

power will impose a partisan Republican experiment that has already been rejected by local citizens across the nation. The Bush administration under the cover of disaster relief, will deliver a far-reaching blow of mass destruction to public schooling in the Gulf Coast region. Needless to say this voucher beach-head will place all public schools in the nation at high risk. For the children of disaster area schools America can do better. Make school reconstruction a priority and speed the return of evacuated families home to their school districts. Providing adequate opportunity for all must be raised above the narrow partisan tricks of the Republican Party.

DISAPPROVING THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE DEFENSE BASE CLOSURE AND REALIGNMENT COMMISSION

SPEECH OF

**HON. DIANA DeGETTE**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 27, 2005

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the joint resolution (H.J. Res. 65) disapproving the recommendations of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission:

Ms. DeGETTE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in support of H.J. Res. 65, "Disapproving of the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission."

The BRAC Commission was tasked in the current round of base closures to target and eradicate inefficiency. Unfortunately, there was a host of friendly fire and significant collateral damage.

I strongly support our military's attempts to streamline its infrastructure and reduce its operating budget, especially considering the deficits this Administration is running up. However, base closures can not impede the ability of the United States of America to protect its people.

The Department of Defense, DOD, knows this, and rightly placed paramount emphasis on military value in its recommendations. The Secretary of Defense proposed to consolidate the Defense Finance and Accounting Service, DFAS, from an unnecessarily redundant twenty-six locations to three central sites. The DFAS center at Buckley Annex, housed in my district in Colorado, was chosen as one of these three sites in part due to its superlative performance on the military value test. In fact, when the BRAC Commission considered the DFAS realignment Denver's site ranked first in this category.

For reasons other than military value, the BRAC Commission recommended closing DFAS Denver and moving the Air Reserve Personnel Center to Texas.

Our city has suffered large base closures in past BRAC rounds. Now, despite a proud history of support for our nation's armed forces, Denver will have virtually no military presence left when these recommendations are executed. Mr. Chairman, given the carefully analyzed proposal submitted by the Secretary of Defense, this is a result that I simply cannot support.

I ask my colleagues to support this Joint Resolution, and show their disapproval of

these inequitable and inefficient recommendations.

CONGRATULATING MR. HENRY GREEN FOR HIS ELECTION TO THE PRESIDENCY OF THE INTERNATIONAL CODE COUNCIL BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**HON. JOHN J.H. "JOE" SCHWARZ**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2005

Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Henry Green, a lifelong resident of Lansing, Michigan, on his recent election to President of the Board of Directors of the International Code Council, ICC. Mr. Green was elected to the ICC Board of Directors in 2002 and most recently served as its Vice President.

For the past 3 decades, Mr. Green has been a tireless advocate for building safety and enforcement of building codes. In 1989, he was appointed Executive Director of the Bureau of Construction Codes and Fire Safety of the State of Michigan to provide management and oversight for construction and fire safety programs, a position which he still holds.

For nearly 10 years, in addition to his work with the State of Michigan, Mr. Green has served in national leadership positions with the ICC, a membership association dedicated to building safety and fire prevention that develops the codes used to guide the construction of our residential and commercial buildings, including our homes and the businesses, schools and places of worship we visit regularly. These are the codes in use by over 16,000 jurisdictions across the country, including those at the local, State and Federal level. Besides being a distinguished citizen of my District and the State of Michigan, in my opinion, the ICC Board of Directors has elected an outstanding candidate and dedicated public servant to lead the organization.

I would also like to take this opportunity to recognize the rest of the ICC Board of Directors for their efforts to ensure a sound built environment. Those individuals include: Immediate Past President Frank Hodge, Vice President Wally Bailey, Secretary/Treasurer Steven Shapiro, Jimmy Brothers, Terrence Cobb, John Darnall, Gerald George, John LaTorra, Ron Piester, Ed Berkel, William Duck, William Dupler, Greg Johnson, Ron Lynn, James Ryan, Kevin Scott, Adolf Zubia and outgoing Immediate Past President Anne VonWeller.

TRIBUTE TO SARAH MOORE GREENE

**HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 28, 2005

Mr. DUNCAN. Mr. Speaker, one of the greatest leaders and one of the finest women I have ever known is receiving the highest honor awarded by the Urban League, the Whitney M. Young Award.

Sarah Moore Greene has devoted her life to serving her community. In East Tennessee,

she is a pioneer in education, politics, and civil rights.

She worked very hard throughout the 1950s and 1960s to desegregate lunch counters and theaters. She was also the first African-American to serve as a Tennessee delegate to the Republican National Convention, as well as the Knoxville Board of Education.

Her extensive service on the Board was so groundbreaking that the Sarah Moore Greene Magnet Technology Academy in Knoxville is named in her honor.

I have come to know Sarah quite well over the years. She worked in a part-time capacity for me, my late father, and Howard H. Baker, Jr.

Mr. Speaker, this Nation is a better place today because of the life led by Sarah Moore Greene.

I would like to call to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD the following article from the October 27th edition of the Knoxville News Sentinel.

[From the News Sentinel, October 27, 2005]

MAGNET FOR ADMIRATION

(By Chandra Harris)

"When people come to Knoxville" and hear about Sarah Moore Greene, "they want to meet me," the 93-year-old said.

That's because she has both an elementary school and a day named in her honor. She's the go-to person for her East Knoxville neighbors looking for work.

Her name is linked with kindergarten implementation in schools, after she was named the first black to serve on the Knoxville Board of Education.

When talk turns to civil rights in Knoxville, her name comes up for her tireless efforts to desegregate lunch counters and theaters.

In politics, her name comes up for being the first black to serve as a Tennessee delegate to the Republican National Convention.

Hundreds of awards, accolades and praise from Urban League and NAACP affiliates speak to what Greene won't. Her humbleness won't allow her to drum on about her pioneer days on fronts no one else had yet touched.

The Knoxville Area Urban League will let Greene's light of greatness shine by bestowing on her tonight its highest honor, the Whitney M. Young Award.

Greene said the award, named after a former National Urban League executive director and civil rights leader, "touches my heart the most." She will receive it during the league's annual gala at the Knoxville Convention Center.

She puts her humility aside when speaking of her ways with a stove and the secret ingredients she uses to create mouth-watering homemade rolls and Key lime pie.

On Sundays in the kitchen Greene hobbies on what she sometimes calls her "bad legs" to put together a meal that leaves faint smells of home-cooking throughout her quaint home on Linden Avenue.

Her quaint house, outfitted outside with containers of flowers, was partially destroyed by a fire in the late '90s but was later restored at the wish of Greene.

"I want to stay right here with my people," she said. "I don't desire to move. I can do everything from right here," she said. "I still drive."

Grocery trips and visits to the beautician are a regular occurrence for Greene behind the wheel of her Dodge Stratus.

At 6 a.m. "I am hitting the floor and once ("Today Show's") Katie (Couric) and Matt (Lauer) go off, I know it is time to start my day and answer phone calls," said Greene.

Moving at a snail's pace doesn't hamper Greene, who counts her blessings daily for the movement of her limbs.

The 50-year-plus member of Mount Zion Baptist Church said she doesn't need "spoiling" just yet from the community, "but when I holler for some help, I hope somebody will come and help me," she said.

For now, "as the young people say, 'You've got to roll with the punches,'" she said.

It's something she has been doing since the age of 5 when she lost her mother to cancer. "I didn't know what it meant to have a mother," Greene said, reflecting on her days growing up in Madisonville, Tenn.

The second oldest of four children—her two brothers and sister are deceased Greene said her father was all she needed to make it in a world where "I didn't even know I was discriminated against."

Walking beside her to school every day was "a little white girl. She lived right down the road from me. She was one of my best friends," Greene said.

The two would walk together for two miles before parting ways; Greene would walk another mile to get to her school, the colored school.

Her father, a horticulturalist, believed in education, even though he could neither read nor write. But Greene didn't figure that out until her teen years "when I saw him with the (newspaper) upside down."

"He bluffed me all that time," she said with a chuckle.

The son of a slave, Greene's father didn't teach "bitterness or hatred to us."

The lessons of hate came later, after she moved to Knoxville in her early 20s.

"I really didn't know I wasn't liked because of my skin color until I came here," Greene said.

"I was all about equality and fair treatment of everyone," said Greene of her roles during the civil rights movement.

Education was and still remains a passion of hers.

"This is what I dedicated my life to and I have no regrets," said Greene, who was married for more than a decade before divorcing.

Knox County has "not always had kindergarten," said Greene, who operated a private kindergarten in East Knoxville during the 1930s. "This was something I pushed as a school board member. I was laughed at . . ."

"That was my platform."

A platform she has not wavered from. Times have changed and technology has evolved but Greene still believes children are the most precious beings of our time.

"Your beliefs and dreams will come to pass if you have some hope and someone believes

in you," said Greene, who doesn't have children of her own but considers the children of Knoxville hers.

When she was a child it was family members and friends who planted her seeds of hope: "They tell me I was walking at 8 months and my mother said I was going to be somebody great," she recalls.

Children at the Sarah Moore Greene Magnet Technology Academy don't realize the enormity of the Knoxville matriarch when they ask: "Why did your mother name you after our school?"

She gives a sheepish smile, knowing her legacy is one they will come to know.

Greene spends her days striving for the betterment of all people.

"If we all spent time doing this, in a unified way, then all the problems of the world would be solved," she said.

"Some may consider me old, but age is just a figure, not a mindset," she said. "I am going to do all I can, for as long as I can, for all people."

"I want my name to be always attached to the betterment of all of God's children, which I hope we all are."

ANNOUNCING PASSING OF  
FORMER CONGRESSMEN ED ROYBAL AND BOB BADHAM

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 25, 2005

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Representative Ed Roybal, a towering figure whose tireless work on behalf of civil rights and health care were the hallmarks of his distinguished career. For three decades, Representative Roybal served with distinction and honor in the House, and it is with sadness that we now recognize his passing.

Born in Albuquerque only 4 years after New Mexico gained statehood, Ed Roybal's childhood was spent in the Land of Enchantment. His family had resided in the Southwest for several generations, its family lineage stretching to the founding of Santa Fe, the oldest

capital in the Nation. When he was 6, Ed Roybal's father became unemployed during a railroad strike, and in 1922 they moved to Los Angeles, California.

Over the next two decades, Ed Roybal became passionate on issues of discrimination, minority rights, health care, and senior citizens. After forming an organization to combat against housing and education discrimination against minorities, and after serving on the Los Angeles City Council, Ed Roybal in 1963 became the first Mexican-American from California elected to serve in the U.S. House of Representatives. During his three decades in this role, he became a national leader and outspoken advocate for health care and minority rights, while at the same time being revered by his constituents for his never-ending attention to their needs.

Representative Roybal can also be credited with creating the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO), one of the leading Hispanic political organizations in the Nation. Several locally elected officials throughout my district often visit me while in Washington for NALEO conferences, and each and every one of them extol the virtues of the organization and its successes in promoting Hispanic action and service in the political field. I have no doubt that it is because of Representative Roybal's ceaseless and caring service that so many Hispanics serve today. I know for certain that one member of our own body was front and center for Representative Roybal's wonderful lessons in civics and public service. Representative LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, who now represents the district her father once represented, has continued her father's advocacy for the poor, for the voiceless, and for the disenfranchised. She, like so many of us, was able to learn from his exemplary service, and he was extremely proud of her.

Mr. Speaker, Representative Ed Roybal added immensely to this distinguished body during his three decades of service. He is to be remembered for his hard work and his dedication and leadership on so many noble causes. I extend my sympathies to my colleague and to the rest of her family on this loss. We share their sadness on this occasion.