

For the women: Chrissy Zaika, Eileen Gagnon, Vanessa Bain, Shannon Burke, Meghan Burgoon, Katie Donovan, Lindsey Moore, Jackie Griffin, Kendall Tupper, Lindsey Shirtz, Kelly Fitzgerald, Colleen O'Hara, Nicole Motondo, Katherine Kenneally, Juilie Fabrizio, Kelly Kuss, Katherine DelPrato, Beth Elmer, Lindsey Hamann, Meghan O'Connell, Katie Kozloski, Keelin Hollenbeck, Eileen Flynn, Head Coach Bob Elmer, and Assistant Coach Erica Gerber.

And for the men: Mike Malfitano, Dean Mancini, Jake Bebee, Zack Forward, Jeff Murphy, Jed Bebee, Alex Cost, Kevin Hennigan, Matt O'Connell, Andrew Hanover, Rob Lemos, Mike Conklin, Cheney Raymond, Mark Conklin, Pat McCormack, Chad Clark, Drew Dabrowski, Devin Burgoon, Kiel Moore, Mike Solamon, Jim Mullaley, Andrew Sugar, Bill Gleason, Casey Rotelia, Chris Bulawa, Brian Cummings, Matt Woolsbiager, Brian Calabrese, Bob Toms, Mike Malone, Andy Zysk, Matt Cassalia, P.J. Burns, Head Coach Mike Messere, Assistant Coach Bob Deegan, and Scorekeepers Melissa McCarthy, Shadia Nesheiwat, Monica Macro, Kim Fischmann, Danielle Wood, and Jessica Lebduška.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND SOLOMON YOUNG-MIN KIM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of Reverend Solomon Young-Min Kim, a well-respected leader in both the Brooklyn and Queens communities.

Rev. Kim was born in Pusan, Korea. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Metallurgy from Korea University and has studied at the New York Theological Seminary, the Korea New Church Seminary, and the Swedenborg School of Religion.

Rev. Kim is the pastor of The Mirral Church in the Bensonhurst section of Brooklyn. He has helped solve ethnic issues between the Korean businessmen and the Black community, by getting the Korean businessmen to employ more residents from the Black community. He has also fostered relationships between the Korean community and the Caribbean-American, Haitian, and Italian communities. Rev. Kim's work with Brookdale University Hospital and Medical Center, as well as with the Brookdale Hospital Schulman Institute Nursing Home, has allowed him to spend time visiting the sick and the shut-in. He has also worked with the New York City Department of Correction by providing spiritual guidance and hope for a renewed life after prison to the population. Additionally, Rev. Kim helped organize the Census 2000 effort in the Korean communities of Bensonhurst, Bayridge, Flatbush, East Flatbush, Flushing and Queens, as well as in New Jersey.

Rev. Kim's activism is also evident in his attitude towards education. He formally supports an after-school program for Korean students in Bayridge and Bensonhurst who are having a tough time academically. But Rev. Kim's commitment to education extends to people of all ages. In addition to the Korean Youth Festival, he has established senior/youth intergenerational programs, aimed at initiating ongoing

dialogue, participation and education, as a team in the Korean community.

Rev. Kim's efforts have earned him numerous accolades and awards, such as the Asian American Heritage Award from the Borough President of Brooklyn, the Distinguished Ecumenical Award from the Wesley McDonald Holder Regular Democratic Club Women's Caucus, and the Community Service Award from Assemblyman Clarence Norman Jr.

In closing, I would like to personally thank Rev. Solomon Young-Min Kim for his steadfast devotion to Brooklyn's Korean community and I urge my colleagues to join me in honoring this truly dedicated spiritual leader.

INTRODUCTION OF ADMINISTRATIVE LAW ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2002

HON. GEORGE W. GEKAS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. GEKAS. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced an important bill, the "Administrative Law Process Enhancement Act of 2002," that reforms the organization of the administrative judiciary within the Social Security Administration ("SSA") by establishing an Office of Administrative Law Judges (the "Office") within SSA that is administered by a Chief Administrative Law Judge ("Chief Judge") who reports directly to the SSA Commissioner.

The national ALJ hearings function and hearings field operation that presently is within the SSA Office of Hearings and Appeals ("OHA") would be transferred to the office by the proposed legislation. The Chief Judge would be in charge of the office, be appointed by the Commissioner for a term of six years that is renewable once, and be subject to removal only upon a showing of an enumerated cause. The Associate Commissioner of OHA would continue to administer the Appeals Council. The changes proposed in the bill provide for a reorganization of the SSA that will not result in any additional costs to SSA or the government.

Currently, the SSA is without a functioning Office of the Chief Administrative Law Judge. The functions for both the adjudication of administrative claims by SSA administrative law judges ("ALJs") and the appellate process for the review of ALJ decisions by the Appeals Council are located within the OHA. The ALJ portion of the OHA is under the dual leadership of a Chief Judge and an Associate Commissioner of OHA. The position description of the Chief Judge places the Chief Judge in charge of the national ALJ hearings function and hearings field operation of OHA. The Associate Commissioner of OHA is placed in charge of the national ALJ hearing function and the Appeals Council, and has major policy-making and policy-implementation responsibilities for OHA. The Chief Judge reports to the Associate Commissioner of OHA, who in turn reports to the Deputy Commissioner for the office of Disability and Income Security Programs ("ODISP"), who in turn reports to the SSA Commissioner.

In the current organization of SSA, the OHA and the ALJ function are submerged in the bureaucracy and are far removed from the Commissioner. The Social Security Advisory Board

recently prepared a report on the Social Security disability system that expresses concern about the OHA functions being buried too low in the agency, the need to elevate these functions to direct oversight by the agency leadership, and the need for greater ALJ function independence. Charting the Future of Social Security's Disability Programs: The Need for Fundamental Change, January 2001, p. 19. The current structure prevents the Commissioner from having effective oversight of the ALJ hearing process. The ALJ adjudication function should not be treated as a staff responsibility in SSA. The ALJ adjudication function is a major program of the agency with every individual in this Nation being a potential claimant within the SSA system. The SSA ALJ hearing system protects a constitutional right of our citizens and provides a constitutionally protected due process hearing to members of the American public. This vital process should have direct oversight from the Commissioner and the Chief Judge should have direct interaction with the Commissioner.

Another major defect in the current OHA is created by the dual leadership responsibilities of the Chief Judge and the Associate Commissioner. Frequently, these two leaders are competing for power to control the administrative and/or policy decisions for the ALJ hearing component of SSA that has deprived OHA of strong, effective leadership. Several years ago, the Associate Commissioner attempted to reorganize the responsibilities of the Chief Judge and divest the Chief Judge of most of the powers of that office, leaving the Chief Judge with some minor duties relating to judicial education and staff support for the Associate Commissioner. The Associate Commissioner and the Deputy Commissioner of ODISP also tried to compel the Chief Judge to resign because he resisted the inappropriate diminution of his duties. This scheme was thwarted by the efforts of interested individuals and organizations together with the oversight action of the Congress.

The lack of effective leadership and direction of the OHA and reduction of the Chief Judge function also has resulted in an organization that has been deteriorating in its efficiency. For over 10 years, several reforms have been imposed on the SSA hearing process. Each attempt has resulted in failure. Subsequent to the latest reform, the HPI reorganization in the hearing office process that was implemented in January 2000, the number of case depositions have dropped while the case processing time and the case backlog have increased. The result has been poorer service for the American public.

Better service for the American public by increasing case dispositions, reducing processing times, reducing case backlogs, and improving decision quality will result from the proposed legislation, which will ensure effective leadership of the ALJ hearings component of SSA. The ALJ hearings component of SSA will be treated as an organization that is responsible for administering a major agency program. It no longer will be organized as a staff function within SSA. The Commissioner will have direct oversight of the ALJ hearings component of SSA, which is necessary to effectively administer this important program that provides constitutional due process hearings for the American public. The ALJ hearing component of SSA will have one individual responsible for administrative operations and policy

making: a Chief Judge who reports directly to the Commissioner. The bill will improve leadership, efficiency and quality in the ALJ hearings component of SSA by eliminating the possibility of detrimental political struggles between the Chief Judge and other subordinate leaders within SSA, which will prevent changes in the ALJ hearing process that are motivated by the negative force of intra-agency infighting and ensure that the American public receives fair constitutional due process hearings.

Establishment of the office of Administrative Law Judges within SSA significantly would increase the speed and quality of the disposition of Social Security Act claims for the American public and increase public trust and confidence in the integrity and independence of decisionmaking by SSA ALJS. This effort should be a bipartisan activity of the Congress in the interest of good government, and to that end, I invite my fellow colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in sponsoring this bill and in making the office of Administrative Law Judges within SSA a reality this year.

REFLECTIONS ON 9/11

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a student in my district, Craig Halbrooks, who is the grandson of Judge Larry Craig, a great friend and respected judge in Smith County. Judge Craig brought to my attention his grandson's poem, which reflects on September 11. This poem—written by a 14-year-old—captures the sentiments of many Americans and many of our youth regarding that terrible day in our nation's history, and I would like to share it with this body:

On September 11, 2001 the United States was struck with an act of terror

With the Afghanistan leaders responsible, soon there would be nothing there.

Why would some do such a thing?

Take their lives to destroy another's, what could they be thinking?

Nearly four months later, the tears still flow and emotions run high

Why did these people have to hurt so many lives?

As we board planes, subways, and even a bus We wonder just exactly who we can trust. It matters little whether Christian, Muslim or Jew

We wonder what each is capable to do.

We look around us on the ground and in the sky

Wondering who will be the next to die.

Will it be a child, family or friend?

When will this scary stuff end?

I'm so glad that we have a President who Strives to protect even me and you.

IN MEMORY OF AUBREY LEE
MCALISTER

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. HALL of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Aubrey Lee

McAlister, who passed away around this time last year—May 15th, 2001. I still think of him often. He was 89. Audrey was a distinguished reporter, war veteran, caring community leader and beloved husband and father. He and his wife, Aubrey, were dear personal friends—ones we visited with often.

Aubrey was born on October 5, 1911 in Walters, Oklahoma. Even as a young teenager he showed his eagerness to work in journalism spending his after-school afternoons learning to operate printing equipment and type setting as a printer's devil in the local paper's office.

After High School, Aubrey went to Cameron College and transferred to Oklahoma State University, where he received his degree in journalism. At the outbreak of World War II, Aubrey enlisted in the US Navy, even though he was exempt from the draft. As a Navy enlisted correspondent he served in the Pacific theater aboard the USS *Colorado*, a vessel that participated in the battle for Okinawa.

Aubrey moved to Bonham in 1955 when he bought the Bonham Daily Favorite, a local newspaper, with a partner. He served as its publisher until 1976. Across the state he was active as a member of the board of the Texas Press Association. He served as the President of the TPA in 1964.

Within the community, he served as an elder and a deacon of his church, the First Presbyterian Church, and was a long-time and active member of Rotary International. He was a Paul Harris Fellow and had served as president of two different clubs. In 1964, he was named East Texas Chamber of Commerce Man of the Month and the Bonham Chamber of Commerce named him the town's Outstanding Citizen. He also served as the chairman of the Bonham Water Authority, which oversaw building a community water reservoir. He helped organize the city's first planning and zoning commission and was chairman of the Fannin County Fair.

Most of all, Aubrey was a loving father and husband who always showed his kindness to others. He was survived by his wife, Audrey; one son, Don McAlister; a granddaughter, Sara Delao; and his brother, Ray McAlister. Mr. Speaker, we will miss him but always remember him as a beloved community leader and kind man who gave a lot to East Texas—Aubrey Lee McAlister.

A TRIBUTE IN MEMORY OF
REVEREND S. AMOS BRACKEEN 2D

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of Rev. S. Amos Brackeen 2d, 83, a social activist, and founder of the Philippian Baptist Church, who recently died after providing more than four decades of spiritual and civic leadership in Philadelphia.

From the time Rev. Brackeen arrived in our city in 1959 to become pastor of Jones Memorial Baptist Church, he was recognized as a theological activist.

In the early 60's he stood on street corners with civil rights leaders and demanded accountability from the Philadelphia Police Department when a white officer shot and killed

an African American man suspected of shoplifting. He was appointed by the Mayor to a committee helped to expose racial disparities in the payment of city workers.

As a member of the Baptist Ministers Conference of Philadelphia and Vicinity, Rev. Brackeen fought discriminatory practices by city labor unions. He also led the North Philadelphia Human Relations Committee, which sought to improve relations between police and the residents of North Philadelphia.

While continuing the fight for equality for African Americans, he also focused on the importance of economic equity. In that regard he became part of an effort that established an African American owned bank in Philadelphia.

In 1965, he founded Philippian Baptist Church in the First Congressional District with less than a hundred members. Today, there are 1,500 congregants.

However, his theology went beyond America's shores. As treasurer of the Baptist Foreign Missions Bureau, he gathered support from his congregation to help build a church in Nigeria, West Africa and a church and school in Haiti. He also sponsored the establishment of the Philippian Baptist Home Mission for Haitians newly migrated to Philadelphia.

While Rev. Brackeen was born in Port Arthur, Texas, the son of the town's first African American physician, his adopted City of Philadelphia has been enriched and spiritually fed by this progressive and dynamic child of God and leader of the faithful. I know my colleagues will join me in expressing my condolences to his loving family and congregation.

ON THE DEATH OF DR. MAXIE C.
SPROTT

HON. NICK LAMPSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 13, 2002

Mr. LAMPSON. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the outstanding career of Dr. Maxie C. Sprott, who unfortunately passed away this week. During a tenure of forty-five years, Dr. Sprott dedicated his time to make sure that those members of his community unable to afford health care, received the proper medical treatment they deserved.

Dr. Sprott, with the help of his brothers, opened Sprott Hospital in 1955 to give black residents a place to receive medical care and black doctors a place to practice. He also was heavily involved with the "I have a Dream" program, providing mentoring and educational service to young people. Despite these great achievements, he was a humble man, accepting such items as poultry and fish as pay from patients when they could not afford office visits.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. Maxie Sprott's career was seasoned with numerous examples of selfless hard work and extraordinary achievement in service to our great Nation. His contributions to Southeast Texas are immeasurable. I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering Dr. Sprott for his enduring service in the field of medicine and the generations of families that he took care of.

Thank you for your service, Dr. Sprott, your work was part of the fiber of Southeast Texas, and with your passing a great loss will be felt in the spirit and the heart of our community.