

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

H.R. 3670, ANTI-SPOOFING ACT OF 2013 AND H.R. 5161, E-LABEL ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3670, the Anti-Spoofing Act and H.R. 5161, the E-LABEL Act.

H.R. 3670 updates the Truth in Caller ID Act of 2009 to combat against fraudulent phone calls and text messages received by millions of Americans, including seniors, veterans and the disabled. According to the Federal Communications Commission (FCC), "caller ID spoofing" is defined as the deliberate falsification of caller ID information, including a telephone number and/or name for the purpose of disguising the identity of the calling party.

Just last month, the San Diego County Sheriff's Department reported a series of spoofing incidents in which San Diegans received calls purported to be from the Sheriff's office, indicating a warrant for their arrest. With similar reports of fraudulent behavior around the country, this bipartisan, pro-consumer bill will better protect Americans from becoming victims of scammers. I commend Representative MENG for her leadership and I urge the House to pass this commonsense bill.

I also urge House colleagues to support H.R. 5161, a bipartisan bill which I introduced with Representatives LATA, WELCH and BLACKBURN in July. Following on the E-Labeling guidance issued by the FCC this summer, H.R. 5161 would promote electronic labeling for FCC certified devices such as phones, computers, smart watches and other consumer electronics products.

As the Information Technology and Innovation Foundation (ITIF) described in a July op-ed, "etching 17 characters into a phone might not seem like a Herculean feat, but as wireless devices have proliferated and shrunk in size, many manufacturers have been forced to buy increasingly expensive equipment and invest more design time into placing the label." Electronic labeling thus provides manufacturers with a more practical solution to existing FCC labeling requirements and does so while lowering device costs.

I urge my colleagues to join me in voting for H.R. 3670 and H.R. 5161.

ELBRA WEDGEWORTH

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud the Honorable Elbra Wedgeworth on the dedication of the Elbra M. Wedgeworth Municipal Building.

Elbra Wedgeworth was elected to Denver City Council in 1999 representing District 8.

Serving a second term in 2003 her City Council peers unanimously elected her the Council President, serving 2003 to 2005. Through her leadership and perseverance Elbra was instrumental in the revitalization of District 8 through improvements to City Park Golf Course, the redevelopment of East Village Housing project, Mercy Hospital redevelopment, Colorado Convention Center expansion and the Blair Caldwell African-American Research Library, only to name a few. Elbra also served as the President and Chair of the Denver 2008 Convention Host Committee; her participation was instrumental in Denver being chosen to host the Democratic National Convention. The Convention itself generated over \$266 million dollars in economic benefit to the State of Colorado.

Elbra currently serves as the Chief Government and Community Relations Officer at Denver Health and Hospital Authority.

I extend my deepest congratulations and gratitude to the Honorable Elbra Wedgeworth for her countless hours of dedication to the citizens of Colorado. Elbra's continued commitment has made our community a better place for all of us.

GENOCIDAL ATTACKS AGAINST CHRISTIAN AND OTHER RELIGIOUS MINORITIES IN SYRIA AND IRAQ

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday I convened a subcommittee hearing on the desperate plight of Christians and other religious minorities in Iraq and Syria.

As images of beheaded American journalists James Foley and Steven Sotloff are seared into our consciousness, we would do well to honor their memories by recalling that they saw it as their mission to alert the world to the horrors committed by the fanatical Islamist terrorist group ISIS in Syria and Iraq: Children forced to view crucifixions and beheadings; women bartered, sold, and raped; prisoners lined up on their knees to be shot—this is ISIS' legacy.

Today Christians and other religious minorities, such as Yazidis, Shabaks, and Turkmen Shiites are not just facing a long winter without homes. They are not just hungry and thirsty and wandering from village to village in Northern Iraq and Kurdistan.

They are facing annihilation—genocide—by fanatics who see anyone who does not subscribe to its draconian and violent interpretation of Islam as fair game for enslavement, forced conversion or death.

If the phrase "Never Again" is to be more than well moving sentiment we simply give lip service to, then we must be prepared to act when we see genocide unfold before our very eyes.

After the U.S. pulled out of Iraq in March 2011 we left in charge a prime minister hostile to political inclusion of all Iraqis beyond simply Shiites. The Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, or ISIL—also known as the Islamic State in Iraq and al-Sham, or ISIS—saw an opportunity to exploit Sunni resentment at this treatment, and surged to fill the gap.

We withdrew, they surged.

This is not the "Junior Varsity" team of terrorists, as the President dismissively asserted earlier this year. Deputy Assistant Secretary for Iraq and Iran Brett McGurk has described ISIL as having "unprecedented" resources in terms of funds, weapons, and personnel.

We have seen what ISIS is doing in Syria, beheading and crucifying Christians and political opponents, taking hostages and kidnapping religious leaders, blowing up churches and mosques, and forcing religious minorities to convert, flee with the clothes on their backs, pay an exorbitant tax for infidels—or die.

When ISIS overran Mosul in June, Mosul's 35,000 inhabitants not too old or sick fled for their lives. At checkpoints leaving the city, ISIS took the Christians' wedding rings, money, travel papers, and medicines—even their cars. Families walked carrying their children, pushing wheelchairs with elderly parents, mile after mile into the hot, barren, Nineveh Plain. As ISIS continued to gain territory in July and August, the Christians fled further north, joining Yazidi and many other minorities trying to find safety in the Iraqi Kurdistan Region.

More than 1.7 million people have been displaced in Iraq this year. Many were Christians who fled the brutal Syrian civil war, now on the run again.

Where will they be safe?

Kurdistan, a region of 8.35 million people currently hosts nearly 750,000 refugees. The Kurdish Peshmerga militias are underfunded and under-armed, now that ISIS has captured U.S. heavy weaponry across Iraq. Yet they soldier on.

I have received emails from Bishops and nuns chronicling the dire needs of their flocks who are being "exterminated" and "expelled" from regions their people have occupied for millennia.

The U.S. has in the last few weeks geared-up for the humanitarian crisis. As of September 5, the U.S. had dedicated nearly \$140 million in humanitarian assistance to Iraq—and USAID airlifted more than 60 metric tons of humanitarian aid into Kurdistan's capital of Erbil.

We need, however, to make sure that aid gets to people who need it most. This means working with religious leaders who are closest to those in need.

We may also need to invest more in our relationship with the Kurdish Regional Government—a regional government which has taken on the aspects of a de facto national government, and one whose brave militia men have stood up against ISIS while members of the Iraqi Armed Forces have folded and fled.

It must also be remarked and remembered with gratitude that the Kurdish Regional Government has extended protection to Christians

• 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.

and other victims of religious persecution. While their record has not been perfect, the Kurds appear to be more tolerant of diversity of thought and belief than many of their neighbors.

But aid alone is not the solution. The U.S. has already spent \$2.4 billion on the Syria humanitarian crisis that rages on.

We need shrewd power—a strategy for action that is in touch with reality on the ground. A strategy born of thinking ahead and preparing in advance for contingencies so that we are not playing catch-up while the enemy rapes, pillages, kidnaps, massacres—and amasses wealth and weapons.

The reality for religious minorities is that their very lives are at risk as long as ISIS controls territory and continues to gather strength on the ground, drawing funds and fighters from around the globe.

As Pope Francis has noted with regard to this crisis, “where there is unjust aggression . . . it is licit to stop the unjust aggressor.”

This may indeed require the use of force, but it also requires using other means at our disposal. I have called for the establishment of a Syrian War Crimes Tribunal, and introduced H. Con. Res. 51 to hold all sides accountable for the heinous atrocities they have committed.

H. Con. Res. 51, introduced last September, calls for the creation of an international tribunal that would be more flexible and more efficient than the International Criminal Court to ensure accountability for human rights violations committed by all sides.

With a Herculean diplomatic push by the United States and other interested nations, past success in creating war crimes courts can indeed be prologue. Such a tribunal would also draw upon past experience, creating a justice mechanism robust enough to right the most egregious wrongs, yet nimble enough not to derail chances for peace due to rigidity.

The Foreign Affairs Committee approved H. Con. Res. 51 on April 30, and I hope this measure will come before the House for a vote at the earliest possible time.

As ISIS does not respect borders, committing atrocities in both Iraq and Syria, the jurisdiction of such a tribunal could and should be expanded to hold ISIS accountable for its evil acts on either side of the border.

Today the Black Flag of ISIS flies over vast swaths of northern Iraq and even cities such as Fallujah, which we had won at such great cost. Indeed, ISIS says that they intend to see the Black Flag fly over the White House. Where the Black Flag flies, there is death and misery.

IN APPRECIATION OF COLONEL
PATRICK T. “SMACK” MCKENZIE

HON. HOWARD P. “BUCK” McKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and pay tribute to Colonel Patrick T. “Smack” McKenzie, on the occasion of his retirement from the United States Air Force after 26 years of service.

I have had the pleasure of working with Smack on a number of occasions during his tenure in the Air Force House Liaison Office. I greatly appreciate and admire his profes-

sionalism, knowledge, and dedication, which has benefited me, and numerous other Members and staff.

Colonel McKenzie has given a great deal to this Nation through his distinguished and selfless service. He began his Air Force career as an ROTC Cadet and a “Jayhawk” at the University of Kansas—an allegiance he maintains to this day, as evidenced by the Jayhawk lanyard you will always see around his neck. Upon graduating in May 1988, he was competitively selected for pilot training at Reese AFB, Texas. He was the envy of Class 90–06, not only because of his perfectly restored red 1965 Pontiac GTO affectionately known as “The Goat”, but also because as one of the top graduates, he was awarded the only F–16 training slot for the class. He was assigned to the 70th Fighter Squadron at Moody AFB, where he was certified as combat-ready and qualified for air-to-surface, air-to-air, and nuclear missions. He quickly caught the eye of his leadership, and was handpicked as one of only 15 squadron pilots qualified to operate the new LANTIRN system (Low Altitude Navigation and Targeting Infrared for Night). He also caught the eye of his future wife, Jennifer, and they have been married now for 21 years. Col. McKenzie’s skill as a fighter pilot was quickly recognized during his first deployment, patrolling the skies over Iraq for Operation Southern Watch. His leadership ability earned him a Regular commission and selection for Squadron Officer School, where he was a Distinguished Graduate.

Capt. McKenzie was then assigned to the 51st Operations Support Squadron at Osan Air Base in the Republic of Korea. He continued to impress as a Wing Plans Officer, maintaining critical operational plans for wartime taskings. He again rose above his peers as a pilot, winning the 51st Fighter Wing’s Low Angle Strafe Top Gun award and selection as the Chief of Standardization and Evaluation for the 51st Operations Group—a position reserved for the Group’s most skilled and trusted pilot. In this position, he was responsible for assessments and maintaining operational standards not only in his F–16 squadron, but also in the HH–60 rescue flight, and a C–12 flight, a job essential to deliver wartime capability. He so impressed his leadership, that even as a Captain he was identified as a “future squadron commander” and was selected for USAF Weapons School, the premier advanced weapons and tactics school for our Air Force Pilots. While there, he was praised for his research on F–16 Night Close Air Support and Targeting Aids, advancing our operational capabilities in this critical capacity. Captain McKenzie’s training was put to immediate use with his assignment to the 510th Fighter Squadron at Aviano Air Base, Italy. He flew dozens of combat sorties during Operations Southern Watch, Decisive Edge, and Deliberate Guard, enforcing no-fly zones over Iraq and Bosnia-Herzegovina. He was also a Mission Commander for more than six large force packages in NATO’s Operation Allied Force in Kosovo, for which he garnered praise for his skills, leadership, mission execution, and most importantly ensuring zero combat losses.

Additionally, Smack was awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross for extraordinary achievement, planning the first NATO strike of Operation Allied Force to cross the Kosovo/Serbian border, defeating surface to air missiles, and executing the first-ever F–16 night

attack utilizing Night Vision Goggles and the LANTIRN system to destroy an ammunition storage facility. As a Flight Commander, Weapons Officer, and Instructor Pilot he was recognized by his superiors as an “exceptional leader with unlimited potential”, the “#1 Captain in the Group”, the “Wing’s top flight commander”, and the USAF Fighter Pilot of the Year. Smack was sent to Air Command and Staff College, where his tremendous leadership and team building skills led his peers to recognize him as the “Outstanding Team Member” for his class. Following school, he became the Assignments Officer for nearly 1,500 Air Force F–16 pilots, single-handedly managing the Air Force’s largest group of pilots and maintaining 100 percent manning level despite historic shortages just after the terrorist attacks on September 11, 2001.

Lt. Col. McKenzie then moved to Luke AFB for a short period as the 56th Operations Support Squadron Operations Officer before being entrusted with his first command—the 310th Fighter Squadron “Top Hats”—the largest fighter squadron at Luke, responsible for the only formal Forward Air Controller-Airborne course, which has been a vital capability in the War on Terror. He was heralded as the “top warrior and leader of 618 officers” and led his unit to the 56th Operations Group “Top Squadron” award. Following this highly successful command, Lt. Col. McKenzie attended National War College at Fort McNair and received a Master of Science in National Security Strategy. He then went to U.S. Joint Forces Command in Norfolk, VA where he provided readiness analysis on current operations, and was a liaison with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, the Government Accountability Office, and the Joint Chiefs of Staff on all readiness related issues. He provided critical data and assessments for the planning of Operation Enduring Freedom which were influential in leadership decisions. Col. McKenzie then Commanded the 455th Expeditionary Operations Group at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. There he profoundly impacted the Global War on Terror, directing air operations and leading over 830 troops to execute over 24,000 missions, dropping 1.1 million pounds of ordnance, and delivering 37,000 tons of cargo—the busiest operation in the CENTCOM area of responsibility. Following this tremendous performance, Col. McKenzie was challenged with a new role as the SECAF’s legislative liaison to Congress for all USAF air and space weapon systems, ensuring the Air Force message and priorities were consistently and convincingly articulated to directly ensure the full authorization of their \$120 billion budget. Smack was then sent back to Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea to command the 51st Fighter Wing “Mustangs” where he previously spent time as a Captain. He was the Joint installation commander for over 10,200 personnel, executing the Combat Air Force’s largest and most highly-utilized A–10 and F–16 operation in a tense location, just 6 minutes flight time to North Korea. “A+”, “inspiring”, and “superb” were just a few words used to describe his tenure there. After his highly successful tour as a Wing Commander, the Air Force returned Smack to legislative liaison work by assigning him to one of the most demanding positions within the Air Force, his current job as the Chief of Air Force House Liaison. Since July 2013, Smack has advised the Secretary of the Air Force, Chief

of Staff of the Air Force, the Director of Legislative Liaison, and numerous other senior military and civilian leaders on issues of the greatest concern to the Air Force and Congress. He has been more than a liaison between the Pentagon and the Hill, he developed and improved key relationships to enable the Congress to make better decisions about the future of the Air Force and our national defense. He is extremely intelligent and articulate, and has helped shape my thinking and influenced many Members of Congress. Simply put, we trust him and will miss him!

Col. McKenzie is a command pilot with over 3,200 flying hours and 630 combat hours in the F-16. He is the recipient of numerous major medals and decorations for his service and accomplishments. The most significant of these include the Defense Superior Service medal, Legion of Merit, Distinguished Flying Cross, Bronze Star, and Meritorious Service medal.

Throughout his distinguished career he has represented our country and the Air Force with dignity and honor, and this is why I'm so privileged to pay tribute to this fine Airman. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congress and the United States of America, I thank Colonel Patrick T. "Smack" McKenzie, his wife Jennifer, and their daughter Ashley, for their service and sacrifices of the past 26 years. I wish them Godspeed, and continued happiness as they start this new chapter in their lives.

TOM NEUMANN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my close friend Tom Neumann, a thoughtful, dedicated and respected leader who served as an example for all those who wish to make a meaningful, positive change in our world. Sadly, Tom passed away this week, on September 9, at the age of 69. I extend my deepest condolences to his wife, Agnes, and his entire family.

For more than 30 years, Tom served to help end anti-Semitism, to safeguard democratic principles and to build understanding and support for Israel. He previously served as the Anti-Defamation League's (ADL) Southwest Regional Director, ADL's National Director of Community Services and its National Director of the Intergroup Relations Division. At ADL, Tom worked to build friendships and working relationships between Christian and Jewish clergy under the Christian-Jewish Committee for Israel. It was during this time that I traveled to Israel with Tom and when I observed firsthand about the challenges that Israel faces each day and why America must always stand with this ally.

Tom later joined B'nai B'rith International as Executive Vice President where he created a presence for the organization in the USSR and Eastern Europe, an important feat and the first to happen since World War II. In 1991, he served as the Executive Director of the Jewish Institute for National Security Affairs (JINSA), where he worked until his retirement in 2012. As Executive Director, Tom helped establish JINSA as a prominent voice for U.S. national security ties as well as U.S.-Israel security

ties. Through his leadership, he helped JINSA grow its membership to over 20,000 individuals. His writings on the U.S.-Israel bilateral relationship were published in outlets across the world. For his work, he was recognized as the "6th Most Influential Jewish Leader" by The Forward in 1999. Locally, Tom founded The Houston Center for International Affairs, a business form that focused on international and economic issues, created the Christian/Jewish Committee for Israel, a coalition of inter-denominational clergy who support Israel, and Texas 1990, a dinner discussion group of religious, business and community leaders.

Tom was someone who believed that "people, even more than causes and things, have to be restored, renewed and reclaimed." To those he worked with, he was a friend and mentor. Always kind, always sincere, always focused. To our entire community in Houston, he will be greatly missed. My deepest sympathies to the entire Neumann family.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit an explanation for my absence during legislative business on the evening of Monday, September 8 and Tuesday, September 9. On these two days, I was in my district hosting the United States Secretary of Education Arne Duncan and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Julian Castro during their visit to the 7th Congressional District of Alabama. I hosted Secretary Duncan for a stop in Birmingham on his 5th Annual Back-to-School Bus Tour. We met with community leaders, educators, parents, and other education advocates in Alabama to showcase reforms and investments the Department has made in Birmingham and across the State of Alabama. Secretary Castro joined me on his first visit to the 7th District since being sworn in as the HUD Secretary. During their visit, the cabinet secretaries and I participated in a "My Brother's Keeper" panel discussion at Phillips Academy which was attended by community leaders, educators, and many bright young students from throughout Birmingham.

Considered and passed by the House during my absence was H. Res. 644, a resolution condemning President Obama for the exchange of five Guantanamo Bay prisoners for the release of Sergeant Bowe Bergdahl. I would like to state for the record that I supported President Obama's decision to act swiftly and exercise his constitutional responsibility as Commander-in-Chief to protect the lives of U.S. service members. Furthermore, I agree with the Joint Chiefs of Staff, who unanimously supported the exchange, along with Secretary of Defense Chuck Hagel. The United States has a sacred obligation when sending our service men and women onto the field of battle with the assurance that we will honor their sacrifice by leaving no one behind. Army General Martin Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs, said the swap was "likely our last, best opportunity" to free Sergeant Bergdahl.

The timing of this condemnation was also particularly poor. The debate and vote coincided with a meeting in which the President discussed his strategy to confront ISIS with House and Senate leaders at the White House and a day before his address to the nation. At a time when the President needs Congressional support in rallying international support to combat the rising threat of Islamic State militants in Iraq and Syria, I believe the timing of this vote was counter to our national interests. I am disappointed that House Republicans chose such inappropriate timing to conduct their political gamesmanship.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
OFFICER ROBERT BUENDIA

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Officer Robert Buendia of the Bothell Police Department. Officer Buendia was recently awarded the prestigious 2014 Crisis Intervention Team Officer of the Year Award, which recognizes outstanding work by police officers in the safe and effective use of crisis intervention techniques in response to mental health crises.

Officer Buendia received this award in part because of his quick and skilled response to a situation involving a suicidal woman. This woman was a recent victim of sexual assault who became upset after learning that the court case against her attacker did not have sufficient evidence for prosecution. When this woman threatened to end her own life, Officer Buendia used his training, intelligence and quick thinking to defuse this potentially tragic situation. He was able to open a dialogue with the woman, and was eventually able to convince her to come out of her apartment.

The outstanding actions of Officer Buendia are emblematic of the heroism that the members of the Bothell Police Department, and all our first responders in the 1st Congressional District, exhibit every day while serving our communities. I am incredibly thankful for the dedication of these public servants.

I want to thank Officer Robert Buendia for his commitment to serving the people of Bothell, and offer my congratulations on this recognition of his work.

DR. ISRAEL ZOBERMAN

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, I have just returned from an extraordinary experience in July, 2014 in Israel, the land I first came to in 1949 at the tender age of three and a half, already a refugee, from post-World War II Europe. Yet nothing could have prepared me for the surrealistic reality of approaching rockets and wailing sirens, a frightful scenario that Israeli citizens of all ages in its south have had to contend with for fourteen long years, with only fifteen seconds to find protective shelter. I will long remember being awakened

by the sirens' piercing sounds of war alert at 3:15 a.m. in Haifa, Israel's northern city, far away from Gaza or as proven rather close, and moving quickly with my mom, a ninety-two year old remarkably resilient Polish Holocaust survivor, to the best possible room in her apartment to await whatever might happen with our hearts pounding. Luckily the rocket was intercepted by an Iron Dome installation that the United States has gratefully financed.

No nation would have done less than Israel to fulfill a basic mandate of protecting one's population and all nations would have done more early on. Restrained by its legacy of Jewish and humanitarian values, ever conscious of the double standard applied to its conduct, Israel has exercised an admirable measure of caution to save lives even from the midst of a firing hostile territory controlled by Hamas, a recognized terrorist organization whose covenant unabashedly calls for Israel's destruction and criminally has used children, women and men as human shields; it shot 3500 rockets and also mortars from schools, hospitals, mosques, homes and U.N. facilities with the clear goal of indiscriminately killing and maiming Israelis.

When Hamas and the host of other Arab terrorist organizations will care more for their children than the death of its "enemy's" children, will there emerge new hope for the long-awaited to be transformed Middle East. When Israel's insistence on the sacredness of human life—all human life—will become the inheritance of the entire troubled region, replacing pagan human sacrifice, will the yearning of modern Israel and its biblical prophets for that essential though elusive Shalom, Salaam, Peace, reemerge as a potent force for the sake of all. How could Hamas, tragically and ironically elected into power by Gaza's misguided and long-suffering people, following Israel's 2005 withdrawal from Gaza at an enormous cost, squander its donated material resources away from the declared purpose of creating a supportive and necessary infrastructure toward establishing a terrorizing war machine with attack tunnels reaching into Israel with a goal of surprising Israel someday with mortal death blows? We are duty-bound to remember that Iran supplied Hamas with the smuggled weaponry and that Hamas is but Iran's proxy, alerted by Iran's stubborn search for a nuclear capability that will make all the difference. Sadly Qatar is not an innocent bystander, offering Hamas vast financial support.

I was deeply touched by Israel's courageous people coming together in a heart-warming display of national unity in the face of a mighty and unique challenge, while maintaining its enviable democratic impulse of cherished freedom to express a variety of views that could not take place in Gaza. Israel is weeping for its heroic defenders as well as the innocent victims on the other side held hostage by an ideology alien to what we in the West will never willingly give up.

Make no mistake. Israel represents the American democratic heritage with common purpose and interest, in a part of the world disdaining it and in which Radical Islam increasingly makes disastrous inroads as the shameful slaughter in Syria and Iraq continues while self-righteous and callous Europe with its growing anti-Semitism fueled by Islamist forces looks aside, expecting the Israelis to be like past Jews who could not defend themselves and paid such a high price for it. Let all

Americans say with one voice for the sake of all that is sacred and sane in a triumphant message that dare not be misunderstood, "Never Again!"

Rabbi Israel Zoberman is the spiritual leader of Congregation Beth Chaverim in Virginia Beach.

RECOGNIZING BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS OF GREATER FLINT FOR 70 YEARS OF SERVICE TO CHILDREN AND FAMILIES

HON. DANIEL T. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I ask the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint as they celebrate 70 years of dedication and service to children and families in Genesee County. Since 1944, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint has provided a no-cost mentoring program to thousands of youth and families facing adversity.

To celebrate 70 years of service, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint will hold a Platinium Jubilee—Royal Gala. The anniversary celebration will honor the volunteers that have helped shape this institution throughout the past 70 years and highlight the future direction of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint as they provide life-changing relationships through mentorship. Chris Broussard, American sports analyst for ESPN will also join in the celebration as a celebrity guest.

For 70 years, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint has operated under the belief that inherent in every child is the ability to succeed and thrive in life. As the nation's largest donor and volunteer supported mentoring network, Big Brothers Big Sisters makes meaningful, one-to-one, monitored matches between adult volunteers ("Bigs") and children ("Littles"), ages 6 through 18, in communities across our great country. Their presence in our community is invaluable. Genesee County, as well as the entire State of Michigan, is better because of this agency.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Flint for 70 years of quality mentoring services, fulfilling their mission of creating relationships that change lives for the better, forever.

IN RECOGNITION OF MARY HEALY AND HER CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR COMMUNITY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to Ms. Mary Healy, a valued community leader who recently passed away. Ms. Healy was the director and chief executive officer of the Sacramento Zoo as well as a leading advocate for engaging the community in the preservation and understanding of animals in their natural habitat. As her family, colleagues and friends gather to honor and remember her wonderful life, I ask all my colleagues to join

me in saluting one of Sacramento's most respected figures.

Ms. Healy began her career in 1975 as a bird keeper at the Riverbanks Zoo and Garden in Columbia, South Carolina. Following a stint at the San Antonio Zoo and Walt Disney World's Discovery Island in Orlando, Ms. Healy came to Sacramento in 1999. Under Ms. Healy's leadership, the Sacramento Zoo saw growth in attendance and improvements to its physical setting. During her tenure, a full-scale veterinary hospital was built and new habitats were constructed and old structures renovated for a number of animals including giraffes and North American river otters. She focused on improving quality of life for the animals and advancing the experience for zoo guests.

Ms. Healy's passion and commitment resonated in her work and will not be forgotten by the Sacramento community. Her dedication to advocating for animals is unmatched and she took pride in educating our youth. She knew each animal's name and background and was often found teaching zoo guests about the animal's unique features or the exhibit's purpose at the zoo.

In addition to her work in Sacramento, Ms. Healy was a well-respected board member and former chair of the Association of Zoos and Aquariums and served on its accreditation commission. She was president of the California Association of Zoos and Aquariums and was one of nine international council members of the World Association of Zoos and Aquariums. Her vision to make Sacramento the best small zoo in America was highlighted in 2013, when she was recognized with a Women Who Mean Business Award by the Sacramento Business Journal.

Mr. Speaker, as Ms. Healy's husband, Steve, and her colleagues, family and friends gather to celebrate her wonderful contributions to our community, I am honored to pay tribute to her. I ask all my colleagues to pause and join me in paying respect to an extraordinary woman, Ms. Mary Healy.

EMPLOYEE HEALTH CARE PROTECTION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, September 10, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong opposition to H.R. 3522, the Employee Health Care Protection Act of 2014, a bill that sponsors say will permit a health insurance issuer that sold insurance coverage to employers who are mandated under the Affordable Care Act to provide insurance to their employees in 2013 to continue offering the same insurance in 2014.

I oppose H.R. 3522 for three reasons:

It does not obligate employers to provide insurance coverage for the essential health care services enumerated in the Affordable Care Act (ACA).

Provisions of the ACA that prevent discrimination based on age, pre-existing conditions and gender are not part of the plans allowed under this bill.

Finally, the bill is opposed by the Administration and will not become law.

The ACA limits the ability of insurers in the small group market to charge higher premiums based on age, preexisting health conditions and gender.

The H.R. 3522 creates exceptions to these important protections in the ACA for the next five years.

In addition, this bill allows insurers to charge small businesses higher insurance rates for coverage based on the age, gender and health status of their employees, which is prohibited by the ACA.

This will make working for small employers less attractive to workers, which can make the cost of labor higher as employers are forced to offer higher pay to attract workers while simultaneously paying higher rates for insurance.

H.R. 3522, will continue unnecessary uncertainty regarding the year-to-year cost of providing ACA mandated healthcare coverage to employees should a major health event occur or accident impact the health care cost of an employee.

The Administration strongly opposes H.R. 3522 because it threatens the health care security of hard working, middle class families.

Today, the nation is experiencing the lowest rate of health care price inflation in nearly 50 years.

We are also seeing a very slow growth in other measures of health costs, which have combined to dramatically slow the growth of small business premiums.

While health care costs are rising at low rates and choices for small businesses are improving through the Health Insurance Marketplace, this bill would be a major setback.

The Administration's transition program for non-ACA compliant plans to ACA compliant health insurance plans allows States to work to make sure that health plans remain affordable and compliant with the ACA.

We should make sure insurance plans offered to millions of small business workers do not reverse the progress made to extend quality, affordable coverage to millions of uninsured, hardworking, middle class families.

Before the ACA, ill people could only obtain high premium insurance that did not provide coverage for a pre-existing illness or medical condition.

Insurance companies could use annual caps on coverage that resulted in very high out-of-pocket costs to people who were paying for health insurance, but had no coverage for a medical condition.

The ACA brought relief to those with health insurance, those with pre-existing health conditions and the working poor where the Medicaid expansion was implemented.

Because of the health care law, for the first time, insurance companies in the individual and small group market are required to cover ten essentials, which include:

- Outpatient care;
- Emergency room visits;
- Treatment in the hospital for inpatient care;
- Care before and after child births;

- Mental health and substance use disorder services: behavioral health treatment, counseling, and psychotherapy;

- Prescription drugs;

- Services and devices to promote recovery from injuries, disabilities or chronic condition: physical and occupational therapy, speech-language pathology, psychiatric rehabilitation, and much more;

Lab tests;

Preventive services such as counseling, screenings, and vaccines; and

Pediatric services that cover dental care and vision care for kids.

The Affordable Care Act is one of the largest expansions of general healthcare, mental health and substance abuse disorder coverage in a generation.

THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

13 million Americans received \$1.1 billion in rebates from their health insurance companies last year.

105 million Americans have free preventive services.

Millions of women now have free coverage for comprehensive women's preventive medical services.

100 million Americans no longer have a lifetime limit on healthcare coverage.

17 million children with pre-existing conditions can no longer be denied coverage by insurers.

6.6 million young-adults up to age 26 can stay on their parents' health insurance plans.

6.3 million Seniors in the "donut hole" have saved \$6.1 billion on their prescription drugs.

3.2 million Seniors have access to free annual wellness visits under Medicare, and

360,000 Small Businesses are using the Health Care Tax Credit to help them provide health insurance to their workers.

STATISTICS ON TEXAS AND THE AFFORDABLE CARE ACT

3.8 million Texas residents receive preventative care services.

7 million Texans no longer have lifetime limits on their healthcare insurance.

300,731 young adults can remain on their parents' health insurance until age 26.

5 million Texas residents can receive a rebate check from their insurance company if it does not spend 80 percent of premium dollars on healthcare.

4,029 people with pre-existing conditions now have health insurance.

In 2014, insurance companies will be banned from: discriminating against anyone with a preexisting condition, charging higher rates based on gender or health status, enforcing lifetime dollar limits, enforcing annual dollar limits on health benefits.

Attempts to weaken or end the ACA are wrong. The unwillingness of the majority to make sure that those in our society with the greatest need health care coverage, but do not have the financial means to be denied access to healthcare are doing the nation a disservice.

I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 3522.

CELEBRATING BRENNON MOBLEY,
JAMES RICHFIELD, AND J.D.
HARTWIG

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, changing the world is no small feat. Many feel the call, but not many set out, put feet to their prayers and dreams, and actually change the world for the better. Three collegiate men from Belmont University have spent the summer putting more than their good wishes into motion. I rise today to honor Brennon Mobley, James Rich-

field, and J.D. Hartwig as they work to complete their heroic cross-country cycling tour.

Cycling across the county is certainly a noble endeavor. Nobler still are the 147 million reasons these three men are offering up their summer with blood, sweat, tears, and bike tires. By teaming up with 147 Million Orphans, a nonprofit founding in 2009 by two Middle Tennessee mothers seeking to meet the critical needs of orphans, the three will raise money to build a school in Honduras as they cycle the 3,300 miles from Oceanside, Oregon to Washington, DC.

Whether participant, parent, friend, supporter, or community member, those who have offered their time, talents, and treasures to this incredible summer ride bear witness to the power of coming together, in the name of the Almighty, for a common good. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating the loving-kindness of Brennon Mobley, James Richfield, and J.D. Hartwig as we all continue the sacred work of protecting and serving the least among us.

TRIBUTE TO LOU MUMFORD

HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a much beloved member of our community and a well-respected journalist, Lou Mumford, on the occasion of his retirement from the South Bend Tribune newspaper.

For the past 43 years, Lou has reported the news as it unfolded in Greater Michiana. He is an excellent writer with a trusted, familiar voice, gentle humor, and a strong sense of integrity. He was a true journalist's journalist, exemplifying the newspaper industry's gold standard.

During his many decades at work, Lou has seen it all, both good and bad. From covering everything from the high school football team to the courthouse; providing eyewitness accounts to presidential visits; to reporting on the grand national scene and sharing the stories of individuals living right within our community.

When Lou was covering local politics or breaking news out of Washington, you always knew what to expect. His questions were fair, unbiased, and intuitive. You were never going to get a free pass, but you would always be treated with the utmost courtesy and respect. It is impossible to not develop a deep professional respect and admiration for a man of Lou's character. And despite our unbridgeable differences—he roots for the White Sox and I am a dyed-in-the-wool Cubs fan—I am grateful for the warm personal rapport we developed over the years.

Lou has a knack for reading the political field—the history, personalities, issues, and all their nuances—because he understands people and what makes them tick. He also empathizes and brings the reader along with him on an emotional journey. This is where Lou showed his true strengths.

His columns shared the lives of ordinary folks in our own community, touching upon the full range of human emotions. His stories about everyday lives could warm the heart, bring a smile to our face, or a tear to our eye.

Sometimes both in the same story. They reminded us all of what is really important in life—our own experiences, family, friends, and community.

The great journalist Bob Schieffer once remarked that “journalism is a great way to do public service, to have an impact on your community.” While the dawn of each day unveiled new stories on the pages of the South Bend Tribune, one thing remained constant through the years, and that was the steady voice of Lou Mumford. Our community is grateful for Lou’s dedicated years of service to our community. We wish him all the best in his retirement, and do hope his story telling will continue.

HONORING JOSHUA KATZ AND THE POW-MIA-OREE PROJECT

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Joshua Katz, Boy Scouts of America Troop 215, for his work honoring our deceased and missing veterans. As a public servant and the son of a World War II veteran whose bravery motivated me to serve in Congress, I am so proud of Joshua’s dedication to our soldiers.

In honor of POW-MIA National Remembrance Day, which is celebrated on the 3rd Friday of every September, Joshua created the POW-MIA-OREE Project to encourage Boy Scouts nationally to become more involved in veteran recognition. The project calls for the reading of the names of every soldier laid to rest in the South Florida National Cemetery and the placement of a commemorative marker on each headstone. Ensuring that this event took place was so important to Joshua that he funded the project out of his own savings. This heartfelt act of advocacy will ensure that no soldier becomes a forgotten hero.

Representing a district home to veterans of every major conflict since World War II, I know very well the sacrifices that our military men and women and their families have made for our country. Joshua Katz’s commitment to honor our men and women in uniform should serve as an inspiration for us all, and I have no doubt that he has a bright future in store.

HONORING FATHER DEXTER SUTTON BREWER

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there are souls so magnificent and so dedicated to the service of others, that when the opportunity comes to offer them our gratitude, our words feel small in comparison. I rise today to celebrate one of Middle Tennessee’s true servants, Father Dexter Sutton Brewer, on his 25th anniversary of ordination to the priesthood.

Father encountered the Almighty first in the Baptist church as a child and later in the Catholic faith as a student at Yale. He earned his law degree in 1982 and was ordained into

the priesthood in 1989. From clerking for the Tennessee Supreme Court to teaching at Father Ryan High School, from shepherding the souls at Christ the King Parish to tending the flock as both judicial vicar and vicar general for the Diocese of Nashville, Father Dexter offers his life in the pursuit of wisdom, beauty, and justice.

A prayer written at America’s birth calls on the most gracious God “to replenish His servant with the truth of doctrine, and endue him with innocence of life, that he may faithfully serve before God, to the glory of His great Name and the benefit of the holy Church.” Throughout the past 25 years, these words have been fulfilled through the humble and grand service of Father Dexter Sutton Brewer. I join with Father Dexter’s family, parish, and all those gathered to celebrate his Silver Anniversary in offering thanks to the Almighty for His servant.

REMEMBRANCE OF THE VICTIMS ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2001 AND BENGHAZI ON SEPTEMBER 11, 2012

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, today, we bow our heads in solemn remembrance of the victims lost in the terror attacks on this country on September 11, 2001 and in Benghazi on September 11, 2012.

On September 11, 2001, America changed. Terrorists who despise all that is good and true about America killed thousands of innocent citizens.

On September 11, 2012, more Americans were killed at the consulate in Benghazi. We were reminded the fight is not over, and that America still has enemies.

We reflect with gratitude on all of the men and women who have bravely fought to defend us from anyone seeking to harm the United States and her citizens.

We pray for all those still fighting, and for those who answer the call of duty in years to come.

On this somber day in our nation’s history, we stand united as Americans and steadfast in our resolve to ensure that our sacred ideals of freedom, justice, and prosperity continue to shine as a beacon of hope for future generations around the world.

May God continue to bless the United States of America.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$17,764,720,406,589.08. We’ve added \$7,137,843,357,676.00 to our debt in 5 years. This is over \$7.1 trillion in debt our na-

tion, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING MR. ROBERT JORDAN

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleague, Congresswoman DORIS MATSUI, to honor the extraordinary life of Mr. Robert Jordan. Mr. Jordan was a beloved brother, uncle, and friend. With his passing on August 7, 2014, we look to Mr. Jordan’s personal legacy of community service, the joy he inspired in others through his passion and commitment to political advocacy, and the outstanding quality of his life’s work.

Born on September 7, 1965 in Chicopee, Massachusetts, Mr. Jordan grew up in Fairfield, California. After graduating from Armijo High School in 1983, he attended college at the University of California, Santa Cruz. Mr. Jordan went on to graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in Computer Science from California State University, Sacramento.

It was during Mr. Jordan’s undergraduate studies at Sacramento State University that he began to get involved in politics. He joined the Sacramento State Young Democrats and the River City Democratic Club. From there, Mr. Jordan became engaged in field work on numerous political campaigns, most notably Barbara Boxer’s 1992 “Year of the Woman” campaign.

After working on many campaigns, Mr. Jordan went on to join the staff of the California Democratic Party. He continued to serve selflessly as a staffer there for 22 years and under four different administrations. During his time at the California Democratic Party, Mr. Jordan became an expert on technology development and planning for state conventions and executive board meetings. He was also well known for his meticulous institutional memory and his ability to recall party rules, procedures, and history on issues both large and small. He acted as the Party’s unofficial historian and was a key member of the staff, sharing his knowledge and experience, and mentoring his colleagues.

In addition to his work for the California Democratic Party, Mr. Jordan was actively involved in his community. He was passionate about lesbian, gay, bisexual, and transgender rights and was a supporter of The Trevor Project, a national organization that provides crisis and suicide intervention services to LGBTQ youth. He was also a supporter of the Lymphoma Research Foundation and a part of the fight against lymphoma.

Today, California’s 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding Californian individual, Mr. Robert Jordan. His dedication and efforts have impacted so many lives throughout the state of California. I join all of Robert’s loved ones in celebrating his incredible life. He will be deeply missed.

UNACCOMPANIED CHILDREN AT
THE SOUTHWEST BORDER**HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, every so often, we have the chance to take action that affects how the world as a whole sees the United States.

We have the chance to decide what our country stands for, and what we want to mean to the world.

Today is one of those chances.

The United States has long stood with those who are fleeing persecution and violence.

We've stood alongside them, so they know they're not alone.

We've stood behind them, to give them the ability to make a new life here.

And we've stood up for them, to make it clear that there is no place in this world for the atrocities that drive people to leave their homes.

That's who we are and what we do.

We don't put all our efforts into making it easier to send people back.

We don't say, "Sorry, we'd rather score political points than try to help you."

So why would we start now?

Why would we turn our backs on people—children—who have endured unimaginable struggle and danger to come here for the chance at not just a better life, but a chance at life at all?

That's what this is about—it's a life or death situation for these children.

We need to look beyond politics and partisanship to something bigger—principles.

And let one of those guiding principles be that we will be there when we are needed.

We will respond not with hatred and vitriol, or with inaction and delay, but with empathy and support.

To do anything less is beneath us—not only as Americans, but as human beings.

RECOGNIZING THE PENNRIDGE
COMMUNITY CENTER ON ITS
50TH ANNIVERSARY**HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to recognize the Pennridge Community Center on its 50th anniversary. The Upper Bucks Branch of the Bucks County Association for Retired and Senior Citizens was established in 1964 for the purpose of creating a senior center. Located in Perkasio, PA, the Center has served as a place for personal growth for the constituents of Bucks County, offering opportunities to its thousands of members that have passed through its doors. With the help of its strong leaders and associates, the center has become a model of high-quality service, reliability, and integrity and has contributed greatly to the community of the 8th District of Pennsylvania. I commend the Pennridge Community Center for its hard work and its achievements in Bucks County, PA and offer my sincere congratulations on its anniversary.

HONORING THE EXOTICS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, music finds a home in Middle Tennessee. It settles in and we build it a foundation that withstands the weathered seasons of our lives. Various styles, compositions, and genius are found here in various artists, songwriters, and musicians. Some find their favorites on the Billboard Top 40 and others hear them at local gatherings. We are a community that celebrates all the notes of life and particularly enjoys celebrating together the drumbeats and rhythms of life. I rise today to congratulate one such gathering of musical excellence, The Exotics, as they continue 50 years of making great music in Franklin, Tennessee.

Billy Adair, Jeff Cook, Glenn Crowell, and Loy Hardcastle met in high school, formed a band, and began playing the great sound of the 60s: rock 'n roll. Shortly after, they were joined by Robert Early and Steve Smartt. The Exotics never played for a record deal or to book large stadiums. These men of music chased and found the love of their craft at high school dances, pool parties, and fraternity events. As they chased, a loving community came alongside them. Fifty years later, members of The Exotics will play once more to their fans of Franklin.

I join with all of those celebrating The Exotics' 50 years of magnificent rock 'n roll. I ask my colleagues to join with me in congratulating these mighty men of music on half a century of making a home for great music in Middle Tennessee.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SCAN CON-
TAINERS ABSOLUTELY NOW
(SCAN) ACT**HON. JANICE HAHN**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. HAHN. Mr. Speaker, after the tragic attacks on 9/11, Congress strengthened aviation security, which was the nature of the attacks against our country. While our aviation system is more secure—13 years later—we have not secured our nation's ports. Our ports are vulnerable to attacks.

I represent the Port of Los Angeles and the communities that surround the port; I have the personal responsibility of keeping the people of my district safe.

Top security experts recommend that shipping containers entering our nation's ports be scanned for radiological and nuclear materials and other potentially dangerous cargo. In addition, Congress passed laws requiring that 100 percent of all cargo be scanned by 2012. Today, two years after the deadline, we are scanning only 3 percent of incoming cargo.

I firmly believe that responding to ongoing terrorist threats and the risk of nuclear proliferation should remain top national security priorities.

The detonation of a nuclear device or "dirty bomb" at a port such as the Port of Los Angeles could cause a staggering loss of life. In ad-

dition, it could result in a West Coast or nationwide shutdown of all ports, which would cost the United States economy billions of dollars each day. The economic impact of port closure on supply chains was clearly demonstrated in 2002 when port workers were locked out for 8 days at the West Coast Ports. That cost \$1 billion per day.

For these reasons, I am introducing the Scan Containers Absolutely Now (SCAN) Act. This bill would create a one-year pilot program at two United States ports to evaluate the process of 100 percent scanning of cargo containers and its potential use at all domestic ports.

We must take our responsibility to protect the nation seriously. We cannot allow inconvenience or shortsighted economic expediency to get in the way of keeping our nation's ports and citizens safe.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF ZION LUTHERAN SCHOOL**HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the 50th anniversary of Zion Lutheran School. I would like to recognize them for their service to the Lutheran community of South Florida and our local community as a whole.

Founded in 1964 with nine kindergarten students, Zion Lutheran Christian School has served as a center of Lutheran identity and education for the North Broward County community. I want to particularly acknowledge Headmaster Dr. Phillip Dupont and Principal Joann Halem for their dedication to the school and its emphasis on service and study.

I would like to congratulate Zion Lutheran School on its 50th anniversary. Through their example, Zion Lutheran's commitment to education can extend far beyond South Florida.

CONGRATULATING CLEATS MANU-
FACTURING ON THEIR 50TH AN-
NIVERSARY**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Cleats Manufacturing, which is celebrating its 50th anniversary.

Cleats Manufacturing is a union premier fabricator of HVAC sheet metal products. Since its incorporation in 1964 by Ernie DeLord, Cleats has been located in Chicago providing jobs for our hard-working constituents.

Over the last 50 years, their product line has expanded rapidly. Beginning with slip and drive cleats, Cleats' product line soon included rectangular duct and fitting, spiral pipe, CleatSeal gasketed round fittings, welded duct, and other sheet metal products.

Cleats Manufacturing not only provides an excellent American made product but also prides itself in its employees. Their union trained team are tradesmen in the industry

and will work with customers on any job from start to finish no matter how big or small.

The company would not be where it is today without the vision of Ernie DeLord's nephew Steve Passannante who began working for the company in 1974. When Steve began, the product line consisted only of sheet metal connectors. He had the vision of the company growing from a connector manufacturer to a full service HVAC fabrication shop. Steve expanded the company and built relationships with some of the largest contractors in Chicago.

Cleats is now one of the largest HVAC fabricators in the Chicagoland area.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Cleats Manufacturing on their 50th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING JUDGE ALAN BLANKENSHIP

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Judge Alan Blankenship for being awarded the Agency for Science, Technology, and Research (ASTAR) fellowship distinction by the Missouri Supreme Court.

Judge Alan Blankenship has served as Associate Circuit Judge in Stone County since 2002. Aside from presiding over civil and criminal general jurisdiction cases, Judge Blankenship presides over the successful Stone County Drug and DWI court programs and serves on the Missouri Trial Judge Education Committee and Missouri Association of Drug Court Professionals Board of Directors.

ASTAR is the lead agency responsible for conducting a program whereby judges from around the country undergo advanced training in science and technology to better equip the courts to handle issues dealing with science and technology. ASTAR judges may be assigned to handle cases or consult with judges with complex scientific matters and help develop training programs for trial judges.

On August 27, 2014, Missouri Supreme Court Judge Zel Fischer presented Judge Blankenship with his ASTAR fellowship award. The ASTAR fellowship award was given to him after completing over 120 hours of court-related science and technology training given by experts in fields such as computer forensics and cybercrime.

I am honored to recognize Judge Alan Blankenship for his service and leadership to the Stone County community.

RECOGNIZING MRS. HENRIETTA HATTON CLARK ON OCCASION OF HER 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Mrs. Henrietta Hatton Clark, a be-

loved and respected constituent from Vance County, North Carolina who will celebrate her 100th birthday on Sunday, September 14, 2014. Mrs. Clark is a pillar of her community and is highly respected by all those who know her because of her unwavering commitments to God, her family, her church and the community and state she has called home her entire life.

Mrs. Clark was born on a farm in Vance County, North Carolina on September 14, 1914. She was the youngest of six children and was adventurous at an early age. She attended elementary school in Vance County and went on to graduate from Henderson Institute which was operated by the Northern Presbyterian Church. Following Henderson Institute, Mrs. Clark attended what was then Winston-Salem State Teachers College, now Winston-Salem State University in Winston-Salem, North Carolina.

Equipped with her teaching degree, Mrs. Clark set out to make the world a better place one child and one classroom at a time by inspiring children to dream big and work hard. She taught in Vance County, North Carolina Schools for several decades and shaped generations of young minds. She often told her students, "You can achieve any position if you study, work hard, and believe in yourself."

Mrs. Clark's passion and drive did not stop when the school day ended. She was incredibly active in her community. She led voter registration initiatives and was an inspirational leader during the Civil Rights Movement. She served on important committees that made recommendations for state judicial appointments which empowered her to help diversify the Bench. She also served as a Board Member for several community organizations and was a longtime member of the Vance-Granville Community College Board of Trustees.

Mrs. Clark remains a very active member of Cotton Memorial Presbyterian Church in Henderson, North Carolina. The church and its members have been a persistent source of joy, peace, and happiness throughout Mrs. Clark's truly remarkable life. Likewise, members of her Church and residents of the Henderson and Vance County community hold Mrs. Clark in high esteem and are honored to know her.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my House colleagues to join me in sending warm regards and in wishing Mrs. Henrietta Hatton Clark a very happy birthday.

HONORING BUFORD PUSSEY

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the Tennessee 7th Congressional District has its share of men, myths, and legends. We are thankful to have giants of music, industry, public service, and community become our neighbors and friends. I rise today to honor the legacy of one such mighty man of the Tennessee 7th on the 40th anniversary of the day he left us.

Buford Pussey's legacy isn't just one of taking on moonshining and ridding McNairy

County of prostitution. His short time on Earth is marked by his continued service to others. From joining the United States Marine Corps to becoming Adamsville's police chief and constable after he was given a medical discharge from the military, Pussey's dedication served well the citizens of McNairy County. Elected to three consecutive terms as Sheriff, Pussey continued to protect and defend his beloved community.

It is fitting to remember Buford Pussey on the day his life ended, to remember the dedication and determination for justice that shaped his life. His impact on McNairy County cannot be measured in simple numbers, or in long bats, but only in the legacy he left behind. I ask my colleagues to join with me in remembering one of McNairy County's greatest men.

IN HONOR OF THE 20TH ANNIVERSARY OF AMERICORPS ON SEPTEMBER 12, 2014

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of twenty years of service to our communities from AmeriCorps members. I ask that my colleagues join me in celebrating with AmeriCorps members past and present the many lives changed and neighborhoods improved through the immensely important work of these volunteers.

On September 12, 1994, the first class of 20,000 AmeriCorps members was sworn-in and began serving in 1,000 communities across the country. President Clinton signed the National and Community Service Trust Act of 1993 to create AmeriCorps and the Corporation for National and Community Service, and participated by swearing-in the first AmeriCorps members in the Oval Office twenty years ago tomorrow.

Since 1994, more than 900,000 AmeriCorps members have contributed more than 1 billion hours in service across the country. In my hometown of Sacramento, I have met AmeriCorps members serving in places like Pacific Elementary, the Sacramento Food Bank, and at Volunteer Income Tax Assistance sites. In total, we have 796 AmeriCorps positions in Sacramento for the 2013-2014 program year. I am grateful for the outstanding service this group of volunteers has performed in the Sacramento community, making Sacramento a better place to live, work and learn.

Today, September 11th, we honor the fallen in the terrorist attacks by designating September 11th as the National Day of Service and Remembrance. I thank the AmeriCorps volunteers, and all volunteers across the country, who join together to make our country better, stronger and more united through service.

Mr. Speaker, again I thank the past, present and future members of AmeriCorps for their tremendous service to our country. This twenty year anniversary marks a successful milestone for the program, and I look forward to seeing the accomplishments of AmeriCorps over the next twenty years and beyond.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF JAZZ
MASTER GERALD WILSON

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, losing a great jazz artist is always hard for those of us who love the art form. The joy these musicians bring into our lives—the technical skill and virtuosity they allow each of us to witness—is never easily replaced. But it is especially hard when we lose someone who we not only admired as an artist, but who we were fortunate enough to call our friend. This past week we lost Mr. Gerald Wilson, who I had known for many years, and who had just turned 96 on September 4, 2014.

Mr. Gerald Wilson was to me not only an icon in the Jazz community—having served as a National Endowment for the Arts Jazz Master—he was a fellow Detroit. His penultimate masterpiece, *Detroit*, captured in all its glory the vibrant spirit of the town that made the 20th Century possible, as well as the promise the future holds for our great city.

For seven decades, Gerald Wilson was a force on the jazz circuit where he played, conducted, and arranged with his own band and with names we all know: Duke Ellington, Dizzy Gillespie, Benny Carter, and Ella Fitzgerald. In addition to his talent as a performer and composer, he served in the U.S. Navy during World War II, taught for many years at universities in California, and most importantly—was a loving husband and father.

Just a few years ago, he was the headliner at a concert I promoted as part of an annual leadership conference held in Washington, D.C., where we celebrated his 92nd birthday. Though I am heartbroken to see him go, I know that I am—and we all are—fortunate to have had the chance to know him, see him, and hear him.

WATERS OF THE UNITED STATES
REGULATORY OVERREACH PROTECTION ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 9, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5078) to preserve existing rights and responsibilities with respect to waters of the United States, and for other purposes:

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Chair, I rise today in favor of H.R. 5078, the Waters of the U.S. Regulatory Overreach Protection Act.

Over the last five years, we have seen attempt after attempt to add layers of environmental red tape to any economic development that our states, counties, and cities may undertake. The new “Waters of the United States” proposal is no different. With this, the EPA seeks to gain jurisdiction over most of the country by claiming authority to regulate dry beds, ditches, pipes, farmland ponds and anywhere water could conceivably run. They would require local communities, businesses

and individuals to navigate the costly and time-consuming process of obtaining additional permits for activities around these waters, making it harder to mine coal, to construct roads and shopping centers, and even to build homes. This is one of the largest federal power grabs we have ever witnessed in this country, and there is no question that the economic impact would be profound.

In my home state of Kentucky, mining permits have ground to a halt and onerous regulations are shuttering power plants, threatening the fossil energy industries that have been the backbone of our energy security for decades. I am dismayed at efforts that this Administration has undertaken with the express purpose of eliminating coal from our nation’s energy supply, despite the fact that this fuel provides a cheap, abundant source of energy that keeps energy costs down and productivity up. With this bill, we stand firm against the latest attempt by the EPA to put up road blocks for those working to create jobs. These efforts are fruitless attempts to legislate through regulation, and the Congress must exercise its prerogative to prevent this kind of bureaucratic overreach that would be crippling for the U.S. economy. H.R. 5078 will uphold the federal-state partnership to regulate the Nation’s waters, allowing states to continue regulating certain waters within their individual boundaries, and providing farmers, construction companies, energy suppliers, and manufacturers with much needed certainty as they work to create jobs and grow the economy.

I urge a “yes” vote on H.R. 5078.

HONORING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY
OF LOS CHANGUITOS FEOS DE TUCSON

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize an Arizona youth mariachi group, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson on the occasion of its 50th anniversary.

Established in Tucson in 1964 by a Catholic priest to learn mariachi music as a means to keep parish youth occupied over the summer, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson has grown to be a cultural icon—not only in the Southwest, but all over the world. The group was the first of its kind and has become a youth mariachi model for dozens of similar groups created since.

In 1971, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson incorporated as a secular nonprofit organization with a community board of directors.

Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson has had the distinguished honor of performing at three presidential inaugurations and has also accompanied many internationally known celebrities and entertainers. The Changuitos have recorded five albums and have had the privilege to play on network television.

Young Latino musicians in middle and high school dedicate themselves to perfecting their talent under the guidance of skilled music teachers to learn the intricacies of the mariachi musical form, a type of music referred to as a world cultural treasure by UNESCO.

While they hone their musical skills and provide entertainment to the larger community,

mariachi performers with Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson are eligible for college scholarships to the school of their choice. More than \$480,000 in scholarships has been disbursed to former Changuitos who are pursuing a post-secondary degree to this day. Often former members of Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson are the first in their family to receive a college degree.

Former Changuitos who have sought careers in the music industry have won Grammy Awards, while others have used the scholarships to become physicians, lawyers, engineers, business owners, entrepreneurs, and community leaders.

Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson is the quintessential example of the impact discipline and dedication could have on deepening cultural appreciation by perfecting local talent, while encouraging leadership growth and youth empowerment through community service.

And finally, we must acknowledge the dedicated parents of the Changuitos who support their childrens’ efforts. Without them, Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson could never have become the respected and revered cultural and musical icon that it is today.

Congratulations and best wishes to Los Changuitos Feos de Tucson as we join them to celebrate on August 23, 2014 for its 50th Anniversary with a reunion and concert. I thank this youth organization for their longstanding tradition of perseverance and setting an example to all Tucson youth.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KING

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. KING of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 485, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

On rollcall Nos. 486, 487, and 488, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “no” on all three.

On rollcall No. 489, I was not present to vote. Had I been present, I would have voted “yes.”

RECOGNIZING THE DESIGNATION
OF NEPHROLOGY NURSES WEEK

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the American Nephrology Nurses Association, an organization that works to advance quality care to Americans with kidney disease. These nurses function as educators, direct caregivers, and coordinators to help patients manage their lives while effectively dealing with their health issues. The number of new patients diagnosed with kidney disease has doubled in each of the last two decades; as a result, the demand for nephrology nurses continues to expand. The Keystone Chapter 110 of The American Nephrology Nurses’ Association has declared the week of September 14th through the 20th as Nephrology Nurses Week with the theme “Cherishing the Treasures of Our Specialty” to celebrate and honor

the unselfish work that each nurse performs each day to maintain the health of thousands. Today I honor these nephrology nurses from Bensalem and congratulate them for their dedicated service to the community.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall votes 481–489.

Had I been present, I would have voted “yes” on No. 481, “yes” on No. 482, “yes” on No. 483, “no” on No. 484, “no” on No. 485, “yes” on No. 486, “yes” on No. 487, “yes” on No. 488, and “no” on No. 489.

HONORING EAGLES LANDING
MIDDLE SCHOOL

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of Eagles Landing Middle School, which has been named a National PTA School of Excellence for its achievement in building effective family-school partnerships. As a parent and a congressman, I understand the need for a strong family commitment to ensure the educational success of our children and am so

proud of Eagles Landing for receiving this prestigious award.

The National PTA School of Excellence program recognizes schools whose families feel welcomed and empowered to support student success. Eagles Landing Middle School is a community-based school that engages families through programming that brings them together for a common purpose. Through constant communication between parents and teachers, structured family nights like STEM Night and Literacy Night, and a centrally-located community garden that is incorporated into the curriculum as an outdoor learning center, families are encouraged to work and have fun together with other members of their school and community. Eagles Landing is the only middle school in the state of Florida and only one of ten schools in the state to receive this designation.

I would like to recognize Eagles Landing Principal Cindy Chiapetta and PTSA President Kendra Palumbo for their hard work in putting in place strong practices that involve families in the education of their children. The partnership between Eagles Landing School and Eagles Landing Middle School PTSA is an inspiring example of what can be accomplished when schools and families work together.

TRIBUTE TO THE TRIPLE NICKELS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 11, 2014

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, there are those who offer their vocations to their com-

munity, their family, and their country. Then there are those who blaze such a trail of dedication and service that all who follow behind cannot help but to offer gratitude and great thanks. I rise today to celebrate and honor the men of the 555th Parachute Infantry Company as they are remembered in a ceremony fitting their legacy.

The men who comprised the Triple Nickels broke through barriers, jumped out of planes, and showed up for battle. What began with 20 young African-American enlisted men in 1943 ended, in name only, in 1947. The 555th would become the 3rd Battalion, 505th Infantry regiment, 82nd Airborne Division and would be the first African-American unit in history to become a part of an American combat division. The legacy of mighty soldiers that began with these men continued into the 188th Airborne Infantry Regiment, the 11th Airborne Division, and the 187th Airborne Regimental Combat Team.

I join with all those gathered to dedicate a monument to the Triple Nickels Association in offering my profound thanks. In overcoming great obstacles, the men of the 555th became more than paratroopers. Their legacy lives on today in a military free of racial barriers and in the hearts and minds of all who seek freedom. I ask my colleagues to join with me in celebrating and remembering the men of the 555th Parachute Infantry Company.