

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

IN HONOR OF JOHN MAURICE
MASSETTI

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise to remember and honor John Maurice Massetti, a leader and tireless advocate for working families, who passed away on December 4th. John's devotion to his family, friends and to causes that helped others is an inspiration to so many people in Minnesota. He will be missed by everyone who was fortunate enough to know him.

Throughout his life, John brought integrity and a sense of obligation to his fellow workers, as well as to his community. For 20 of his 38 years working with Northwest Airlines, he proudly served his brothers and sisters at District 143 International Association of Machinists and Aerospace Workers as secretary-treasurer of the union. During negotiations, he always put the needs of working families first. John's honest leadership instilled energy and loyalty that was contagious, helping to develop the next generation of labor leaders. Retirement did not slow him down.

John's desire to help others extended well beyond his union family. He made a strong personal commitment to Guide Dogs of America, helping to raise thousands of dollars to provide free guide dogs and instruction in their use to blind and visually impaired men and women across the country. His success at raising funds at the Annual Guide Dogs of America Golf Tournament and the "Hawgs for Dogs" motorcycle ride are legendary.

Both he and his wife, Mary were also active in delivering Meals on Wheels among other volunteer activities.

I consider myself privileged to call John a friend, and was often witness to his enthusiastic participation in volunteer efforts he believed in. We can all be proud of the life John lived, because his was a life dedicated to working for the good of all people.

My thoughts and prayers are with John's wife, Mary; his son, Michael; his mother, Aida; his stepdaughter, Candice and his many relatives, friends and colleagues who loved him.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in paying tribute to the life of John Massetti.

HONORING DAVID THOMAS ON HIS
CAMPAIGN TO BE ELECTED TO
THE CHAUTAUQUA COUNTY LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT 16

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Mr. HIGGINS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor David, a resident of Chautauqua County for his quest to become the elected represent-

ative to the sixteenth legislative district in the Chautauqua County Legislature. Although Mr. Thomas was not able to realize his dream, he has been able to make an impact on others' lives in a different way.

The campaign trail is a difficult path to take. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Thomas traveled that path with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the voters of district 16.

Chautauqua County is blessed to have such strong candidates with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Thomas is one of those people and that is why, Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor him today.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND STEPHEN
JOHN THURSTON

HON. HENRY CUELLAR

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Mr. CUELLAR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Reverend Stephen John Thurston, a man who has an unprecedented record of service in the Baptist Church.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Thurston is a third generation preacher and pastor in the historic New Covenant Missionary Baptist Church in Chicago, Illinois. Thurston is also the youngest reverend to be named President of the National Baptist Convention of America, Incorporated.

Reverend Thurston is a graduate of Bishop College in Dallas, Texas where he received a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Religion in 1975. He is also a highly sought after revivalist, and his ministry has affected the lives of people as far away as the Caribbean and Africa.

Two of the numerous honors Reverend Thurston has received are America's Best and Brightest Young Business and Professional Men by Dollars and Sense magazine and Coordinator for Baptist World Alliance in Seoul, Korea.

On November 29th, 2005, Reverend Thurston will be in San Antonio as a guest preacher for the Baptist Ministers Union of San Antonio and Vicinity Communities year end service. San Antonio is honored to host Reverend Thurston and is proud to have him as a guest preacher.

SECURING AIRCRAFT COCKPITS
AGAINST LASERS ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 7, 2005

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the legislation before us,

H.R. 1400, the Securing Aircraft Cockpits Against Lasers Act of 2005. I thank the distinguished chairman from Wisconsin, Mr. SENBRENNER for his thoughtful inclusion of a definition of the term "laser pointer" at my suggestion. This bipartisan gesture is very important to the crafting of comprehensive and conscientious criminal measures.

I kept my strict constitutionalist hat on and remained mindful of the fact that legislation should be as narrowly tailored as possible—especially with respect to exacting criminal penalties.

I understand that since 1990, there have been more than 400 incidents proscribed in this bill and more than 100 since November 2004. Furthermore, I understand the relative threat that the act proscribed in this bill poses for pilots—FAA research has shown that laser illuminations can temporarily disorient or disable a pilot during critical stages of flight such as landing or take-off, and in some cases, may cause permanent damage. This legislation could provide the legislative fix. I thank the chairman for his effort to address my concern with potential vagueness in its provisions.

Mr. Speaker, for the above reasons, I do support this legislation.

HONORING THE LIFE, LEGACY,
AND EXAMPLE OF ISRAELI
PRIME MINISTER YITZHAK
RABIN ON THE 10TH ANNIVERSARY
OF HIS DEATH

SPEECH OF

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 6, 2005

Mr. EMANUEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 535, a resolution honoring the memory of former Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin on the tenth anniversary of his assassination.

Prime Minister Rabin served the people of Israel for two terms as Prime Minister, as well as previous roles as Ambassador to the United States, Minister of Defense and Member of the Knesset. Among his many accomplishments, it is his role as a visionary peacemaker which has ensured him a place of honor in history.

Mr. Rabin began his career during Israel's War for Independence as a member of the Jewish Defense Forces. For the next 19 years, he held various positions in the Israeli Defense Forces, ending his tenure there as chief of staff. In this role, he was able to strengthen Israel's ties with the United States, fostering the special relationship which continues to benefit these two nations.

Mr. Rabin also had a distinguished five-year tenure as Israeli ambassador to the United States. At the height of the Cold War, he encouraged Israel to stand strongly on the side of the United States. The relationship between the two countries blossomed in this period as

● This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Israel established itself as a trustworthy ally in the Middle East.

During his tenure as Prime Minister, Mr. Rabin made remarkable progress in the Middle East peace movement. Teaming with former rival Shimon Peres, Mr. Rabin entered peace negotiations with then-Palestine Liberation Organization leader Yasser Arafat in 1993 in Oslo, Norway. Prime Minister Rabin, Mr. Peres and Mr. Arafat all received the Nobel Peace Prize for their efforts.

As a member of the Clinton Administration, I had the pleasure of witnessing the signing of these historical accords on the White House lawn. Meeting Prime Minister Rabin was an honor I will never forget, and his example continues to inspire me to this day.

Prime Minister Rabin was revered by the Israeli citizens for his unwavering commitment to the peace process. Tragically, the life of this man of peace was cut short by an extremist gunman on November 4, 1995. I would like to express my condolences to the family of Prime Minister Rabin on the tenth anniversary of his death.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from New York for introducing this important resolution, and I urge my colleagues to honor the memory of Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2862,
DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE
AND JUSTICE, SCIENCE, AND RELATED
AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2006

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Ms. McCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the conference report on H.R. 2862, the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, for Fiscal Year 2006, though I do so with reservations.

This conference report, while providing increased funding from the House-passed legislation, still fails to provide adequate funding levels for state and local law enforcement. However, I am pleased that Congress rejected the Administration's proposal to eliminate funding for the COPS program, which is critical to our local law enforcement agencies that are already underfunded. Funding for local and state law enforcement assistance in this legislation funded at \$1,142.7 million, which, although significantly less than was provided in 2001, is an increase from the House-funded level of \$1,069.2 million. Along with many of my colleagues, I would have supported further increases in funding for our state and local law enforcement and intend to work to make this a priority in the next Congress. We owe our law enforcement officers the tools they need to protect our communities and our families.

I was also extremely surprised and disappointed that the conferees stripped the amendment offered by Mr. SANDERS that passed in the House overwhelmingly, by a vote of 238–187, during consideration of H.R. 2862. This critical amendment would have barred funds to carry out provisions of the

USA PATRIOT Act permitting law enforcement officials to obtain records from booksellers and librarians. This amendment was a reasonable and needed amendment that would have restored the much-needed Congressional oversight to FBI searches.

Congress wisely rejected the Administration's significant cuts to the Legal Services Corporation in this report. The Legal Services Corporation is funded at \$330.8 million in this report, a \$12.6 million increase over the President's request. Legal Services Corporation makes a significant impact in the lives of many vulnerable citizens, and is often the only reason low-income families have access to our justice system.

In order for the U.S. to remain competitive and in order to ensure a skilled workforce in this global marketplace, we must continue to make critical and strategic investments in science and research. Science, and science education, are crucial elements to our society and our daily lives. I was very pleased with the funding for the science agencies, including NASA, and the National Science Foundation. NASA and NSF received increases of \$273 million and \$180.2 million respectively, both of which represent larger investments than the President's request.

I will support this conference report today, because it reflects an overall increase in investments for our future.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DOUGLAS
COUNTY HIGH SCHOOL VARSITY
TEAM

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Mr. TANCREDO. Mr. Speaker, I would also like to applaud the accomplishments of a group of Douglas County, Colorado student-athletes. The Varsity Football team from Douglas County, High School—Emilio Acosta, Bobby Acsell, Mitch Acsell, Ethan Adkins, Weston Anderson, Carrett Angus, Charles Arnold, Will Arnold, Jermoe Atkinson, Joe Barlow, Hunter Bartz, Anthony Bortot, Justin Brown, Chris Cancino, Dillon Carlson, Tanner Clark, Nate Cotanch, Dustin Davis, Luke Diehl, Rob Evans, Michael Facchinello, Joel Fassler, Steve Fendry, Grant Fisher, Kyle Folven, Kyle Galenza, Keiffer Garton, Andy Giepel, Ryan Groat, Nick Hernon, J.T. Herbert, Ben Hitchcock, Kaither Holiway, Tyler Jackson, Nick Kennedy, Drew Kesinger, Logan Klossner, Cole Kranhenbuhl, Chris Lagace, Eric Lawson, Zachary Loudon, Jordan Lyons, Mark McCarron, Tim McGraw, Jordan Manghan, Kris Mansfield, Ryan Misare, Andy Muns, Cody Monroe, Matt Monroe, Andy Nappo, Zach Nye, James O'Hara, Drew O'Malley, CJ Oechle, Taylor Oswald, Dan Oulliber, Curtis Prock, Matt Przylucki, Tucker Reddy, Ian Reither, Cory Reynolds, Spencer Rich, Landon Richey, Marcus Richtel, EJ Rivera, Josh Rodriguez, Jesse Royce, Joshua Ruff, Cody Sanders, Jacke Schwab, Jake Schultz, Aaron Shaffer, Richard Speact, Jeff Stevens, Ryan Swope, Terrence Taylor, Chris Treloar, Kevin Vanzet, Nick Voyles, Dominick Wagner, Chauncey Wahinya, Adam Walsh,

Clint Weis, Cameron White, Mike Whitney, Joe Williams, Matt Zoeteway and their coaches, Jeff Ketron, Gene Hill, Buce Misare, Mike Wade, Kevin Folven, Lon Smith, Steve Bantz, RL Boyles, Pat McGraw, Mike Smith, Jodie White, Brandon Gilbert and Melissa Martinez—won the Colorado State Division 5A Football Championship on December 3, 2005.

After completing the season at 9–1, the Huskies were given the first place seeding in the State playoff bracket. They won the next four games and this outstanding group of athletes earned their first ever State Championship.

The Huskies have trained intensively while maintaining a standard of academic excellence throughout the season. It is my pleasure to honor their championship, and to wish them all the best in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO WILLIAM MCGUIRE

HON. THOMAS M. REYNOLDS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 8, 2005

Mr. REYNOLDS. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise today to pay tribute to William McGuire, upon his retirement as head of Western New York's Kaleida Health.

Mr. Speaker, when Bill McGuire arrived in Buffalo in 2002, morale among Kaleida's staff was at its nadir. The system had lost \$125 million in its first 5 years of existence, physicians were fleeing, and the community was in an uproar over a proposal that would have moved its Women and Children's Hospital.

Just as doctors worked to heal Kaleida's patients, Bill McGuire's seemingly impossible mission was to heal the health system itself. And heal it he did.

As Ted Walsh, Chairman of the Kaleida Board of Directors once remarked, "Bill McGuire arrived at a critical moment in Kaleida's history and brought the organization from fiscal chaos to financial health and stability."

In addition to bringing stability to Kaleida Health, under Bill McGuire's leadership, the nationally-renowned Women and Children's Hospital remains open, providing vital health care services to the Western New York community.

A graduate of the University of Notre Dame and the University of Michigan, Bill McGuire previously served as President and CEO for Catholic Medical Centers of Brooklyn and Queens. He has held similar positions at a number of hospitals across the United States.

Further, Bill McGuire has provided his time and leadership to such organizations as the Greater NY Hospital Association, the Hospital Association of New York State, the Western New York Healthcare Association, the Greater NY Healthcare Association, Buffalo Niagara Partnership, and the Buffalo Niagara Medical Campus.

Mr. Speaker, Bill McGuire once noted that "people working together can make a real difference. They can influence the future, rather than being a victim of it."

Bill McGuire's leadership, commitment and service has influenced our future, the Western New York community is the better for it.