

TRIBUTE TO MR. MICHAEL ROCCIA

HON. DONALD M. PAYNE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. PAYNE. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize an outstanding member of my community, Mr. Michael Roccia. For 63 years, he has been fighting to improve the working conditions and lives of American workers. He has spent 32 years with Local 262 in New Jersey, and has served our community well.

He was Shop Chairman for Local 305, CIO from 1940–1969. During that time he organized 500 employees of the L.S. Branch Co. for Playthings, Jewelry, and Novelty Workers, CIO Local 305. When Local 305 became Local 301, he became General Organizer, and when that merged with Local 262, he continued to work, serving as Business Agent for as many as twenty shops. He would go on to serve as Local 262's General Organizer, and eventually became their President. He has been Vice President of both the IUC and the RWDSU, and has served on the Advisory Committee of the UFCW.

Mr. Roccia has lived the life of a worker and an activist. He has labored on an assembly line, organized workers, walked the picket line, negotiated contracts, handled grievances, argued arbitrations, and fought for health and welfare plans. He has led and inspired the men and women of Local 262 in New Jersey to commit to activism, working early in the morning and late at night to improve labor conditions for all workers.

In his own words, "The work of a good trade unionist can never be a 9 to 5 job—never an 8 hour day."

I salute Mr. Roccia, the oldest officer in his Union, for his lifelong commitment to serving others. I am proud to have him in my district, and I am honored to call him my neighbor.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my thanks to Michael Roccia, and I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing him the strength to continue his good work for many years to come.

**INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION
TO OVERTURN THE OFFICE OF
THE COMPTROLLER OF THE CURRENCY'S
"PREEMPTION REGULATIONS"**

HON. LUIS V. GUTIERREZ

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. GUTIERREZ. Mr. Speaker, today, along with Congressman PAUL and a number of our colleagues, I am introducing legislation to overturn the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency's (OCC) "preemption regulations." These misguided, unprecedented, and unchecked pair of regulations expand federal regulatory authority by preempting state consumer protection laws. The OCC regulations exceed the limited preemption authority granted the agency by Congress. Our legislation will stop the OCC from eroding strong safeguards that have been used by the states for more than a century to enforce consumer protection laws.

The Congressional Review Act (5 U.S.C. 801) provides a mechanism for Congress to review and nullify regulations and prohibit the agency from promulgating substantially similar regulations—without changing the underlying statute. In this case, each Congressional Review Act resolution—one for each rule—will function like a "referendum" on an OCC rule. Similar legislation was introduced in the Senate before the recess.

Last week, in testimony before the Senate Banking Committee, Federal Reserve Board Chairman Alan Greenspan expressed concern about the OCC's actions and their potential to undermine the dual banking system. He urged legislators to maintain an "appropriate balance" in the nation's dual system of federally and state-chartered banks. I would hope that my colleagues would join our effort to accomplish that balance by overturning these misguided rules.

**HONORING MR. TERENCE R.
WILLIAMS**

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. CLAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. Terence R. Williams, winner of the Missouri 2004 Voice of Democracy Broadcast Scriptwriting Contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Ladies Auxiliary.

Mr. Williams is a junior at the Gateway Institute of Technology High School located in St. Louis, MO. He is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Terry Williams. He plans a career in journalism and public speaking. Terence was sponsored by VFW Post 8888, Ladies Auxiliary in St. Louis.

Each year, the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary conduct a Voice of Democracy audio and essay competition designed to give high school students the opportunity to voice their opinions on their responsibility to our country. This year, more than 80,000 secondary school students competed for the 59 national scholarships. The contest theme for this year was "My Commitment to America's Future."

I want to commend Mr. Williams on receiving this prestigious award, and request my colleagues to do the same. I am honored to recognize Terence R. Williams today before Congress.

Attached are excerpts from Mr. Williams' winning essay. The text of that essay is as follows:

MY COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S FUTURE

(By Terence Williams)

I am a citizen of the world. I am a citizen of this country. I am a citizen. Citizen, is a word often entangled in "rights" and "freedom," but never discussed are responsibilities, obligations, and commitments. It is because of this very reason, I can improve society. My society. Not by well-planned inventions, or even to strive to be better than the average "Joe." My plan does not call for elaborate thought or constant recognition. It is indwelt in a commitment not only to my country but to myself. It is a commitment to America's future.

We live in an age of moral decline. Any opinion, statement, ideals or theories reserve the right to be challenged. Therefore, it is

imperative to establish firm foundations for every basis in which we believe. To fulfill my commitment every perception, every elementary thought must be broken to one foundation: Excellence without Excuses. By implementing this logic into society, a fraction of my commitment will aim fellow citizens toward success.

Because many are bombarded by overwhelming stereotypes and influences from negative media sources, I cannot let my responsibility of honesty fail me. My commitment to encourage my community must be even stronger. My support for those younger than me can increase their self-esteem. I can instill an ethic that is missing to their time. My dreams may become their visions. In that way, they will not fall victim to the ever changing plagues that try to destroy our nations unity. I will be an invisible thread that holds together the links of the young and old, the strong and weak, the sheep and lion. But, I can't do it alone. To be a man of success is to not forget the people around you.

The utmost important commitment to my country's future is to instill unity at all cost. We are in this thing together. Lest we forget, we are the future. We are the individuals who create history everyday just by waking up. However, I can't neglect my commitment because of the people around me. I have a vision. And without a vision the people will perish.

A vision that can join us on a common bond. This is our hope. Everyday someone steps up and realizes his dream. They focus their attention and say I want to be just like him or her. That is why my impact will not shatter the world to my surprises. My commitment is to stay committed to the every growing success of my nation. So why don't we start now, let us begin. I shall pursue excellence without excuses, shall you?

**ON THE ANNIVERSARY OF THE
BIRTH OF JAMES MONROE,
FIFTH PRESIDENT OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

HON. ROBERT C. SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today, April 28th, the Commonwealth of Virginia celebrates the birthday of James Monroe, who served as the fifth President of the United States from 1817 to 1825.

James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia to Spence Monroe and Eliza Jones Monroe on April 28, 1758.

As a student of law at the College of William and Mary in Williamsburg, Virginia, where he studied under the tutelage of Thomas Jefferson, a young James Monroe decided to join the Continental Army and was soon fighting at the side of George Washington in New York. Lieutenant Colonel Monroe earned recognition from General Washington as "a brave and active officer." After the Revolutionary War, Monroe was appointed Military Commissioner of Virginia.

After a distinguished military career and completion of his legal studies, Monroe was elected to the Continental Congress in 1783, where he avidly fought to promote a bill of rights. It was at this time that he met and married Elizabeth Kortright.

In 1790, Monroe was elected to represent the Commonwealth of Virginia as a U.S. Senator, followed by an appointment to serve as the U.S. Minister to France from 1794 to 1796.

Monroe returned home and was elected in 1799 to serve as the Governor of our great Commonwealth. In 1803, Monroe helped negotiate the Louisiana Purchase.

Eventually, Monroe's political ideals led him to become U.S. Secretary of State, U.S. Secretary of War, and then, ultimately, President, at which time he began a new Era of Good Feelings for the nation.

Monroe served two terms as President—his popularity at the end of his first term so high that he ran unopposed in 1820. During his tenure as President, Monroe signed the "Missouri Compromise," barring slavery in territories north and west of Missouri, as well as the "Monroe Doctrine," which denounced European intervention and colonization in the Western Hemisphere.

James Monroe was a loyal public servant and an important figure in both Virginian and American history. He set an example we can look to today by being a chief executive who usually chose the middle path, the path of compromise.

Governor Mark R. Warner has recognized today, April 28, 2004, as James Monroe Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia. Therefore, on this day, the anniversary of the birth of James Monroe, I ask for unanimous consent that the Governor's Certificate of Recognition be entered into the RECORD.

CERTIFICATE OF RECOGNITION

Whereas, James Monroe was born in Westmoreland County, Virginia to Spence Monroe and Eliza Jones Monroe on April 28, 1758, and he studied law under the tutelage of Thomas Jefferson at the College of William and Mary; and

Whereas, James Monroe fought with the Continental Army as a Lieutenant Colonel in the Revolutionary War, earning recognition from General George Washington as "a brave and active officer"; and

Whereas, as a young politician, James Monroe joined the anti-Federalists in the Virginia Convention, where he helped ratify the Constitution of the United States of America, and in 1790, he was elected to represent the Commonwealth as a United States Senator, and

Whereas, James Monroe was the United States' Minister to France from 1794-1796 and, along with Robert R. Livingston, he utilized his understanding of foreign policy and his powerful skills of persuasion to negotiate the Louisiana Purchase; and

Whereas, James Monroe served as the fifth President of the United States from 1817-1825, during which time he signed the "Missouri Compromise," barring slavery in territories north and west of Missouri, as well as "The Monroe Doctrine," which denounced European intervention and colonization in the Western Hemisphere; and

Whereas, James Monroe was a loyal public servant and an important leader in both Virginian and American history, and he left behind a legacy as one of our nation's great foreign policy leaders;

Now, therefore, I, Mark R. Warner, do hereby recognize April 28, 2004, as James Monroe Day in the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I call this observance to the attention of all our citizens.

TRIBUTE TO DUKE SEVILLA

HON. ED CASE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. CASE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Duke Sevilla, Program Coordinator

for Maui Economic Opportunity's YouthBank Program, who has been named the 2004 recipient of the Hawaii State Teachers Association Friend of Youth Award.

The Friend of Youth Award is given annually to recognize an outstanding person or public/private agency which has contributed greatly to the youth of Hawaii. Duke was chosen from among numerous nominations statewide.

Duke has been an outstanding volunteer on Maui for many years. You can frequently find him in the weight rooms at Baldwin High School and the Old Wailuku Gym showing the kids how weightlifting can be beneficial to them. Duke's commitment to our keiki knows no bounds, as he often visits homes to work with youth who are estranged from school.

Duke's aloha isn't limited to the YouthBank program. He and his wife Jean have been foster parents for several years, with their home ending up being the "last stop" for youth after many foster homes.

Congratulations, Duke, and mahalo nui loa for your true dedication to Maui's keiki. It is greatly appreciated by all!

CONGRATULATING THE DONELSON SENIOR CENTER FOR ITS FIRST PLACE AWARD IN THE 2004 OLDER AMERICANS MONTH NATIONAL PHOTOGRAPHY CONTEST

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I am proud to have the honor today of congratulating the Donelson Senior Center in Nashville, Tennessee, for its recent first-place award in the 2004 Older Americans Month National Photography Contest, sponsored by the National Council on Aging.

The theme for this year's contest was "Aging Well, Living Well," and it is a fitting motto for the extraordinary seniors who are the members of the Donelson Senior Center. Under the leadership of Director Jane Schnelle, the Donelson Senior Center is one of the leading community organizations in Nashville and offers a wide variety of services to thousands of seniors in the Nashville area. In recent years, the Center has become especially renowned for its theatrical productions and promotion of the arts. We in Nashville have been especially proud to support the Center's recent efforts to build the Donelson Senior Center for the Arts, one of only a few of its kind in the country.

The winning photo submitted by the Donelson Senior Center, taken by member Bob Churchwell, perfectly captures the exuberance and community spirit of the Center's membership. Titled "Red Hat Honeys Revving Up to Age Well," this photo is a portrait of one of the Center's most popular groups, the Red Hat Honeys. In addition to their distinctive attire—purple dresses and red hats—the Red Hat Honeys are well-known for their many contributions to the community. Last year, the Red Hat Honeys lent their assistance to a variety of local causes, including a battered women's shelter, a school and the humane society. The group also collected items for children in foster care and for our troops in Iraq. An essay that accompanied the winning

photo includes the following lines about the Red Hat Honeys: "The Donelson Senior Center Red Hat Honeys are taking each day and living it to the fullest not only by just having a good time but by giving back to each other and the community—they are aging well and living well."

The Donelson Senior Center and its many members are a vital and vibrant part of Nashville's community, and I am proud of the national recognition they have achieved. On behalf of the people of the Fifth District of Tennessee, I extend the heartiest congratulations and thanks to each of the seniors of the Donelson Senior Center—and especially to the Red Hat Honeys—for setting us all such a fine example of what it means to live and age with grace.

B'NAI SHOLOM CONGREGATION CELEBRATES 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WILLIAM L. JENKINS

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 28, 2004

Mr. JENKINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to request that the House join me in recognizing the centennial celebration of the B'Nai Sholom Congregation, located in Blountville, Tennessee.

Since the turn of the 20th century, members of the Jewish community in Upper East Tennessee and Southwest Virginia have been meeting together to celebrate and worship. In 1904, the B'Nai Sholom Congregation was founded, and its earliest members worshipped in Bristol until 1957, when the congregation moved to its current home in Blountville.

B'Nai Sholom means "sons of peace," and the congregation has grown over the years as the region has developed. With the diversity of our region, and the makeup of the synagogue's membership changing over the years, B'Nai Sholom has developed a variety of ideological practices. The strength of the congregation comes through its unity in faith and the Jewish heritage.

Today, B'Nai Sholom continues to be the center of worship for the Jewish community in the region. It continues to be successful because of the hard work, dedication, and spirit of the families who make up the congregation today. They carry on the fine traditions of the wonderful people who started the congregation many years ago, mindful of the importance of having a center of worship where families can join to celebrate, learn, and worship.

B'Nai Sholom is certainly worthy of our praise as they celebrate their centennial year in 2004. The congregation is a credit to our district in East Tennessee and to the Jewish community throughout the world. I know that the Members of the House will join with me in congratulating B'Nai Sholom on its 100th anniversary and wish them continued success and prosperity for many years to come.