

TRIBUTE TO DR. MARIAN J.  
HOCKENHULL

**HON. DALE E. KILDEE**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 13, 2005*

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, I come before this body today to pay tribute to an outstanding woman, Dr. Marian J. Hockenhull. Dr. Hockenhull has been appointed the National Youth Director of the Young People's Department of the Women's Auxiliary to the National Baptist Convention, USA, Inc. The First Trinity Missionary Baptist Church will hold a reception to celebrate this prestigious appointment on Saturday, April 16 in my hometown of Flint, Michigan.

The list of Dr. Hockenhull's accomplishments is a testament to the energy and hard work she has expended over the years. She has received honor after honor from her sororities, her community and her church. She has received numerous awards at the local, district, state and national level. The leadership of the National Baptist Convention and Baptist World Alliance chose her to represent their organizations on the international level where she was able to bring her inspiration to persons in many nations.

Dr. Hockenhull has spent her life ministering to children. She is committed to improving the lives of the next generation both in the United States and around the world. As a retired educator of the Beecher School District, and in her work at the University of Michigan-Flint, she is a firsthand witness to the power of education to motivate and promote a better life. As an activist for youth, Marian Hockenhull has sought better living conditions, educational opportunities and the improved well being of the young.

This longstanding commitment to children is only underscored by her current appointment as the National Youth Director. The position will allow Dr. Hockenhull to continue her advocacy for children. I ask the Congress of the United States to join with me in congratulating Marian Hockenhull as she assumes her new post with the Women's Auxiliary of the National Baptist Convention.

#### SECURITY COUNCIL EXPANSION

**HON. JAMES A. LEACH**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 13, 2005*

Mr. LEACH. Mr. Speaker, one of the most talked-about issues in foreign policy today relates to the nature and possibility of United Nations reform, including the question of whether to expand the number of permanent members of the U.N. Security Council.

Not unexpectedly, the People's Republic of China has expressed great angst about several of the proposed methodologies for expanding the number of permanent members—possibly because of historical friction between China and Japan and, to a lesser extent, India.

My sense is that the issue of the make-up of the Security Council should be the subject of serious review. As a former member of the United States Delegation to the U.N. as well

as a former co-Chairman of the U.S. Commission on Improving the Effectiveness of the U.N., I am convinced that constructive reform of the Security Council is in order.

It is in the world's interest and the U.S. national interest to expand the Security Council. The claim of India, Japan and Germany for a permanent seat is compelling. Likewise, there is a credible case that the Security Council could be modestly expanded on a shared co-country basis as well. For example, Brazil and Mexico might be awarded a seat in which they would alternate terms. In a similar way, Egypt, Nigeria, and South Africa might be given the right to alternate terms with each other, as might the Muslim-majority countries of Indonesia, Pakistan and Bangladesh. Such an approach would expand the Security Council by six seats, involving the granting of new rights to eleven countries.

The case for granting veto power to new full-time members may be credible, but for various reasons one or another of the current five permanent members can be expected to object to the dilution of their own veto authority. Hence, realistically membership but not veto expansion is likely to be the agenda issue subject to serious review at this time.

Expansion of the number of permanent seats under this approach would involve a substantial change in the Security Council, but this change would be more likely to be stabilizing than destabilizing because it would better reflect power balances in the world today and lead to more equitable financial burden-sharing of U.N. actions. It would cause the Council to reflect greater religious and racial diversity and also be composed of a higher percentage of the world's population. Such a new Security Council arrangement would underscore the role of Asia in world affairs as well as reflect a more credible African and Latin American presence.

In any regard, I would hope that the Executive Branch as well as other member countries of the U.N. might give this and other comparable approaches serious consideration.

HONORING SISTER JANET EISNER  
IN RECOGNITION OF HER 25  
YEARS AS PRESIDENT OF EM-  
MANUEL COLLEGE

**HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 13, 2005*

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor a remarkable woman, constituent, and friend, Sister Janet Eisner, president of Emmanuel College. Later this month, on April 28, Sister Janet will celebrate 25 years as the college's president.

Founded in 1919 by the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur, a French order established to educate the daughters of the poor, Emmanuel College, under the leadership of Sister Janet, remains true to that mission. Under her leadership, thousands of young women from disadvantaged backgrounds have studied and received degrees from the college. Though today's students are from a more diverse socioeconomic pool, Emmanuel continues to provide need-based financial aid to more than 70 percent of its students.

Herself a graduate, Sister Janet has embraced many of the schools traditions, while at

the same time, advocated for programs and policies that have addressed the changing needs of the college and its students. In 1979, she became president of a small private liberal arts women's college. Since then, Sister Janet has transformed Emmanuel into a coeducational institution with a greater emphasis on math and science. As a result of her efforts to have Emmanuel embrace the math and science disciplines, the Merck Pharmaceutical Corporation has recently built a major research facility on campus, greatly expanding laboratory access for the college's faculty and students.

Sister Janet believes, as I do, that the future of the New England region depends upon scientific intellectual capital and biomedical innovation and she is determined to ensure that Emmanuel and its students have a place in that future. With that in mind, Sister Janet serves on the Executive Committee of MASCO, the Medical, Academic, and Scientific Community Organization of the Longwood Medical and Academic Area, and has organized her academic neighbors into a formidable consortium, "the Colleges of the Fenway". This consortium includes Simmons College, Wheelock College, Wentworth Institute, Massachusetts College of Art, and the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Allied Health Sciences.

In addition to her efforts to maintain a high level of academic excellence at Emmanuel, Sister Janet has preserved and deepened the college's commitment to community service. Freshman Orientation includes an introduction to volunteer opportunities in Boston food pantries, after-school programs, environmental projects, homeless shelters, and hospices. As a result, Emmanuel's students devote countless hours to community service activities such as providing educational tutoring and mentoring to Boston's at-risk children. Last fall, Sister Janet dedicated the Jean Yawkey Center for Community Leadership to focus and support community engagement. The Yawkey Center joins the Carolyn A. Lynch Institute, formed to support urban teachers, in linking Emmanuel students with public and private inner city schools.

Few people have achieved what Sister Janet has achieved, and yet she firmly believes that there is far more to accomplish at the college. Lilies adorn the seal of Emmanuel College, but I think Sister Janet's contributions to Emmanuel are more emblematic of the flower of the Sisters of Notre Dame de Namur: the sunflower. The sunflower is strong, brilliant, and constantly seeking light. I could not think of a more fitting description of Sister Janet's tenure at Emmanuel College. I congratulate Sister Janet for a remarkable 25 years as president of Emmanuel College and wish her continued success in the years to come.

STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN  
WEEK AND INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY

**HON. JUANITA MILLENDER-McDONALD**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 13, 2005*

Ms. MILLENDER-McDONALD. Mr. Speaker, Stop Violence Against Women week affords

us the opportunity to recognize the tremendous strides we have made in the decade since the Violence Against Women Act was passed. We have begun to educate our communities. We are slowly changing attitudes about domestic violence from seeing it as a family problem, a private issue that the government should not interfere with to a public interest issue that affects victims, their families and the nation as a whole. We have put in place nationwide, state and local programs that use a multifaceted approach to eradicating this plague on our society.

Violence against women has decreased in the last ten years in the United States, but it is still at epidemic proportions throughout the developing world. It is projected that in 2005 over 1 million women will be the victims of domestic violence. Domestic violence knows no racial, ethnic or socio-economic boundaries. Its social and economic consequences are incalculable.

Women who are the victims of domestic violence, and nearly one in three women experiences at least one physical assault by an intimate partner in her adult lifetime, are more likely to miss work and under perform, affecting their ability to support themselves and their children. Children exposed to domestic violence are more likely to be the victims themselves and are more likely to perpetuate this behavior when they are grown. The detrimental affects are far-reaching and severe.

Going forward we need to build on the foundation put in place over the past decade. We need to promote awareness. We need to provide viable alternatives. We need to make sure the world knows that in the United States we do not tolerate violence against women.

As we celebrate International Women's Day this week, we focus our attention on the challenges women face abroad. As cultural attitudes about women change across the world, foreign governments must also set the stage and take affirmative steps to protect women from violence. The increasing number of murders and rapes is an especially critical problem in the developing world. We must let our voices be heard: America and the global community will no longer tolerate these crimes against women. We urge foreign governments to hear our call.

We also need to combat the international trafficking of women and children. Between six hundred and eight hundred thousand people are trafficked across international borders. Eighty percent of these victims are women and up to fifty percent are minors. These victims are bought and sold daily and forced to perform unspeakable acts for others' financial gain. They are exposed to torture, sexual violence, fatal sexually transmitted diseases. This is modern-day slavery, this is the epitome of violence against women and it has to stop.

I want to thank Lifetime Television and others involved with Stop Violence Against Women Week. The more we talk about these problems, the closer we get to viable solutions.

# A BILL TO ALLOW TAX-FREE DISTRIBUTIONS FROM INDIVIDUAL RETIREMENT ACCOUNTS FOR CHARITABLE PURPOSES

## HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation entitled the "Public Good IRA Rollover Act." I am introducing this bill to encourage increased charitable giving by correcting certain provisions in the tax code related to Individual Retirement Accounts (IRAs). Americans should have the opportunity to make tax-free charitable contributions directly from their IRA accounts.

This legislation is designed to allow individuals age 59½ or older to contribute amounts currently held in IRA accounts directly to qualified charities without having to first recognize the income for tax purposes and then take a charitable deduction. This legislation will give individuals more freedom to allocate their resources as they see fit while providing badly needed funding for charities, churches, museums, universities, and many other nonprofit organizations.

The IRA was intended to encourage individuals to save for retirement, but due to a strong economy and an increase in asset values, many individuals have more funds in these accounts than they anticipated or now need to retire comfortably. Thus, it is very common for retirees to donate some of their wealth to charities and, in some cases, that wealth is held in an IRA.

Individuals may withdraw funds from an IRA without incurring an early withdrawal penalty once they reach age 59½. Currently, however, these IRA withdrawals are generally taxed as income, even if the individual donates the money to charity. Many donors are reluctant to make charitable contributions from their IRA assets because of the additional tax costs they will incur. Congress has exempted withdrawals from IRA accounts under certain circumstances, such as to finance the purchase of a home or a college education. Congress should also make it possible for older Americans to support charities by allowing withdrawals from their IRA assets without suffering adverse tax consequences.

This legislation also addresses other obstacles to charitable giving created by the current tax code. A taxpayer could readily recognize the IRA withdrawal income for tax purposes and, after making a charitable gift, take a charitable tax deduction. Unfortunately, in many cases under current law such a simple arrangement results in a loss of some portion of the charitable deduction. For example, charitable contributions are subject to the itemized deduction "haircut" under which certain taxpayers lose a portion of their charitable deduction.

It is very difficult to estimate the amount of capital trapped by the current tax and rollover rules, and thus not available to our nation's charities. According to one report, there is over \$1 trillion held in IRA accounts. If only 1 percent of this would be donated to charity but for the tax problems associated with charitable rollovers, this represents a \$10 billion loss of resources to these organizations that do so much good.

I will give just one example from my state of California, where universities and colleges receive tremendous support from private individuals. These donations and financial gifts are critical to providing the funding needed to maintain quality higher education and keep it available and affordable. In the UC system, private contributions provide more than \$369 million for individual university departments, \$291 million for research, \$225 million for campus improvements, and \$84 million for scholarships and student support services. In addition, planned gifts such as charitable remainder trusts, gift annuities, and pooled income funds are a tremendously valuable source of funding for the University of California System. This legislation encourages more charitable gifts such as this, which will greatly benefit universities and many other charities. This is sound and greatly needed legislation. Similar legislation has consistently received strong bi-partisan support in both chambers of Congress. This bill was part of the CARE Act that passed the House last year. In addition, President Bush has endorsed this proposal and it was included in the Administration's budget request for FY2005 and FY2006.

This legislation is crucial to many local and national charities, including American Red Cross and the YMCA. Associations that represent thousands of our nation's charities and nonprofit professionals, such as the Council for Advancement and Support of Education, the National Committee on Planned Giving, INDEPENDENT SECTOR, and the Association of Fundraising Professionals, hear daily from their members whose donors want to make gifts from their IRA assets.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to advance this legislation to increase private giving to charitable organizations by removing the disincentive currently in the tax code. We must continue to support proposals such as this that strengthen and increase resources for the nonprofit sector, a sector that plays such an important role in lives of millions of Americans every day. I know this legislation is needed in California and in your local communities as well. I hope my colleagues will join me in passing this important legislation.

# TRIBUTE TO THE ORDER SONS OF ITALY IN AMERICA ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

## HON. BENJAMIN L. CARDIN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, April 13, 2005

Mr. CARDIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay special tribute to the Order Sons of Italy in America in celebration of their 100th anniversary in June 2005. The OSIA is the largest and longest established organization for men and women of Italian heritage in the United States.

Established in 1905 as a mutual aid society for early Italian immigrants, the OSIA has grown to more than 100,000 members nationwide and 2,500 in Maryland. The OSIA is dedicated to preserving Italian-American traditions and culture among the estimated 26 million people of Italian descent living in the United States. I want to commend S. Joseph Avara of Baltimore, past president of the OSIA