson High School in 1967, Hinds Junior College in 1972, and Jackson State University in 1997.

Mr. Honeysucker is a member of several social & civic organizations including the Veteran of Foreign Wars, JSU Alumni Association, Blue Bengal Athletic Association, Woodhaven Homeowners Association, The Retired Active Reserve and Armed Forces Association, and Red Cross Volunteer.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Aaron Honeysucker for his dedication to serving to our great country.

CONGRATULATING THE 2012 NATIONAL ACADEMY OF INVENTORS' CHARTER FELLOWS

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 101 inventors who were recently recognized at the University of South Florida in Tampa and inducted as the 2012 National Academy of Inventors' Charter Fellows by the United States Commissioner of Patents, Margaret A. Focarino. In order to be named as a Charter Fellow, these men and women were nominated by their peers and have undergone the scrutiny of the NAI Selection Committee, having had their innovations deemed as making significant impact on quality of life, economic development, and welfare of society. Collectively, this elite group holds more than 3,200 patents.

The individuals making up this year's class of Charter Fellows include individuals from 56 research universities and non-profit research institutes spanning not just the United States but also the world. This group of inductees touts eight Nobel Laureates, 14 presidents of research universities and non-profit research institutes, 53 members of the National Academies, 11 inductees of the National Inventors Hall of Fame, two Fellows of the Royal Society, five recipients of the National Medal of Technology and Innovation, four recipients of the National Medal of Science, and 31 AAAS Fellows, among other major awards and distinctions.

The contributions made to society through innovation are immeasurable. I commend these individuals, and the organizations that support them, for the work that they do to revolutionize the world we live in. As the following inventors are inducted, may it encourage future innovators to strive to meet this high honor and continue the spirit of innovation.

The 2012 NAI Charter Fellows include:

Dharma P. Agrawal, University of Cincinnati; Anthony Atala, Wake Forest University; Benton F. Baugh, University of Houston; Khosrow Behbehani, University of Texas at Arlington; Raymond J. Bergeron, University of Florida; Gerardine G. Botte, Ohio University; Robert H. Brown, Jr., University of Massachusetts Medical Center; Robert L. Byer, Stanford University; Sir Roy Calne, University of Cambridge; Curtis R. Carlson, SRI International.

Nai Yuen Chen, University of Texas at Arlington; Stephen Z. D. Cheng, The University of Akron; Paul C. W. Chu, University of Houston; James J. Collins, Boston University; James G. Conley, Northwestern University; Joseph T. Coyle, Harvard University; James E. Dahlberg, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Roger J. Davis, University of Massachusetts Medical Center; Sandra J. F. Degen, University of Cincinnati; Hector F. DeLuca, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Donn M. Dennis, University of Florida; Akira Endo, Tokyo University of Agriculture & Technology; Howard J. Federoff, Georgetown University; Thomas J. Fogarty, Fogarty Institute for Innovation; Kenneth M. Ford, Institute for Human & Machine

Cognition; Eric R. Fossum, Dartmouth College; Robert C. Gallo, University of Maryland; Alan N. Gent, The University of Akron; Morteza Gharib, California Institute of Technology; Ivar Giaever, Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute.

Barbara A. Gilchrest, Boston University; Richard D. Gitlin, University of South Florida; Leonid B. Glebov, University of Central Florida; D. Yogi Goswami, University of South Florida; Mark W. Grinstaff, Boston University; Greg Hampikian, Boise State University; Barbara C. Hansen, University of South Florida; Patrick T. Harker, University of Delaware; Martin E. Hellman, Stanford University; Nick Holonyak, Jr., University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Leroy E. Hood, Institute for Systems Biology; Richard A. Houghten, Torrey Pines Institute for Molecular Studies; Ernest B. Izevbigie, Jackson State University; Stephen C. Jacobsen, University of Utah; Eric W. Kaler, University of Minnesota; Linda P. B. Katehi, University of California, Davis; Joseph P. Kennedy, The University of Akron; Sakhrat Khizroev, Florida International University; Sung Wan Kim, University of Utah; George V. Kondraske, University of Texas at Arlington.

John J. Kopchick, Ohio University; Roger D. Kornberg, Stanford University; Max G. Lagally, University of Wisconsin-Madison; Robert S. Langer, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Brian A. Larkins, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Victor B. Lawrence, Stevens Institute of Technology; Virginia M.-Y. Lee, University of Pennsylvania; Jean-Marie Pierre Lehn, University of Strasbourg; Shinn-Zong Lin, China Medical University; Thomas A. Lipo, University of Wisconsin-Madison.

Barbara H. Liskov, Massachusetts Institute of Technology; Alan F. List, H. Lee Moffitt Cancer Center and Research Institute; R. Bowen Loftin, Texas A&M University; Dan Luss, University of Houston; Robert Magnusson, University of Texas at Arlington; Richard B. Marchase, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Stephen W. S. McKeever, Oklahoma State University; Craig C. Mello, University of Massachusetts Medical Center; Shyam Mohapatra, University of South Florida; Theodore D. Moustakas, Boston University.

George R. Newkome, The University of Akron; C. L. Max Nikias, University of Southern California; David P. Norton, University of Florida; Julio C. Palmaz, U. of Texas Health Science Center at San Antonio; Thomas N. Parks, University of Utah; C. Kumar N. Patel, University of California, Los Angeles; Prem S. Paul, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; David W. Pershing, University of Utah; G. P. Peterson, Georgia Institute of Technology; Leonard Polizzotto, Draper Laboratory.

Huntington Potter, University of Colorado Denver; Paul R. Sanberg, University of South Florida; Timothy D. Sands, Purdue University; Raymond F. Schinazi, Emory University; Dean L. Sicking, University of Alabama at Birmingham; Oliver Smithies, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Solomon H. Snyder, Johns Hopkins University; Franky So, University of Florida; M. J. Soileau, University of Central Florida; Nan-Yao Su, University of Florida.

Jack W. Szostak, Harvard University; Esther Sans Takeuchi, Stony Brook University; H. Holden Thorp, University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill; Charles H. Townes, University of California, Berkeley; John Q. Trojanowski, University of Pennsylvania; Roger Y. Tsien, University of California, San Diego; James L. Van Etten, University of Nebraska-Lincoln; James W. Wagner, Emory University; John E. Ware, Jr., University of

Massachusetts Medical Center; Herbert Weissbach, Florida Atlantic University; Shin-Tson Wu, University of Central Florida.

HONORING DOCTOR SUSAN M. WIDMAYER AND THE CHILDREN'S DIAGNOSTIC AND TREATMENT CENTER

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in honor of Doctor Susan M. Widmayer and the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center (CDTC). I would like to honor both Susan and the CDTC on their excellent research on infant mortality and efforts to improve the lives of children and their parents.

Founded in 1983 by Dr. Widmayer, the Children's Diagnostic and Treatment Center in Broward County has made great strides in providing special care for children with disabilities and mothers with HIV. When the CDTC started, Florida had one of the worst infant mortality rates in the country. As a result, Dr. Widmayer and her staff committed to improving the health prospects of children throughout South Florida. Thanks in part to the research by the CDTC, world HIV transmission rates from mother to infant dropped from 25 percent in the mid '90s to around 3 percent today.

When no one else would care for the tens of thousands of children with impoverished parents, Dr. Widmayer answered the call. Approximately 70 percent of the Center's clients live in poverty, but that has not stopped the CDTC from providing prevention, intervention and treatment services. Every patient that walks into the CDTC is welcome, regardless of family income. By serving the specialized needs of these children, Dr. Widmayer is giving them the opportunity and care that no other institution would.

Today I would like to honor Dr. Widmayer and the Children's Diagnostic Treatment Center, and I hope that they will continue to serve our communities by improving the lives of children throughout South Florida.

IN COMMEMORATION OF THE 66TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE 2-28 MASSACRE

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to observe the 66th commemoration of Taiwan's 2-28 Massacre. The Massacre was an anti-government uprising in Taiwan that began on February 28, 1947 and was violently suppressed by General Chiang Kai-shek's Chinese Nationalist Kuomintang (KMT) government during the following weeks. Estimates of the number of deaths are around 28,000.

In the fall of 1945, 50 years of Japanese occupation of Taiwan ended after Japan had lost World War II. In October of that year, the KMT-administered Republic of China (ROC) received administrative control of Taiwan. 16 months of KMT administration on Taiwan led

to the widespread impression among the people of Taiwan that the party was plagued by nepotism, corruption, and economic failure.

Tensions increased between the Taiwanese people and the ROC administration. The flashpoint came on February 28, 1947 when in Taipei a dispute between a female cigarette vendor and an officer of the Government's Office of Monopoly triggered civil disorder and open rebellion by the native Taiwanese against the KMT repression.

During the following weeks, Chiang's government sent troops from China to the island. The Chinese soldiers started to round up and execute a whole generation of an elite of Taiwanese lawyers, doctors, students, professors etc.

It is estimated that up to 30,000 people lost their lives during the turmoil. During the following four decades, the Chinese Nationalists continued to rule Taiwan with an iron fist under a Martial Law that would not be lifted until 1987.

Mr. Speaker, the Massacre had far reaching implications. Over the next half century, the Taiwanese democracy movement that grew out of the event helped pave the way for Taiwan's momentous transformation from a dictatorship under the Chinese Nationalists to a democracy.

In some ways, the 228 incident was Taiwan's Boston Massacre for both events functioned as the cradle of a move by both peoples to full democracy and helped galvanize the strive to independence.

Mr. Speaker, I have said it before: Freedom is not negotiable. May the lessons learned from the 2-28 Massacre continue to inspire the people of Taiwan in their struggle for freedom, full independence, international participation, and for the continued enhancement of the mutual relationship between Taiwan and the United States.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in commemorating this important historical event.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

HON. JOE GARCIA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Mr. GARCIA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in observance of Black History Month—an opportunity to celebrate the rich legacy of African-Americans and the many ways they have shaped our Nation's history.

This Black History Month, we commemorate two landmark anniversaries in American history: the 150th anniversary of Emancipation Proclamation and the 50th anniversary of the March on Washington. Separated by a century, these two seminal events underscore what the Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr., once said—that “the arc of the moral universe is long but it bends towards justice.” Each successive generation of Americans must always do their part to build on the progress of those who came before them in order to advance the ideals of freedom and equality upon which our Nation was founded.

In South Florida, we have benefited tremendously from trailblazing African-American leaders who have broken through color barriers in order to contribute to our communities and our country.

They include individuals who served our country bravely, including Lt. Col. Eldridge Williams—one of the legendary Tuskegee airman—and Col. Brodes Hartley Jr., who has been a leading civil rights leader in South Florida committed to improving quality health care access for low-income families. And also Reverend John A. Ferguson, who after serving in the Navy helped found a small congregation in Richmond Heights that would grow to nearly 800 under his leadership and today stands at over 1400.

They include leaders like Al Dotson Sr., a pastor who served as the first elected African American president of the Orange Bowl Committee and the Chairman of the Board of Trustees for Florida International University, as well as Mayor Otis Wallace, who has served Florida City as mayor for over twenty-eight years and is today the longest serving elected official in the State of Florida.

I could name so many others. South Florida is a better place because of their commitment to public service and their strong leadership.

EXPANDING THE DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS DEFINITION OF “HOMELESS VETERAN”

HON. JANICE HAHN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 28, 2013

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, after over ten years of wars, we have a growing number of veterans in our nation. We have a responsibility to provide support and services for our soldiers once they return home. This includes the area of domestic violence.

Sadly, our brave soldiers who return home after protecting our nation are not immune from domestic abuse. As I've said previously, we have a duty to our veterans. However, current law fails to fully protect those veterans who have been driven from their homes because of domestic violence.

In order to reflect the modern day reality that there are more women in our military than ever before, it is important that we continue to update our laws to address emerging issues within this new trend.

The civilian definition of homelessness includes people fleeing from domestic violence. However, the current law the Department of Veterans Affairs uses to administer benefits for homeless veterans does not recognize those driven from their homes by abuse as homeless.

The full definition of “homeless” under the law includes the following: “Any individual or family who is fleeing, or is attempting to flee, domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, stalking, or other dangerous or life-threatening conditions in the individual's or family's current housing situation, including where the health and safety of children are jeopardized, and who have no other residence and lack the resources or support networks to obtain other permanent housing.” However, the Department of Veterans Affairs currently defines “homeless veteran” based on an incomplete citation of the civilian homeless law.

That's why I have decided to reintroduce this bipartisan legislation with my colleague Congressman RUNYAN that would expand the Department of Veterans Affairs' definition of