twenty-one years of service to the New York City Police Department and the people of New York.

Gladys Figueroa was born in Ponce, Puerto Rico. Her parents brought her to New York City in search of a better life when she was four years old. They settled in Williamsburg, Brooklyn where she attended elementary through high school. She graduated from Eastern District High School in 1971. After her first semester at Queens College, Gladys decided to leave school and enter the work force. Gladys has been working since the age of 14 as a summer youth worker.

While working, she held various positions: Receptionist, Administrative Aide, Legal Secretary, Cashier, Salesperson, and Waitress. At the same time, she was always looking for something else. She attended various trade schools, such as Airline Training, Massage, Home Improvement, etc. in January 1980, she finally found her home when she joined the ranks of the New York City Police Department. She was assigned to the 79th Precinct where she spent 13 years of her career. Her first assignment was to patrol the streets of Bedford-Stuyvesant. She saw everything that her precinct had to offer; her worst assignments were dealing with domestic violence issues. After five years on patrol she was assigned to the Community Affairs office of the 79th Precinct, where she remained for the subsequent eight years. Her most rewarding task was working with the Youth and Community Councils. In 1994, Gladys was transferred to the Brooklyn North Community Affairs Office. She remained there until her retirement date on September 30, 2001.

Gladys is a people person. She enjoyed the various tasks associated with representing the police in a positive way with the community. She assisted in senior citizens programs, the Citizens Academy, and girl's basketball. She was especially fond of working holidays with senior citizens or bringing food to homebound AIDS patients. One of her last assignments was to join the Domestic Violence unit of the 90th Precinct. Her next assignment will be her most significant and most difficult, serving as a full time mom to her pride and joy, 14-year-old Diola, and 12-year-old Alejandro Castillo.

Mr. Speaker, Gladys Figueroa has served the people of Brooklyn and New York City for over twenty-one years of proud and dedicated service as a New York City Police Officer. As such, she is more than worthy of our recognition today. I hope that all of my colleagues will join me in honoring this truly remarkable woman.

INTRODUCTION OF H.R. 3427, AFGHANISTAN FREEDOM AND RECONSTRUCTION ACT OF 2001

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. 3427, the Afghanistan Freedom and Reconstruction Act of 2001. I want to thank my good friend, the Gentleman from New York, Mr. ACKERMAN, ranking Democratic Member of the Middle East and South Asia subcommittee. Without his hard work and that of his staff, we would have never reached this point.

As we speak, the Taliban leadership is on the run. The capital city of Kabul has been liberated from Taliban control, as have key cities across Afghanistan. The final pockets of resistance are surrounded and facing imminent defeat. And as freedom returns to Afghanistan, women are throwing off their veils and men are lining up at barber shops to shave their beards after years of repressive rule.

Now is the time for swift action by this Congress, for the United States to demonstrate to the people of Afghanistan and throughout the Muslim world that the military campaign against Al-Qaida and the Taliban is neither a war against Muslims nor a war against the Afghan people. Yes, the United States is committed to wipe-out the terrorist network in Afghanistan. But we must be equally committed to helping the Afghan people reclaim their country and rebuild their lives. We may be close to winning the war but we are far from winning the peace.

The United States did not live up to its commitment after the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan was repulsed. We left the people of Afghanistan and our friends in Pakistan to fend for themselves. Afghanistan disintegrated as a result, as warlords pillaged the country, followed by the Taliban's repressive rule and ultimately the rise of terrorist elements.

Mr. Chairman, we must not permit the past to be repeated in Afghanistan. Yesterday, the representatives from all major factions in Afghanistan signed a landmark agreement to create a broad-based, multiethnic, gender-sensitive, fully-representative government in Afghanistan. After over 20 years of civil war, foreign occupation, and oppression, the people of Afghanistan see rays of hope breaking through their clouds of fear.

Over the last few months, the International Relations Committee has held a series of hearings regarding the humanitarian needs in Afghanistan, the possibilities for reconstruction, and Afghani hopes for the future. Based on these hearings, it is clear to me that we must help the Afghan people secure a future for their children that is free from war and built on the same hopes and aspirations held by all-freedom loving people around the world.

Achieving this vision for Afghanistan is not only a moral and humanitarian impulse—it is a national security imperative. If we are to prevent future terrorist attacks targeting the United States, we must provide a positive alternative to the poverty, repression, and religious fanaticism that breeds terrorists such as Osama bin Laden and his minions.

H.R. 3427, the Afghan Freedom and Reconstruction Act of 2001 does just that. The bill:

Expresses a sense of Congress on the U.S. policy towards Afghanistan, including promoting its neutrality, supporting a broad-based, multi-ethnic, gender-sensitive, fully representative government, and maintaining a significant commitment to the relief, rehabilitation and reconstruction of Afghanistan.

Authorizes $77.5 million for broadcasting to Afghanistan;

Authorizes $325 million for humanitarian assistance to Afghanistan in fiscal year 2003;

Authorizes $150 million for fiscal year 2002 and 2003 for a multinational security force in Afghanistan and authorizes funding for civil advisers for that country for the interim or transitional authority;

Authorizes $875 million for rehabilitation and reconstruction assistance for fiscal years 2002–2005, with—conditions for each year to ensure that benchmarks laid out in the December 5, 2001 Bonn Agreement between the various Afghan factions are being met; assistance for agriculture, health care, education, vocational training, disarmament and demobilization, and anti-corruption and good governance programs; a special emphasis on assistance to women and girls; a report on assistance actually provided; and authority to provide some of this assistance through a multilateral fund.

Authorizes $60 million for Democracy and human rights initiatives for fiscal years 2002 through 2004;

Authorizes $62.5 for a contribution to the UN Drug Control Program for fiscal years 2002 through 2004 to reduce or eliminate the trafficking of illicit drugs in Afghanistan.

Authorizes $65 million for a new secure diplomatic facility in Afghanistan.

Requires the President to consult with Congress on any ongoing support for remnants of the Taliban, including sanctions against any country that provides such support.

We are committed to supporting the people of Afghanistan in their quest to established a broad-based government that respects human rights—especially the rights of women and children—and practices religious tolerance.

Mr. Chairman, I, along with GARY ACKERMAN, the ranking member on the Middle East and South Asia subcommittee, and the Gentlewoman from Florida, Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN, the Chairman of the International Operations and Human Rights subcommittee, am introducing this legislation to put the U.S. Congress squarely behind the people of Afghanistan and its nascent hopes for a brighter future.

TRIBUTE TO CHARLES S. KNISLEY

HON. JAMES A. TRAFICANT, JR.

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 6, 2001

Mr. TRAFICANT. Mr. Speaker, I was deeply saddened to hear of the passing of my dear friend Charles S. Knisley.

Charles S. Knisley was a renowned master horse trainer, and an upstanding citizen of the community dedicated to his friends and beloved children.

Charles had a life-long love for horses. He was a Master Horse Trainer and produced two outstanding Saddlebred stallions: Prime Time and a half and Sparkling Running Wild.

He worked with Ms. Linda Copper, an accomplished horsewoman in her own right, and Judith and Bill Cottrill, who established some of the finest blood stock of Saddlebred horses in America.

He loved the Saddlebred horse, was an expert farrier of show horses and was an expert rider and handler of high strung Saddlebred show stock for Ms. Cooper.

Chuck, as he was known to his friends, always had a good word for all; but he was not known to say much. He spoke with his deeds!

Charles ''Chuck'' Knisley was a great father, a great husband, a great friend, a great horseman and a great American. He will be sorely missed.