

HONORING THE PAMELA B. KATTEN LEUKEMIA RESEARCH MEMORIAL FOUNDATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor the important work being conducted by the Pamela B. Katten Memorial Leukemia Research Foundation. The foundation was formed shortly after the tragic loss of Pamela Katten in 2002 as a result of Acute Myelogenous Leukemia. Its mission is to promote research into the diagnosis and treatment of leukemia.

Pam was born in 1961 and grew up on the North Side of Chicago and the northern suburbs. She attended Northwestern University before heading to the East Coast to begin a successful career in the New Jersey Attorney General's office.

In addition to all her success in the courtroom, Pam was a loving mother to her son Max, and a caring sister, daughter and friend to many who knew her. They will tell you about her infectious laughter, off-beat sense of humor and love for story-telling. Most of all, they remember Pam for her zest for life and unyielding desire to live each day fully.

On November 19, the third annual "Pam Jam" will take place in Northbrook, Illinois to honor her memory and announce the establishment of a "Pamela B. Katten Fellow" at the Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center to study stem cell proliferation.

Unfortunately, Pam and her family are not the only Americans that have had to wrestle with this devastating disease. There are over 640,000 people in this country alone who are fighting various blood cancers, including leukemia. Through the work of the foundation that Pam inspired and others like it, these families find hope.

Mr. Speaker, Pam's friends and family will never forget her glowing personality and daily joy for life. Her memory and her legacy are truly inspiring. I am proud of the work the Pamela B. Katten Memorial Leukemia Research Foundation has done, and I wish them the best in all of their endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING NICOLE DONANT FOR HAVING HER WISH GRANTED FOR ALL OF MINERAL CITY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Nicole Donant started with a small project to help start a library in Mineral City to earn a merit badge; and

Whereas, Nicole Donant, through hard work and determination, turned her small project into a dream for the community of having a library in Mineral City and collected over 5000 books; and

Whereas, Nicole Donant is an inspiration to us all and is an embodiment of the compassionate, moral and socially responsible spirit of the youth in Ohio.

Therefore, I join with family, friends, the people of Mineral City and the entire 18th Congressional district of Ohio in congratulating Nicole Donant for her wish coming true.

IN HONOR OF RICK MARTINEZ

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rick Martinez, former chief of the Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District. Last month, Chief Martinez retired from a truly distinguished career of public service that spanned over thirty years. As his friends, family and colleagues all gather to celebrate his career, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring the dedicated service of one of Sacramento's finest citizens.

Chief Martinez began his career as a firefighter with the Sacramento City Fire Department in the early 1970s. He quickly rose through the ranks as a Captain, EMS Coordinator, Battalion Chief and later, Division Chief, each time taking on positions of increasing responsibility and leadership. In 1995 he was appointed Fire Chief of the American River Fire Protection District, which was the precursor to today's Sacramento Metropolitan Fire District (SMFD). He also served as chief of the Florin Road Fire Protection District and the Sacramento County Fire Protection District.

When the SMFD was formed in 2000, Rick was named the district's first chief. His management experience and expertise helped the district grow to serve over 600,000 citizens, spread over 417 square miles. He successfully managed 700 employees, over 40 fire stations and numerous other facilities, while also expanding specialized programs, such as the Urban Search and Rescue Task Force and the fire paramedic intern program.

One of Chief Martinez's many accomplishments with the SMFD has been the development of Sacramento's highly regarded Urban Search and Rescue Team. The team responded with great distinction to the 1995 Oklahoma City bombing. In 2001, as our nation came under attack, Chief Martinez was responsible for managing all search and rescue teams at the site of the World Trade Center in New York City. Most recently, he helped direct the response to Hurricane Katrina's devastation along the Gulf Coast.

The constant display of leadership and integrity has led Rick to be honored by many of his peers. In 2003, he was named Fire Chief of the Year by the California Fire Chief Association. Due to his crisis management experience he was tapped to serve as Chief Deputy Director of the California Office of Homeland Security by former Governor Gray Davis. In 2002, he was appointed to the State Board of Fire Services. Rick has also been active in numerous local boards and commissions.

The people of Sacramento, California and our nation have been lucky to have Rick Martinez on their side in emergencies ranging from traffic accidents to natural disasters, structure fires to terrorist attacks. He has always risen to the occasion and led with knowledge, experience and reliability. His leadership will surely be missed by many.

Mr. Speaker, I am honored to pay tribute to one of Sacramento's most distinguished citizens, Rick Martinez. His successes have been great, and it is a wonderful opportunity for me to recognize his contributions to the people of Sacramento. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing my friend, Rick Martinez, continued success in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, due to the illness and passing of my father and his subsequent funeral, I was not present for roll-call votes 521 to 569 from October 17 to November 4, 2005.

Had I been present and voting I would have voted in the following manner:

Yea on rollcall 521, yea on rollcall 522, yea on rollcall 523, no on rollcall 524, yea on rollcall 525, yea on rollcall 526, yea on rollcall 527, yea on rollcall 528, no on rollcall 529, yea on rollcall 530, yea on rollcall 531, yea on rollcall 532, no on rollcall 533, no on rollcall 534, yea on rollcall 535, yea on rollcall 536, yea on rollcall 537, yea on rollcall 538, no on rollcall 539, yea on rollcall 540, no on rollcall 541, no on rollcall 542, no on rollcall 543, no on rollcall 544, no on rollcall 545, yea on rollcall 546, no on rollcall 547, no on rollcall 548, yea on rollcall 549, yea on rollcall 550, yea on rollcall 551, yea on rollcall 552, no on rollcall 553, and yea on rollcall 554, yea on rollcall 555, yea on rollcall 556, yea on rollcall 557, yea on rollcall 558, no on rollcall 559, yea on rollcall 560, yea on rollcall 561, no on rollcall 562, yea on rollcall 563, no on rollcall 564, no on rollcall 565, no on rollcall 566, no on rollcall 567, yea on rollcall 568, yea on rollcall 569.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING MARY AND JOSEPH L. DEGENOVA ON THEIR 25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova are celebrating their 25th wedding anniversary; and

Whereas, Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova were united in marriage on October 18, 1980 in Bellaire, Ohio; and

Whereas, Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova are the loving parents of two children, Annemarie and Anthony.

Therefore, I join with the residents of the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in congratulating Mary and Joseph L. DeGenova as they celebrate their 25th Wedding Anniversary.

HONORING THE JACKSONVILLE ROTARY CLUB

HON. JEB HENSARLING

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. HENSARLING. Mr. Speaker, today, I would like to commemorate two significant anniversaries of Rotary International. This year, Rotary International celebrated its 100th anniversary. From its humble roots in Chicago, Illinois, Rotary has grown into a worldwide organization of business and professional leaders who provide humanitarian service, encourage high ethical standards in all vocations, and help build goodwill and peace in the world. Since 1943, Rotary International has distributed more than \$1.1 billion to combat Polio, promote cultural exchanges and encourage community service.

I also want to recognize the Jacksonville Rotary Club for their 85 years of service to Cherokee County. Throughout its history, the Jacksonville Rotary Club has achieved great success in carrying out the mission of Rotary International.

The Jacksonville Rotary Club has benefited numerous organizations and programs that serve the local community including the Anderson/Cherokee Crisis Center and the Jacksonville Literacy Council. The Ambassadorial Scholarship program has enabled local students to enrich their lives and further their education by helping them study abroad. Their valuable community service has also been seen through annual events such as the Pancake Supper, United Fund activities, support of Boy Scout Troop 407, and benefit golf tournaments.

Through these initiatives, the Jacksonville Rotary Club exemplifies the values of service and charity that lie at the heart of American society. As the Congressional representative of the members of this outstanding organization, it is my distinct pleasure to honor them today on the floor of the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING THE EMPLOYERS OF OUR GUARD AND RESERVE BUT MORE NEEDS TO BE DONE

HON. TOM LANTOS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support this important resolution. When it comes to taking care of our citizen-soldiers, many employers have gone well beyond what the law requires. They make up any loss of income that an employee encounters when going on active duty, or they keep the soldier's family on the company health insurance, or they find other ways to ease an employee's separation from loved ones during activation. This bill is an excellent opportunity for Congress to thank these conscientious employers.

In particular, I would like to extend special gratitude to those employers who have taken it upon themselves to eliminate any pay gap that their employees encounter because their military salary is less than their civilian salary.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of the Employers Support for Guard and Reserve, nearly 1/3

of our activated citizen-soldiers have employers who eliminate that pay gap. Companies making such payments include IBM, Sears, General Motors, Home Depot, United Parcel Service and Ford Motor Company.

In addition, the governments of at least 30 states, including my home state of California, offer this differential pay for state employees who go on active duty.

Unfortunately, the Pentagon has prevented the Federal Government from following these conscientious employers and making up any pay gap encountered by Federal employees who have been activated in the Guard and Reserve.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit for the RECORD a wonderful article by Bob Barr that ran in the Washington Post highlighting the efforts of Senator DURBIN and other Members of Congress on this issue.

While I strongly support this resolution I also believe that what is good for the goose should be good for the gander, and that the time has come for the Federal Government, the largest single employer of the citizens who make up the Guard and Reserve—must match the example set by employers throughout this country and support our own citizen-soldier employees.

PRIVATE SECTOR SURPASSES AGENCIES ON PAY TO DEPLOYED
(By Stephen Barr)

Wachovia Corp., the banking giant, Eaton Corp., an industrial manufacturer, and Enterprise Rent-a-Car keep their employees on full salary and benefits, regardless of military compensation, when they are called to active duty in the reserves and National Guard.

Other organizations also help out their reserve and Guard employees beyond the letter of the law. Citizens Financial Group Inc., the Los Angeles Police Department, Sears, Roebuck and Co., the state of Delaware and Toyota Motor Sales USA Inc. provide financial support to their employees, including a pay differential, for periods ranging from a year to the duration of the deployment.

The companies were among 15 recently honored by the Pentagon with the 2005 Secretary of Defense Employer Support Freedom Award, in recognition of their exceptional support of their Guard and reserve employees. The 15 companies went beyond the requirements of the 1994 Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act, which seeks to guarantee that workers have a comparable job waiting for them when they return from their military service.

The federal government, however, falls short of being a model employer in its treatment of civil service employees called to active duty. Although federal agencies comply with the law, the government does not make up the difference in pay when an employee is called to active military duty and receives a smaller salary.

David M. Walker, the head of the Government Accountability Office, attended the Freedom Award banquet Oct. 15 and later told a House committee that "the U.S. government is not leading by example or practicing what it preaches in connection with employer support for the Guard and reserves."

Walker, in his prepared statement, said the GAO and federal agencies are constrained by law and ought to have some leeway to ease salary shortfalls for Guard and reserve families.

"Federal agencies should be able to make up any salary differential that activated

Guard and reserve members might otherwise lose out of our annual appropriation," Walker said. "We would also like to be able to be sure that applicable employees and their family members continue to receive their employer-provided benefits."

There are about 1.13 million people in the Guard and reserves, and Rep. Tom Lantos (D-CA) and other members of Congress have estimated that about 40 percent of those called to active duty suffer a loss of income, putting mortgages and other obligations in jeopardy, because their military pay is less than they would have earned in their civilian jobs.

About 126,850 reservists are employed by federal agencies, and about 96,600 of them work for the Defense Department. Sen. Richard J Durbin (D-IL) estimates that 17,000 federal employees have been mobilized to serve in Iraq, Afghanistan and other places.

The Senate has approved an amendment sponsored by Durbin that would require a federal employee's agency to pay the difference between a worker's reservist pay and federal civilian pay. More than 100 House members, organized by Lantos, have written to the House Appropriations Committee backing the Durbin amendment.

The amendment has been stripped out of bills during past House-Senate negotiations—what the senator calls "the darkness of a conference committee."

In general, Defense officials have opposed bills that would close the "pay gap" for some mobilized reservists because they believe it could cause morale problems. Officials have contended that all parts of the armed forces—active, Guard and reserves—should be compensated according to their performance of military duties under the existing military pay system.

The officials point out that federal employees who are mobilized may take a month of military leave each calendar year with differential pay and that a special category of federal employees, military technicians, can receive two months at full civilian salary. Federal agencies also may pick up health insurance costs for up to 24 months for their mobilized reservists.

Still, the House members said in their letter, "what is good for the goose should be good for the gander," suggesting that the government, as the largest employer of reservists, should be able to match the support offered by companies to ease financial burdens on employees called to serve.

A PROCLAMATION THANKING SPECIALIST RODNEY HENDERSHOT FOR HIS SERVICE TO THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

HON. ROBERT W. NEY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 8, 2005

Mr. NEY. Mr. Speaker:

Whereas, Spc. Rodney Hendershot has served in the U.S. Army's Alpha company, 1st Battalion, 115th Infantry with loyalty, duty, respect, selflessness, honor, integrity and courage; and

Whereas, Spc. Rodney Hendershot volunteered to serve at a time of great unrest when America's values of freedom and liberty for all were challenged most; and

Whereas, Spc. Rodney Hendershot has fought for the freedom of the Iraqi people and the security of this great Nation.

Therefore, I join with family, friends and the entire 18th Congressional District of Ohio in