

of my career, working in the business world and as a public official, rarely have I been so privileged to work with such an extraordinary person that gives unselfishly and wholeheartedly to the interests and welfare of other people.

Lynn was born in Virginia to Molly and Andy Cowart and is the middle sister to Ms. Nora McCormick and Ms. Chris Cowart. Daughter of a Captain in the U.S. Navy, Lynn moved all around the United States, attending both public and Catholic schools, and graduated high school in Alexandria, Virginia. She then attended the University of Hawaii and business school in Hawaii.

Lynn's lengthy and impressive career began as a temporary employee for the Department of the Navy in Pearl Harbor. In 1968, Lynn moved to Washington, D.C. and worked in the Pentagon until 1972. Then, in 1973 she moved across the Atlantic Ocean to England where she worked in the United States Embassy in London under the auspices of the Defense Intelligence Agency. Lynn moved back to the United States in 1980 and worked for an attorney here in Washington, D.C. In 1982, she began working for Senator John Tower from Texas until his retirement. She then moved from the U.S. Senate to the U.S. House of Representatives to work for Representative Larry Combest where she worked for 18 years. In May of 2003, Representative Combest retired. On June 3rd, I was elected to fill the seat for the 19th District of Texas and Lynn accepted the position of Chief of Staff in my office.

Lynn's dedication to public service will continue after she retires from politics. This fall she will begin work at Island Creek Elementary School, serving the people of Fairfax County in Virginia's public school system.

Her career is impressive not only for its duration and the intriguing posts she has filled but more so for the integrity and strong work ethic she brings to each job. For over 30 years, Lynn has been a model of devotion, stability, fairness, and attentiveness that is nothing short of amazing. Her loyalty and passion for the 19th District is evident through her nearly 20-year commitment to the area. The Permian Basin and South Plains of Texas is a unique area where hard-working people are faithful to their roots in the oil and gas industry and agriculture. Lynn's integrity and personal attention to these people is astonishing. She has always taken time to listen and act upon any complaints or concerns that farmers or the hard-working folks of Texas had. When I was sworn in on June 5th, I know I would have been stranded and lost without Lynn's incredible capability to maintain patience with me. Six days out of the week, Lynn kept an incredible schedule and put in extended hours in order to keep the office running. Thanks to Lynn, who is the glue which holds my staff together, the offices in Washington D.C., Odessa and Lubbock stayed in business leading up to my election and my first hectic week as a U.S. Congressman. Her ability to remain positive in tough situations only proved to me that Lynn possesses confidence beyond anyone I have ever known. Without her I would not be as I am today: sure that my transition could not have gone any smoother. Over the years, Lynn has made a powerful impression upon people here on Capitol Hill and back home in Texas. Anyone in public service would do well to emulate her example if they truly desire a

career that makes a difference and leaves a legacy.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my sincere thanks to Lynn Cowart. I am truly honored to recognize her accomplishments. She will certainly be missed.

CENTENNIAL OF THE SUPER-
INTENDENCY OF COLONEL
CHARLES YOUNG—REDEDICA-
TION OF THE BOOKER T. WASH-
INGTON TREE

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

Mr. NUNES. Mr. Speaker, I stand before you today to observe two very special events taking place in the Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park on August 23, 2003. The first is the centennial of the superintendency of Colonel Charles Young and secondly, the rededication of the Booker T. Washington Tree.

Born in Kentucky during the Civil War to the parents of former slaves in 1864, Charles Young became only the third African-American to graduate from the United States Military Academy at West Point in 1889. Upon graduation, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant and assigned to the 10th U.S. Cavalry.

In the year 1903, then Captain Charles Young was in charge of the 9th U.S. Cavalry and had been assigned the duty of "Acting Superintendent" of the Sequoia and General Grant National Parks, he was to be responsible for the supervision of payroll accounts and directing activities of rangers. That early summer Captain Young led his "Buffalo Soldiers" out of the cold and fog shrouded Presidio in San Francisco en route to the high sierras of Central California. Captain Young and his troopers arrived 16 days later amongst some of the largest and oldest living things on Earth and they began their historic summer working in the second national park ever created in the United States.

With this assignment, Captain Young not only became the first African-American superintendent in the U.S. Park Service history but also became the driving force in forging what would become today one of the most visited and highly recognized parks in the world.

During his tenure as superintendent, Colonel Young discovered and named a majestic Giant Sequoia after an individual that inspired and influenced his life, Booker T. Washington. After nearly 100 years, this tree has been rediscovered and stands as a monument to both Colonel Charles Young and Booker T. Washington.

Again, I ask you to join with me today in recognizing Colonel Charles Young and the rededication of the Booker T. Washington Tree in the Sequoia/Kings Canyon National Park.

DEPARTMENTS OF LABOR,
HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES,
AND EDUCATION, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS
ACT, 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 10, 2003

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bills (H.R. 2660), making appropriations for the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2004, and for other purposes:

Mr. KENNEDY of Rhode Island. Mr. Chairman, during debate on H.R. 2660, the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education Appropriations bill, I strongly supported the Obey/Miller Amendment regarding overtime regulations at the Department of Labor (DOL).

The amendment would block a proposal by the Bush Administration that will eliminate overtime under the federal Fair Labor Standards Act for millions of hard-working Americans who rely on overtime pay to make ends meet.

The DOL proposal would strip overtime rights from more than 8 million workers by allowing easier classification of workers as "white collar" employees ineligible for overtime.

Workers such as mid-level office workers in the offices of downtown Providence or the licensed practical nurses in Northern Rhode Island, or the EMTs, paramedics, and physical therapists on Aquidneck Island will lose under this proposal.

It is just another attempt by the Bush Administration to roll back the clock on years of important wage and hour laws.

This Congress should support the Obey/Miller Amendment and oppose the DOL overtime proposal.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROB PORTMAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, on July 14, 2003, I was unavoidably detained and missed the vote on rollcall No. 356 on H.R. 2673, the Fiscal Year 2004 Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration and Related Agencies Appropriations Act. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PORTER J. GOSS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

Mr. GOSS. Mr. Speaker, I was not present on July 10, 2003 due to official travel overseas. As a result, I was not able to be present

for rollcall votes Nos. 346, 347, 348, 349, 350, 351, 352 and, 353. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Nos. 346, 352, and 353. I would have voted "no" on Nos. 347, 348, 349, 350, and 351.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO REFORM THE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ACT: H.R. 2728, H.R. 2729, H.R. 2730, and H.R. 2731

HON. CHARLIE NORWOOD

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

Mr. NORWOOD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce four legislative proposals which were each formerly included in H.R. 1583, the "Occupational Safety and Health Fairness Act of 2003."

As was true of H.R. 1583 in its entirety, the goal of each of these individual proposals is to address a unique situation in our law where employers, and especially small employers, are denied fundamental fairness or equitable results in their efforts to defend themselves against citations issued by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) for alleged violations with which, in good faith, they take issue.

Specifically, the "Occupational Safety and Health Small Business Day in Court Act" gives the Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission (OSHRC) additional flexibility to make exceptions to the arbitrary 15-day deadline for employers to file responses to OSHA citations when a small business inadvertently misses the deadline by mistake. The "Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission Efficiency Act" increases the membership of the OSHRC from three to five members to ensure that cases are reviewed in a timely fashion. The "Occupational Safety and Health Small Employer Access to Justice Act" permits the award of attorney's fees and costs to small business owners that prevail in court when contesting OSHA citations to ensure that the agency doesn't waste taxpayer resources on fruitless cases. And, the "Occupational Safety and Health Independent Review of Citations Act" restores independent review of citations issued by OSHA by clarifying that the OSHRC is an independent judicial entity that is given deference by courts reviewing OSHA issues.

With this in mind, Mr. Speaker, the Workforce Protections Subcommittee has conducted a hearing on the provisions contained in H.R. 1583, and we firmly believe that a record has been produced that very strongly supports the four individual proposals I introduce today. I have withheld the introduction of several provisions formerly contained in H.R. 1583 because unlike the four proposals I introduce today, I believe further research and discussion would be helpful in determining how to improve these proposals. I invite all Members and especially the Minority Members of this Congress to join in these discussions and help small business achieve the fairness they deserve.

But again, Mr. Speaker, the proposals I introduce today have withstood the inquiry of hearing, and I believe, stand ready for marking in their current form. Each is designed to

make what I believe is a narrow, precise, and sensible adjustment for an omission regretfully not caught by Congress at the time of original passage of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970. In my mind, Mr. Speaker, each of these proposals lends itself to bipartisan support, and I ask each of my colleagues on both sides to seriously consider such support.

BURMESE FREEDOM AND DEMOCRACY ACT OF 2003

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2003

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this bill.

The 45 million people of Burma have lived in virtual imprisonment for over 40 years, when Burma's military junta first came to power. It has only been in the past 15 years that people around the world have come to learn of this great country, its ruthless and brutal dictators, and its celebrated freedom fighter, Nobel Peace Laureate Daw Aung San Suu Kyi.

The Burmese military regime is notorious for its human rights practices. In 1988, the regime, known then as the State Law and Order Restoration Council (SLORC), brutally killed thousands of activists in a nonviolent cry for freedom and democracy. In 1990, when the people of Burma voted over 82 percent of the parliamentary seats to the National League for Democracy, Aung San Suu Kyi's party, the junta nullified the elections.

Earlier this year, the State Department condemned Burma's military for using rape as a weapon. Human Rights Watch has documented Burma as having the largest number of child soldiers than anywhere else in the world. The International Labor Organization has repeatedly condemned the military for using forced—or slave—labor.

Three years ago, U.N. Special Envoy Razali Ismail initiated negotiations for a power sharing settlement between the military junta and the NLD. These talks have since collapsed. Burma's military junta has instead shown absolute contempt for the NLD, Aung San Suu Kyi, and the negotiations process. On May 30, 2003, the regime staged a violent attack on Aung San Suu Kyi and her supporters as they traveled in Northern Burma. They have shut down NLD offices, detained dozens of activists, closed universities, and once again imprisoned Daw Suu.

The United States should not respond to Burma's military junta with appeasement, engagement, or tolerance. It is time for the United States to respond with action. The people of Burma have continually called for a non-violent course of action in the form of stronger sanctions, which will directly affect the pockets of the dictators. An import ban, visa ban, and the freezing of assets will not only limit the money propping up the regime, but will also send a message to the people of Burma supporting their hopes for human rights and democracy. In a 1997 speech smuggled out of the country Aung San Suu Kyi said, "Please use your liberty to promote ours." Let us do just that.

OHIO HISTORICAL SOCIETY MARKER TO COMMEMORATE NEW BREMEN AND MIAMI AND ERIE CANAL

HON. MICHAEL G. OXLEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

Mr. OXLEY. Mr. Speaker, at noon today in New Bremen, Ohio, an Ohio Historical Society marker was dedicated to commemorate New Bremen and the Miami and Erie Canal. I am proud to send my best wishes to everyone celebrating this event.

One hundred seventy years ago, work commenced on a connector between the Miami Canal in Dayton and the Wabash and Erie Canal in Junction. This connector, dubbed the Miami Extension, was completed in June of 1845. In that month, the packet boat *Banner* became the first vessel to travel the canal from Cincinnati to Toledo, taking three days for the journey.

In 1849, the Ohio General Assembly gave the name "Miami and Erie Canal" to the entire system. Even as railroad track was laid throughout western Ohio in the decades to follow, the canal remained an important commercial and military transport route. The Great Flood of 1913, however, washed out many major sections of the Miami and Erie Canal, rendering it impassable and leading to its abandonment.

The Village of New Bremen in my congressional district was founded in 1833, the same year the Miami Extension was started. Many of New Bremen's founders, mostly Hanoverian German Protestants, came to Ohio via the National Road and the Ohio River, landing in Cincinnati. There, they formed the City of Bremen Society and agreed to purchase 80 acres of land in Ohio to found a Protestant community. First called "Bremen," the village's plat was officially recorded on June 11, 1833. New Bremen, the midpoint on the Cincinnati-Toledo segment of the Miami and Erie Canal, is celebrating its 170th birthday this year.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud the New Bremen Historic Association and the New Bremen-New Knoxville Rotary Club for their efforts in securing this historical marker from the State of Ohio. I also thank Doug Harrod and Darrin Klinger for their research on New Bremen's history and the importance of the Miami and Erie in our state's past.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM HORNBY

HON. DIANA DeGETTE

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 15, 2003

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the notable accomplishments of an extraordinary gentleman in the 1st Congressional District of Colorado. It is both fitting and proper that we recognize this individual for his exceptional record of civic leadership and invaluable service. It is to commend this outstanding citizen that I rise to honor William Hornby on the occasion of his 80th birthday.

Bill Hornby has devoted much of his time, skill and energy to making Denver and the West a better place. Born in Kalispell, Montana on July 14, 1923, he attended the public