

according, but because of the Capitol evacuation which postponed votes, I was unable to be present. I was required to be in the district the following morning to participate in the Base Realignment and Closure hearing and there was no other flight available. Had I been present I would have cast the following votes:

On rollcall 336, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall 337, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 338, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall 339, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall 340, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall 341, I would have voted "no"; on rollcall 342, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall 343, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall 344, I would have voted "yes."

INTRODUCTION OF 'KEVIN'S LAW': THE MEAT AND POULTRY PATHOGEN REDUCTION AND ENFORCEMENT ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I'm proud to join my colleague Representative PHIL ENGLISH in introducing important bipartisan legislation, 'Kevin's Law': the Meat and Poultry Pathogen Reduction and Enforcement Act. This bipartisan bill will strengthen the ability of the U.S. Department of Agriculture to set and enforce food safety and sanitation standards for meat and poultry.

Kevin's Law is named in memory of 2½-year-old Kevin Kowalczyk, who died so tragically in 2001 after eating a hamburger contaminated with E. coli O157:H7. Kevin's untimely death was agonizing and brutal. No child, no person should experience the pain that Kevin did, and no family should have to bear witness to a loved one suffering in the way that Kevin did.

Sadly, Americans are far too vulnerable to fatal foodborne illnesses, especially children and the elderly. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimate that foodborne diseases cause roughly 76 million illnesses, 325,000 hospitalizations, and 5,000 deaths each year. The tragedy is that many of these illnesses can be prevented with better science standards and enforcement. Congress must do much more to ensure the safety of our nation's food supply.

In 2003, the National Academy of Sciences report *Scientific Criteria to Ensure Safe Food* recommended that Congress give regulatory agencies "the clear authority to establish and enforce compliance with science-based food safety criteria, including performance standards." This legislation is just what the doctor ordered. Kevin's Law addresses these recommendations and will help ensure that the government has the authority it needs to prevent contaminated meat and poultry from entering our food supply by:

Requiring the USDA to identify the pathogens that threaten human health (e.g. *Salmonella*, *E. coli* O157:H7, *Listeria monocytogenes*).

Requiring the USDA to establish performance standards to reduce the presence of these pathogens in meat and poultry.

Confirming that the USDA has the authority to enforce its own standards by shutting down

plants that continually breach basic health standards—authority that some processors have repeatedly challenged in court.

Passage of Kevin's Law would put into place major recommendations of the National Academy of Sciences and the National Advisory Committee for Microbiological Criteria for Foods, both of which have consistently supported greater federal enforcement of food safety standards.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the current 22 co-sponsors of Kevin's Law for their support of this bill, and I encourage all my colleagues to join me in helping to protect millions of other Americans from fatal foodborne illnesses by passing this legislation.

Finally, I thank Kevin's family for sharing their tragic story with the world, and especially Kevin's mother, Barbara Kowalczyk, and his grandmother, Pat Buck, for their continued important advocacy on behalf of increased safety standards for meat and poultry.

HONORING COLONEL BRIAN C. KING

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. KIRK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute United States Air Force Colonel Brian C. King upon his retirement. Colonel King has had a lifetime of dedication to serving and protecting the United States, reflected in his many honors with the Air Force.

Colonel King began his illustrious career in 1978, graduating from Central Washington University as a distinguished graduate of the Air Force ROTC. He began his service to America as an F-15 fighter pilot in New Mexico. He followed the call of duty all over the globe, including a tour in Iceland, one with NATO forces in Italy, and various postings around the country.

He served as Assistant Deputy Commander at Laughlin AFB in Texas and has been intimately involved in the education of student pilots in each of his assignments. He currently serves as the Commander of the Air Force Reserve Officer Training Corps Detachment at Fort Sheridan, IL. Colonel King has been decorated with the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, National Defense Service Medal, and Humanitarian Service Medal, among others. In short, Colonel King's distinguished career is reflected in the 23 major awards and decorations he has received.

Please join me in recognizing Colonel Brian C. King, who dedicated himself to protecting our country and educating America's future military leaders. I wish him and his family all the best in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON LEWIS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I was absent from the House on Monday, June 20, 2005 so that I could testify before the BRAC Commission regional hearing in St. Louis, MO

on behalf of Ft. Knox, an Army installation in my district designated for significant realignment. Had I been present, I would have voted the following way: H. AMDT. 328, Claiming religious proselytizing at the Air Force Academy, no; H. AMDT. 330, Prohibiting funds for activities in Uzbekistan, no; H. AMDT. 331, Prohibiting military action against Syria, Iran, N. Korea without Congress authority, no; H. AMDT. 333, Prohibiting funds for carrying out sections of the Small Business Competitive-ness Demonstration Program Act, no; and H.R. 2863, On final passage of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2006, yea.

IN RECOGNITION OF WILLIAM M. MORGAN, III

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to William M. Morgan, III. Mr. Morgan has been a long time public servant to the Veterans of our great state and it is my honor to recognize his achievements today.

As a Veterans Service Officer from 1990 to 2002, Mr. Morgan provided assistance and counseling to veterans and their families across the state. He helped countless retirees obtain their benefits, and helped ensure our Nation made good on its promises to our heroes.

Mr. Morgan was later promoted to District Manager. He provided supervision and management of ten offices and fourteen employees and was known as a highly professional and dedicated leader.

Our Veterans deserve the very best treatment, Mr. Speaker, and it is because of the kindness and professionalism of public servants like William Morgan that many of our retirees of the Armed Forces enjoy lives of greater comfort and security.

Let us congratulate William Morgan, as well as his wife Pamela and his two daughters Whitney and Alexandria, on this important occasion, and thank him for his service to Alabama and to our Nation.

IN HONOR OF DR. JIM SINCLAIR

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Jim Sinclair, P.E., who is the first Vice President of the New Jersey Business and Industry Association and Executive Director of the New Jersey Policy Research Organization.

Dr. Sinclair is a dutiful public servant who has acted as Director of Redevelopment for the City of Trenton, Chairman of the New Jersey Housing Finance Authority, and Deputy Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Community Affairs, among other notable positions. His sense of civic duty, however, extends beyond the government. As a former Executive Assistant to the Commissioner of

the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection, as a member of the Governor's Brownfield Taskforce, and as founder of the New Jersey Watershed Alliance, Dr. Sinclair has shown that his fervor for business does not come at the expense of a healthy environment. His efforts stand as a guiding example that a coexisting relationship between businesses and the environment can genuinely exist without adversely affecting either entity.

Mr. Speaker, I am truly pleased that the New Jersey Business and Industry Association and the New Jersey Policy Research Organization have chosen to elevate Dr. Jim Sinclair to such prestigious positions within their respective organizations. Therefore, I ask my fellow members of Congress to join me today in honoring and recognizing a man who rises up from among his peers and stands firm for the protection of our natural heritage.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast rollcall votes 241 and 242 on June 13, 2005 because I was attending to an unavoidable personal matter. I was also unable to cast rollcall votes 288 through 321 on June 21, 2005 through June 24, 2005 because I was attending to a family emergency. Had I been present I would have cast the following votes:

On rollcall No. 241, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 242, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 288, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 289, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 290, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 291, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 292, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 293, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 294, I would have voted no.

On rollcall No. 295, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 296, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 297, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 298, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 299, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 300, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 301, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 302, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 303, I would have voted no.

On rollcall No. 304, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 305, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 306, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 307, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 308, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 309, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 310, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 311, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 312, I would have voted no.

On rollcall No. 313, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 314, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 315, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 316, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 317, I would have voted no. On rollcall No. 318, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 319, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 320, I would have voted "yes"; on rollcall No. 321, I would have voted no.

TWO PUERTO RICAN WOMEN NOMINATED FOR NOBEL PEACE PRIZE

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. CROWLEY. Mr. Speaker, I am speaking today in strong support of the two Nobel Peace Prize candidates from Vieques, Puerto Rico. Nilda Medina Diaz and Maria Reina Pumajero are members of the Woman's Alliance of Vieques, an organization committed to the fight against poverty, human rights violations, and international injustices that occur in over 150 countries around the world.

I would like to acknowledge Nilda Medina Diaz for her successful efforts for the demilitarization of Vieques. Nilda has also co-founded the Committee for the Rescue and Development of Vieques, which later led to the ending of the weapons training and military exercises that occurred on this U.S. Marine base prior to 2003, after 60 years of military usage. She also continues to play a large role in Puerto Rico's environmental clean up effort as a member of Restoration Advisory Board of Vieques.

In addition, I would also like to recognize Maria Reina Pumajero. She also played a large role in the closing of Vieques as a military base. In addition, her grassroots organizing of working class women against racism and sexism has led her to co-found the Institute for Latino Empowerment. As Maria saw the need to expand her efforts across a larger base, she collaborated with the People's Institute for Survival and Beyond, an organization that serves Caucasians and also people of color. In addition, Maria works closely with the East Asia-U.S.-Puerto Rico Women's Network against Militarism, in which she is both furthering her efforts to alleviate racial tensions, and uniting against a common cause in the United States and abroad.

I have had the opportunity to visit the Island of Vieques twice and have seen both the damage that multiple years of bombing have done to that island and the tremendous recreation and economic possibilities that lie ahead for the people of Vieques. As the original author of the base legislation, which led to the withdrawal of the U.S. Navy presence from Vieques, I know how important the advocacy of the Puerto Rican Community in Puerto Rico, on Vieques and on the mainland of the U.S.A. and in these Halls of Congress was to achieving our successful shared goal. Ms. Diaz and Ms. Pumajero are just two of the hundreds of committed community advocates, elected officials, and friends from throughout the world who worked hard and dedicated themselves to improving the future of Vieques and the Puerto Rican people.

The women mentioned above are two of 1,000 women nominated this year for the prestigious Nobel Peace Prize that have been engaged in creating better communities, alleviating poverty, and working for a common goal. Their efforts have reflected upon many of the Puerto Rican and Latino communities in my district as a source of power and hopefulness for the future.

I commend these women for their Nobel Peace Prize nominations, their commitment to empowering women across borders, and for their dedication to the closing of the Vieques Marine Base.

REMEMBERING ROGER R. WEIHER

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 28, 2005, our community lost a great jurist, advocate and true friend with the passing of Roger R. Weiher. At 79 years young, he unexpectedly passed from this life.

An Army Air Corps veteran of World War II, Roger Weiher was raised in North Toledo and graduated from Woodward High School. He received undergraduate degrees from Western Michigan and John Carroll Universities, and earned his law degree back home at the University of Toledo. In addition to his law practice, Roger also served as Lucas County deputy clerk of courts and Ohio assistant attorney general. He began his judicial tenure with an appointment to Toledo Municipal Court in 1989 and was later elected to the position. Following a decade of service, Judge Weiher continued as a visiting judge even after retirement. His even-tempered, soft and patient nature made him a good judge and, as one of his colleagues noted, "He understood people. That's what made him so effective on that court." Expecting to remain active following mandatory retirement from visiting judge duties at age 80, Judge Weiher planned next month to begin training as a mediator. His wife explained, "He wasn't going to put his feet up."

Roger was not only a fine public servant and respected attorney, but together with his first wife Evelyn Weiher, with whom he raised their son Tommy, he was well known in the theatre world. Evelyn was an actress, director, and teacher in the theatre, and when they settled back in Toledo the two established a theatre company in the 1960s which staged productions in the former State Theatre. Later productions were staged at Adrian's Croswell Opera House. Evelyn passed away following illness in 1983, yet Roger's passion for performing continued. Just last month he participated in his 49th consecutive Gridiron show, an annual event of the Toledo Junior Bar Association.

His wife Norma brought new joy into his life, and they were married in 1985. Always at his side, Norma was his true and faithful companion. She was with him even as he breathed his last from this life and entered into the next. We extend our heartfelt condolences to Norma, Thomas, stepdaughter Linda, brother Donald, and grandchildren. May the brightly burning light that was Roger Weiher in life remain in their hearts, giving them comfort for the journey ahead, and offering them peace in remembering the man who was husband, father, brother, grandpa, mentor, friend, and a man imbued with the spirit of justice borne of his faith and the rule of law.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 30, 2005

Mr. COOPER. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to be present for a series of rollcall votes occurring on the evening of June 29, 2005 and during the day on June 30, 2005. During this