

Safety Officer Benefit. This bipartisan piece of legislation will allow the families of public safety officers who were killed by a heart attack or stroke while on duty within 24 hours after participating in a training exercise or responding to an emergency situation to receive the benefits that they are due.

Last year, the Committee on the Judiciary and the full House unanimously passed it. Unfortunately, we were not able to move the bill through the United States Senate before adjourning, despite the strong support from several Senators of both parties.

Earlier this year, the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), the gentleman from Pennsylvania (Mr. WELDON), the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. OXLEY), and I introduced the Hometown Heroes Survival Benefit Act. The United States Senate has already unanimously passed a Senate bill, S. 459, a companion bill introduced by Senators LEAHY and GRAHAM.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 929 is the kind of bipartisan legislation that we should be working on in this House. As of this afternoon, we have 273 cosponsors. I will remind my colleagues it takes 218 in this House to pass a bill. Both Democrats and Republicans are on board. More cosponsors are on the way.

I urge all of my colleagues to continue to sponsor H.R. 919, and I ask the House leadership to put this bill to a vote. It will pass unanimously. During this time of increasing awareness and concern regarding the threat of terrorism, we are calling on our public safety officers to work longer and harder than ever before. Our hometown heroes deserve to know that we support and appreciate their extraordinary bravery and heroism.

As we take time to remember those who were killed or injured in the attacks on September 11 this week, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 919 and let public safety officers know we will continue to stand with them and with their families. We can do no less.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. KING of Iowa). Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Indiana (Mr. SOUDER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. SOUDER addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CHANGING FARM SUBSIDY AND TARIFF PROGRAMS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nebraska (Mr. BEREUTER) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, our good friend and very able U.S. Trade Representative, Ambassador Robert Zoellick, about to represent America at the WTO trade summit in Cancun this week, should be given a message and a mission. The message comes from this Member of Congress, a strong

supporter of trade liberalization, one of the farm-state Members from the Great Plains and Midwest Caucus that together has been a strong and crucial force for trade liberalization over the years.

Mr. Speaker, here is the message with which we should arm Ambassador Zoellick on the subject of agricultural trade:

First, we must harmonize, we must have harmonization. That is to say, developing countries must agree to sharp reductions in their tariffs on agriculture imports, and developed countries like the European Union countries and Japan must cut their higher production subsidies proportionally more than the U.S. Large agricultural exporters classified as developing countries, like Brazil, also must steeply cut their agricultural subsidy.

Second, we must have an end to the large agricultural export subsidies of the European Union; and America can end its small export subsidies, which are used occasionally as a shot across the bow of the EU.

Third, we must insist that the European Union dramatically restructure its agriculture support programs by a greater delinking of subsidy programs from production at the same time as the U.S. proportionally makes the same adjustment in our smaller level of subsidy.

Mr. Speaker, the large subsidy and tariff barriers of the European Union and Japan, but also the United States, do more damage to the economies and domestic food production efforts of the world's developing countries than the combination of all the foreign aid programs of the developed countries and their NGOs. In the meantime, the American taxpayers and the taxpayers and food consumers of European Union countries pay a huge cost for the direct and hidden agricultural subsidies primarily caused by the EU's common agricultural policy.

Mr. Speaker, either we have that kind of dramatic change in foreign farm subsidy and tariff programs matched proportionally by our own, or Ambassador Zoellick should walk away from Cancun until the Europeans get the message. Let them squirm with the cost of their cap under an enlarged EU. American farmers and our small agribusiness firms will accept reform, but they are disgusted with the intransigence of the EU and the big and unfair disadvantage they face from the EU over export markets.

Ambassador Zoellick should know we demand a real substantial change from the EU, Japan, and other countries. We need to walk away from any inadequate or lopsided trade deal that is detrimental to the natural competitiveness of our farm sector; or, alternatively, the reliable pro-trade farm state block of Members will walk away from any further multilateral trade agreements. Ambassador Zoellick might bring us.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF DR. JEWEL LIMAR PRESTAGE: TEACHER, MENTOR, SCHOLAR, AND PUBLIC SERVANT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Louisiana (Mr. JEFFERSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JEFFERSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding American, Dr. Jewel Limar Prestage. Dr. Jewel Prestage is one of the first African American women to earn a Ph.D. She earned it in political science in the United States, and through her work and contributions since, has become one of the most important women of our times.

Through teaching, mentoring, research and service, Jewel Prestage has had a profound influence in the political science discipline, in the political life of our country and on the lives of the thousands of students with whom she has associated over the years. Her talent, dedication, and good works must not go unacknowledged or unappreciated.

As a distinguished professor of political science, Jewel Prestage has lectured at numerous institutions of higher education. Her service at two Historically Black Universities in the South, however, anchored her career.

For 18 years, Dr. Prestage served as the Chair of the Political Science Department at Southern University. During her tenure, this academic department became the nation's leading catalyst for the development of African American Ph.D.s in political science.

After 33 years of dedicated service, in 1989 Jewel Prestage retired from the Southern University system as the dean of its Public Policy School and of its Urban Affairs School. However, her retirement was short-lived, as Jewel Prestage joined the political science faculty at Prairie View A&M University, where she eventually became dean of the Benjamin Banneker Honors College. At Prairie View, she continued her impressive record of guiding students toward postgraduate education. In September 2002, she retired after a stellar academic career that spanned 46 years.

Jewel Prestage has been a pioneer in academic research in the area of race, gender, and politics. She was the first person to pursue research that focused on African American women legislators and the first to offer the theory of marginality to describe the political behavior of African American women.

Her book, "A Portrait of Marginality," coauthored with Dr. Marianne Githens, has become the seminal work on minority women and politics and is

referenced by many who are concerned about issues of race and gender. She also pioneered early research focusing on the political socialization of African American children and youth.

As a leader in the discipline of political science, Jewel Prestage has served as an officer and on the executive council of many of the Nation's highly esteemed political science organizations. Her capstone accomplishment was her role in the founding of the professional organization, the National Conference of Black Political Scientists.

In recognition of her service and of her achievements, these organizations have honored her with their highest awards, including the National Conference of Black Political Scientists' Fannie Lou Hamer Award, the American Political Science Association's Frank Goodnow Award, and the Southern Political Science Association's Manning Dauer Award.

The Policy Studies Organization and the Southwestern Political Science Association have also elected to honor Dr. Prestage by creating awards in her name to recognize her outstanding academic achievement in the areas of race, gender, and politics.

Jewel Prestage has made many contributions in the field of community service and has been an outstanding community servant. In the late 1960s and 1970s, she worked to prepare many Southern politicians for the new public service opportunities that became available in the wake of the Voting Rights Act of 1965. A Democratic Party faithful, she has also served as a delegate and as an appointed member of the Judiciary Council of the Democratic National Committee.

While her distinguished career in higher education and public service has resulted in many achievements, Dr. Jewel Prestage's greatest legacy may be in the inspiration she has provided to the thousands of students she has taught and mentored. Her former students have obtained many accomplishments and can be found throughout academia, the business sector, and the government.

Former students have organized academic awards and scholarships in recognition and to honor her lifetime achievements. I am proud to say that Dr. Prestage was my teacher and my dean and she has had a lasting influence on my pursuit of public service. I will be forever grateful to her for what she did for me personally and for so many others like me.

When the life of a person exemplifies such a strong commitment, others often wonder about the source of their inspiration. Throughout the years, it has become clear to many that Jewel Prestage has a deep and abiding commitment to the advancement of her community. Through her activities at Southern University and Prairie View A&M University, she encouraged students to be the best that they could be so she could help them help their communities and help them to help our

country meet its need for more African Americans with professional and graduate degrees.

Jewel Prestage cares deeply about the diversity issues in America and believes that one way our future can be secured is by producing more committed individuals who can give back to the community while serving as an inspiration to young people.

Her activities in the public sphere have been encouraged and supported by her loving husband, Dr. James Prestage, and their five children: Terri Prestage-White, James Grady Prestage, Eric Warren Prestage, Karen Prestage-Washington, and Jay Wilkins Prestage.

Her efforts merit our great appreciation and our respect. I commend Dr. Jewel Prestage for her dedication and personal sacrifice that has generated so many positive experiences and wonderful memories for so many thousands. She is an outstanding model for our Nation and an excellent example of one person who has truly made a difference in our lives, in our community, and in our Nation.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. PAUL) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. PAUL addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CONDITIONS IN IRAQ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. BURGESS) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I wanted to come tonight and tell you about a trip that I took at the end of August to the country of Iraq. I spent several days over in Baghdad, Tikrit, Mosul, and Babylon.

When I got back to this country, Mr. Speaker, I turned on the evening news at night and heard one of our national anchors talking about the situation in Iraq, and I thought for a minute I must have gotten on the wrong plane and ended up on the wrong planet, because I did not recognize the country he was describing, the country that I just left.

So, Mr. Speaker, I thought it was important to come address the House tonight and to let the House know what in fact is going on in Iraq and to let people in on the good news that is happening in that country since we liberated it.

In general, Mr. Speaker, when you get over there and look around, you are struck by the fact that life is going on as normal. The markets are active. There are cars in the street. In fact, we saw a couple of traffic jams, which certainly indicate a return to civil society.

Mr. Speaker, there are satellite dishes now on the rooftops of many of the houses and apartment buildings. I

would estimate 25 to 30 percent of the domiciles have satellite dishes, and just 4 months ago those were illegal under Saddam's rule.

Mr. Speaker, our troops on the ground have done an exemplary job, and currently there are approximately 5,000 projects that have been completed by the United States military.

□ 2200

Mr. Speaker, the police force, the Iraqi police force is truly a success story. This movement has been led by Bernard Kerik who, just 2 short years ago on 9-11 in New York, was the police commissioner and amazed the city with his outstanding leadership during that time of crisis and no surprise, he has been able to provide that same leadership in Iraq. His mission there was to teach the Iraqis how to learn to do police work in a free and democratic society. Previously, all of their police work had been based on brutality and corruption. Mr. Kerik has turned out over 37,000 Iraqi policemen back in uniform. He expects to be able to get 65,000 within the next 6 months.

Mr. Kerik has gone from zero to 35 precinct stations in Baghdad in a mere 14 weeks' time. He told us that given the present state of the bureaucracy, it would take him several years to accomplish that. He has made dramatic improvements in information technology, in communications but, most importantly, his training program stressed police work, police procedure, human rights, criminal investigations and, again, not the previous framework of brutality and corruption.

Mr. Speaker, the sad fact of the matter is that the governance in Iraq, 30 years of Saddam destroyed all sense of community. There is not much of civil society left. But town councils and city councils now exist in 90 percent of the towns and villages in Iraq. The new governing council that the coalition provisional authority is standing up has been drawn from all regions of the country. They are having a preparatory convention which will be followed by a constitutional convention, which will be followed by elections. No one is absolutely sure of the time line, but 12 to 24 months was the impression that we were given.

Mr. Speaker, probably the most searing aspect of my trip to Iraq to me as a doctor was my visit to the hospital. We also were privileged to go in several of Saddam's palaces and we were struck by the opulence. I will tell you the architecture was awful, but the opulence was striking. But contrast that, Mr. Speaker, to the large teaching hospital in downtown Baghdad, a 1,000-bed hospital where they do not even have linoleum on the floor. There are no medical gasses in their neonatal intensive care unit. They could not give oxygen to a baby if they wanted. Mr. Speaker, the sad fact of the matter is that under Saddam, per capita medical expenditure in Iraq was 50 cents