

lot of us would really stop and think a minute before we would ever vote for war or take military action." And then he added, "We do not accept this intelligence at face value anymore."

□ 2030

Great. I am glad that the gentleman from Kansas, Mr. ROBERTS, is so cautious and skeptical now, after more than 2,000 soldiers have been killed, after we have poured \$200 billion into this war, after we have squandered America's global credibility and goodwill.

Back when this could have made a difference, the chairman and so many others in this body and the upper Chamber fell in line behind the President, rubberstamping his war with barely a peep of dissent.

Where were the hard questions then? Where was the oversight and the scrutiny back when it could have saved lives and changed the course of history?

The latest line of argument from the White House is essentially this: Sure, we were wrong about Saddam and weapons of mass destruction, but we did the best we could with what we had.

Leaving aside whether they were mistaken about the intelligence or they actively manipulated it, I would like to see the President look a widow or a grieving mother in the eye and use that line.

The other thing they are saying is maybe we were wrong, but so were a lot of other people, including a lot of Democrats, so get off our backs. This attempt at spreading the blame is dishonest, and it is irresponsible. It was not the previous administration, nor was it the President's opponents in last year's election who launched a preemptive war and put American credibility on the line in selling it.

It was not some other Vice President that leaned on analysts at Langley to reach certain conclusions. It was not some other White House that was fixing the intelligence and the facts around the policy, as the Downing Street Memo put it.

There is only one Commander-in-Chief, and the buck must stop with him. Besides, there were plenty of us who were deeply skeptical about the case for war; and for raising our concerns, many of us had our patriotism called into question.

Ambassador Joe Wilson was among those who raised the red flag, and look what they did to him and to his family.

But of course, as the President is now implicitly admitting, we who questioned the intelligence were right. The very fact that they are trying to rewrite the history of the run-up to war is evidence that the war has been a disastrous mistake. If all were going well in Iraq, the President would not be in this defensive posture, casting about for scapegoats.

There is a way to make it right. There is a way to fix the problem. By

ending the war once and for all. It is time for the President not just to admit his mistakes but to correct them. It is time to return Iraq to the Iraqi people and return our troops home to the families that have gone too long without them.

HONORING CONGRESSMAN ED ROYBAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. POE). Under a previous order of the House, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WATSON) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. WATSON. Mr. Speaker, Congressman Ed Roybal, who recently passed, will be remembered as a true pioneer in the struggle for human and civil rights. He was an advocate his whole life for the poor, disenfranchised and for seniors.

Ed was first elected to the House of Representatives in 1962, at a time when Henry Gonzalez of Texas was the only other Hispanic representative in the House of Representatives. Ed served with distinction in the House of Representatives for 30 years. He quickly earned the respect of his congressional colleagues and, in 1971, was elected to serve on the Appropriations Committee, where he remained for the rest of his career in Congress. He became Chair of the Treasury, Postal Service, General Government Subcommittee in 1981. There he became a powerful advocate for funding for education, civil rights and health programs. He was one of the first Members of Congress to support HIV/AIDS research funding.

Ed also had an abiding interest in the needs of our elderly and from 1985 to 1989 served as the Chair of the Select Committee on Aging. In 1980, he successfully restored funds to programs for the elderly and in 1982 played an instrumental role in maintaining the Meals on Wheels program.

He was a trailblazer for the rights of not only Hispanics but of all persons, white, black, brown, the young and the elderly, who had been denied an equal opportunity and were looking for a hand up. He always selflessly extended his hand and never lost sight of those in need throughout his distinguished career as a public servant.

I looked to Ed as he served on the Los Angeles City Council and then in Congress as a voice that could be trusted to consistently respond on behalf of those who could not speak for themselves. We saw him as the go-to guy on the City Council.

Ed's strong and dedicated message will never be silenced. He leaves behind a spiritual and an indelible legacy that will live on. God bless him.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE OF CONGRESSMAN ED ROYBAL

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentlewoman from California

(Ms. LOFGREN) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the minority leader.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize the life and work of Congressman Edward Roybal. As Chair of the California Democratic Congressional Delegation, I am proud to recognize the accomplishments of the pioneer of California Hispanic politics.

In his more than 30 years in Congress, from 1963 to 1993, Congressman Roybal opened many doors for immigrants and the less fortunate in this country, but more importantly he also opened many minds. As the first Hispanic to serve in Congress from California since 1879, his leadership was proof that our Nation's greatness rests in its diversity. He gave future generations the power to be involved in the democratic process by sponsoring legislation which funded bilingual education and inspired thousands to follow his noble example and enter into public service.

Californians are proud to call the visionary Congressman Roybal one of our own. But his contribution was not limited to Hispanics or Californians. Congressman Roybal's vision and passion for social justice issues transcended color lines, age groups and district and State boundaries. He worked tirelessly to extend the civil rights and push the Democratic Party to become more attuned to the needs of immigrants and minorities.

In addition to all the legislation he fought for and all the programs he sponsored, Congressman Roybal will also be remembered because of the legion of public servants he inspired. One of those, a man who fought for equal rights for farm workers of California, was a young man in San Jose named Cesar Chavez.

In 1947, Mr. Roybal first ran unsuccessfully for a seat on the Los Angeles City Council. Reacting to his defeat he founded the Los Angeles Community Services Organization, CSO, with a goal of mobilizing L.A.'s Mexican Americans against discrimination in housing, employment and education. The CSO was founded on the idea that people would learn from each other and would craft solutions to mutual problems, and the model caught on and chapters formed throughout California. In San Jose, Cesar Chavez's first experience in politics was registering voters for the San Jose CSO, and the rest is history.

Today, Congressman Roybal's legacy lives on in Congress and in cities across this country. More than 6,000 Hispanic elected officials have followed him into public service. His daughter and our colleague, the distinguished Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, now represents part of her father's old district in East L.A. Lucille carries on her father's work of fighting for compassion and diversity in our government.

Although he has passed from this earth, Congressman Roybal's passion

for the poor and his vision for a more inclusive America will live on in the law books of this country and in the hearts and minds of those who have been touched by his service to our country.

On behalf of the my California Democratic colleagues and my constituents in San Jose, I am honored to be here this evening to pay tribute to former Congressman Ed Roybal.

We thank his family for supporting his work over many years and for being the source of tremendous pride for him, his wife, Lucille, his three children, Congresswoman Lucille Roybal-Allard, Lillian and Edward. Our thoughts are with you during your grief, and we are honored to be in this institution that was graced by Congressman Roybal.

This evening, we are going to co-manage the time. We have the Chairperson of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, my wonderful colleague, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, who will speak now for 4 minutes; and then we will yield back to the many colleagues who are here this evening who want to remember Ed.

Mrs. NAPOLITANO. Mr. Speaker, I do not want to repeat all the accolades that have been showered upon a former Member of Congress who I had the opportunity to meet but unfortunately never was able to work alongside of him. You have heard how he was a trailblazer and how he cared for all minorities, all people that were the unvoiced of America; that he chose his battles to where he would stand on this floor and advocate relentlessly on behalf of all the poor and all the unjust things that were carried out against the many peoples of the United States.

I can tell you, though, that from listening to the many stories said about this wonderful individual, you are able to put a picture of a human, humble, dedicated, compassionate, loving family man who devoted his life to politics to make life better for all. And as you have heard, Mr. Speaker, he has become the trailblazer of Latino politics in not only California but in the United States; that, because of him, many of us now are able to stand before great bodies and be able to voice the concerns of those who have no voice in these Chambers.

Mr. Speaker, we have great pride; and another accomplishment of this great man is that he and four other individuals, including the father of our seated Member of Congress from San Antonio, Charlie Gonzalez, Henry B. and several others joined together to form the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, which now fosters young Latinos for future leadership of this country. Another great accomplishment.

I could go on, and I probably would be repeating a lot of things, but there are a lot of unsaid accolades that this gentleman, this gentle man was able to transmit to those many people who knew nothing of him but knew of his greatness.

To his daughter, Lucille, my good friend, we are very, very happy she is

here and trust that he is smiling down upon her.

GENERAL LEAVE

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of my special order today.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentlewoman from California?

There was no objection.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. REYES).

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Tonight is both a sad night, because we are here because of the passing of a great American, Congressman Ed Roybal, but it is also a time to celebrate his life and his accomplishments and his legacy.

I was just spending a few minutes with my good friend and colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD), a great American in her own right, who carries on that great legacy of her dad, and I was telling her how proud she must be here this evening to hear so many people talk about her dad. I know that she misses him, and I know that there is a huge void in her heart as there exists in many Members that worked with Congressman Roybal.

I did not have the privilege of working with him in the House, but I certainly knew him, or at least I felt I knew him. I got to know him even more by virtue of becoming a good friend of his daughter and my colleague, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD. She always told us about her experiences coming to Washington and working in and around the Capitol with her mom and her dad and about the things that her dad stood for and about the things that he wanted to change and the things that he did change.

□ 2045

She told us about the optimism that some day in this great country and in this, the people's House, there would be many more Latinos and Latinas that would represent communities all around the country. And guess what? Today, that is reality. Today, we have not only Latinos and Latinas here but many other minorities that carry on the work and the legacy of Congressman Roybal.

What a giant he is among all of us. What a giant he is for us to look up to. As a grandfather, I want to be able to tell my grandkids that they should be proud of their heritage because of leaders like Congressman Roybal and the many things that he has left for us.

There is a lot of work left to be done, but certainly many of us are here tonight and many of us are able to be here in these elected positions because of the work that he and a few others did back then when it must have been

much harder than it is today. The challenge may be different. The challenge today may take on a different venue and a different texture, but we are able to do that and to take on that responsibility because we stand on the shoulders of great leaders like Ed Roybal.

So, tonight, it is sad that we are here because we are going to miss him, but it is also a time to celebrate a great American, a great leader, one that leaves a legacy that I feel personally blessed is carried on by his daughter, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD. May God bless all of the Roybal family, and certainly God has blessed this country because they have walked into this people's House for two generations.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. BACA).

Mr. BACA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute and respect to Congressman Roybal, father to LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, who passed away recently. I was very fortunate with many other individuals who attended the funeral, and there was an outpouring of love that came out. It was an outpouring because this is an individual that led by example. This is an individual that really believed in true family values. He set the example by leading by example. A true husband, a father, an individual who cared about his family.

Beyond caring about his family, he accomplished many things along the way. He created hope, he created opportunity, and he paved the way for many of us who are currently serving right now.

I was blessed to know him as a member of San Bernardino Community College district during my period of time; and during that time, I was involved in NALEAO. He was the man that was very instrumental in creating NALEAO. NALEAO now has created an opportunity for 6,000 individuals to be elected. He created hope, he created opportunity, and he created an opportunity to say, "a si se puede," that you can be whatever you want to be.

He was an individual that cared about people. He cared about the poor, the disadvantaged, the seniors. He believed in fighting for what was right. It is not about representing one segment of the community but representing all segments of the community, because he never forgot where his roots came from.

He originally was born in New Mexico, in Albuquerque, like I and many others who have gone out, but he never forgot his roots. He felt it was important for others to be proud of who you are and where you come from and to say, I represent every individual, regardless of where I come from, but be proud of who you are and where you come from. And he did that. He did that for a lot of us.

Because of that, many of us are in positions that we would not be in right now. But it took someone that was willing to stand up and pave the way, not only fighting for civil rights and

education and opportunities for many individuals and being the first elected to many of the positions that we now have. He was a city councilman, the very first one, and then he became a role model, a mentor, a counselor, someone who guided someone. It is not easy when you are the first, because everybody else expects you to fall down. He did not fall down. He set a good example for others to follow.

Mr. Speaker, because he led by example and did positive things. There were many other opportunities for Hispanics like me and others to say, you know what? If Congressman Roybal can be a city councilman, maybe I can become a school board member, a Senator, a United States Congressman like him. He created that. He created those opportunities for us.

Let me tell my colleagues, we are all very proud of his accomplishments, of what he has done not only in creating opportunity but, at the same time, when there were segregated pools, when they did not let Mexican Americans and others utilize the pools, he wanted to make sure that everyone could. Like Rosa Parks, he believed in civil rights, and he believed in standing up for it. He stood up. The price was not easy, but he stood up and fought. Because of that, America is a lot better today. He has paved the way and set an example for all of us to follow.

Let us follow the lead that Congressman Roybal has done and his daughter is now doing here in Congress by doing the same thing here: fighting for civil rights, fighting for education, fighting for health, being a voice for many people who do not have voices. The daughter is leading because the father set the example to say it is important to have people that speak out.

I am glad to have known Congressman Roybal, and I am equally glad to know LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, and sometimes we forget to mention her last name, ALLARD, as well here serving in Congress.

I offer my condolences to the family, his wife, Lucille, his daughters, LUCILLE and Lillian, and his son, Edward, Jr. You truly are a good example that if you follow your dad's steps, he has true values, he truly is a leader, his legacy will live on forever because he truly is a pioneer for all of us. He has paved the way for hope and opportunity for each and every one of us.

Mr. Speaker, life is a lot better, and no one will ever know how those doors have been opened for many individuals throughout the country. I thank him and say God bless him and God bless your mother and God bless you, LUCILLE ROYBAL.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I now would like to yield to the distinguished gentlewoman from Los Angeles County (Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD).

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I am honored tonight to stand here to honor a great American. Last month, America lost a visionary lead-

er, and those of us in Congress lost a dear friend with the passing of the late, great Congressman Edward R. Roybal.

Ed Roybal was a forward-thinking, progressive Latino politician long before there was something called the Chicano movement. He was born in February, 1916, in Albuquerque, New Mexico. At the age of 6, he moved with his family to the Boyle Heights neighborhood of Los Angeles. After earning degrees at UCLA and Southwestern University, he joined the Army in 1944 and went off to fight in World War II.

Upon his return to Los Angeles in 1945, Ed worked as the Director of Health Education for the Los Angeles County Tuberculosis and Health Association. In 1949, he became the first Mexican American elected to the Los Angeles City Council in nearly a century, and it would be his springboard to greater accomplishments.

In 1959, he founded the Mexican American Political Association, one of the first organizations formed to improve the social, economic, cultural, and civic advancements of Mexican Americans and all Spanish-speaking Americans through political action. This organization has become a premier leader in our Nation, fighting for the rights of all Americans.

Later, he also formed the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials. He knew the importance of a political system and wanted to ensure Latinos made their voices heard through this process.

In 1963, he again broke down barriers by becoming the first Mexican American elected to the U.S. House of Representatives in the 20th century.

When he took his seat in Congress, Ed Roybal never forgot his roots and those he represented. But not only did he represent Latinos. I saw him as a leader representing all of us. He worked tirelessly to ensure that all people, Latinos and others alike, were fairly represented and that their interests were not diluted during redistricting. Sadly, he often stood alone in these efforts.

Ed Roybal was also a strong advocate for the elderly and the working poor. We have heard how he served as chairman of both the Select Committee on Aging and the Subcommittee on Health and Long Term Care, moving legislation on health care, Social Security, housing, and other human services. What a great man he was.

He was indeed a New Deal Democrat who was known as a legislator's legislator for his ability to craft and pass landmark legislation. In the 1950s, he stood up against the loyalty oath of the McCarthy era. In the 1960s, he became an early congressional critic of the Vietnam war. And throughout his life, he was a strong advocate of workers' rights.

Ed Roybal opened the doors for a new generation of Latino elected officials; and, in my opinion, he opened the doors for all folks, including his great daughter and our friend and colleague,

Representative LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD. She will now carry the torch of her great father. Other Latino leaders, such as Los Angeles Mayor Antonio Villaraigosa, owe a huge debt of gratitude to this unassuming, yet powerful figure in American politics. He was a trailblazer and an icon of the Latino community. We all owe a debt of gratitude to this great distinguished American who saw a wrong and tried to right it.

I called upon Congressman Roybal at a time when I was in the State legislature, and I had an issue in the city of Compton. I did not know the man, but I called on him because he had shown such compassion for those who were the downtrodden. I called on him, and he came to my aid and with such compassion helped me through the turmoils that I had in my district. I will never forget this very compassionate, powerful, unassuming but great man.

In 1976, he co-founded the Congressional Hispanic Caucus along with others and helped to expand Latino representation across this country. Following his leadership and example, Latinos are today represented in Congress in State legislatures, as governors, and in many other leadership positions, and they lead many of our most populous cities. Yes, he paved the way to political power for today's Latino leaders and all Americans who care about fair and representative elections, and we can be grateful for the path that we crossed with this great man. His service to our country will not be forgotten. His stellar leadership will be with us for always.

The condolences of my constituents of the 37th Congressional District of California are extended to the Roybal family. God bless them all.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GONZALEZ).

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues.

I think I bring a different perspective to the comments and the remarks regarding the extraordinary life of Congressman Ed Roybal, and that is that I followed in my father's footsteps just as Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD does today, so I think we have shared experiences.

I know that about 4 years ago Lucille and I were interviewed about our experiences as children being raised in a political family and then following in their parent's footsteps. We had so much to share. So I think that some of my remarks I would hope do bring what I consider a very special view.

The first thing is that our fathers started their careers here in this Congress in 1961 and 1962 respectively and, combined, I think served about 67 wonderful, productive, very successful and historical years in so many different ways. But I think we need to go to the very beginning. They both started their political years in the late 1940s, and they both lost their first races. So I think they always would rise to the

challenge, of course, over tremendous adversity in their entire lives. I think both of our fathers were always referred to as "the first," the first Hispanic to be elected to the House of Representatives from California, the first Hispanic to be elected from the State of Texas, and so on.

□ 2100

People forget what that truly signifies. Being the first at anything means that you are surviving in a very hostile environment; and where we find ourselves today, even when we complain about the challenges and the obstacles that are before us, there is no comparison. It pales to the situation in the 1940s, the 1950s, and the 1960s; and there is no doubt, even today, the barriers are there for people of color.

They had to succeed where no one else had ever succeeded before, and they had to maintain and sustain that position, because much more was expected of them, being that representative of a minority. Yet I do not want to restrict Ed Roybal's contributions and define him simply by his ethnicity, because that is not true. It went way beyond that. He understood until there was justice for all, there would be justice for none; and that is what his life was all about. I am hoping that tonight it is a celebration. I think my colleague, Congressman REYES, has aptly pointed that out.

On the personal side, I ventured a guess that my colleague, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, did not see much of her father after 1962, that he was way over here on the east coast and the family was way over there on the west coast for the most part, and I know that feeling.

There was tremendous sacrifice on the part of the Roybal family. Tonight I know that my colleagues join me in saying thank you to your mother, to your brother, to your sister and to you, for sharing your father, because he gave much more to us than he probably did individually to you as far as the time that was allowed him to spend with the family.

That was a great sacrifice, which then leads you to the eventual question, and one that we all ask ourselves, and that is the careers that we choose, have we made a difference to sacrifice for our families, because there is no doubt that your father could have been very successful at other enterprises that materially and financially would have been much more rewarding, and he would have been right there at home, but he chose to do something for so many others, and that is a very special calling.

Your mother, your brother, your sister, yourself will probably ask but was it worth it, was it worth that sacrifice. It is a resounding "yes." It is a resounding "yes" if you look at all the city halls, if you look at all our State legislatures, if you look at the United States Congress.

If we go back to 1961 and 1962, I think if we had a congressional Spanish Cau-

cus, the total membership would have been two, LUCILLE's father and my father. The legacy lives on. Tangible and living proof of that is that tomorrow morning there will be 27 Members of this House that will come through these doors that are either Hispanic or Portuguese in descent. All Americans, of course, first and foremost, because I think that is what your father's message was. It was then and it is today and his legacy lives tomorrow.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. SHERMAN).

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I will be brief, because all that I can say has been said and will be said more eloquently by others on this floor. I wanted to be here for this sad and happy occasion as we celebrate the life and mourn the death of a great American and a great Los Angelino.

Ed Roybal was a pioneer. He started the community service organization and formed a partnership of Mexican Americans, the Jewish community, the Asian community and then was the first in the century, in over a century, member of the Los Angeles City Council, then the first Hispanic in over a century to represent our State here in the House of Representatives, where he served for three decades fighting for the rights of minorities, the elderly, and the physically challenged.

He was a founding member, as has been said before, and the first chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and was a pioneer in fighting for funding for HIV and AIDS. Edward Roybal leaves a legacy, not just all the awards named after him, not just the program at Cal State Los Angeles that he helped found, not just all of the legislation that he influenced in this House.

He leaves a legacy of his children and grandchildren, and our own LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, I know you far better than I know your brother and sister; but if you are any indication, he left quite a legacy. He was an inspiration to your family and an inspiration to all of us.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to the gentleman from California (Mr. FARR), who preceded me as Chair of the Democratic delegation.

Mr. FARR. I thank the gentlewoman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight realizing what an incredible privilege it is for us to speak in the well of the floor of the House of Representatives and what a privilege it is to grow up in a family that is politically inspired.

I also know what a heart-wrenching loss a parent is. It tears your heart out. I speak tonight because I feel very privileged, having grown up in a political family, like LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD. I remember so much early childhood politics of what was going on in our house and in the State of California. In many ways, Ed Roybal was like another father, because he was in the era that my father was in politics.

He was born the same year as my mother, 1916, Albuquerque, New Mexico. He came to California, worked in the Civilian Conservation Corps, worked for the California Tuberculosis Association, became involved in World War II as a soldier, and then returned to Los Angeles County as director of health education and then got into politics at the same time, as he and my father both ran for city council, my father in Northern California and Ed Roybal in Southern California. They both lost.

Later on he was elected and became the first Hispanic to serve on the city council in more than a century. I remember in 1954, he was the Democratic nominee for lieutenant governor. My father was on that ballot. I remember that ballot. That was when red baiting went up. People just tore people apart.

They both lost in that election. My father went on to become elected to the State senate and Ed Roybal to the United States Congress. When he arrived here in Congress, he was the first Hispanic Californian to serve in Congress since 1879. He was a pioneer for all our great State, and, indeed, the multicultural democracy that California has become.

He served on the Appropriations Committee, and there is where our paths crossed. I am on the Appropriations Committee. I met LUCILLE when she got elected to the California State Assembly in 1986. We served together there. She came to Congress a few months before I did. We have served both on the Appropriations Committee, the only California Democrats on that committee.

I think when we think back about the privilege we had, not only growing up in a family, yes, things were tough, as pointed out by CHARLIE GONZALEZ, there were also privileges, the privileges of debate, the privileges of commitment to public services, the privileges of wanting to make the world a better place. Those were privileges.

I think that the legacy that he left for his own children, LUCILLE serving in the United States Congress, Lillian, who is a constituent of mine in Santa Cruz and a really able professional, doing a lot to deal with discrimination and how to teach tolerance, and their brother, Edward Roybal, Jr., carrying the yoke of his father, obviously, with not only the same name but all of the responsibilities that his father has left for him.

It is a privilege, and it is sad to lose a parent, but what an opportunity to be able to come to the well of the House of Representatives and give this tribute, a tribute that he, Mr. Roybal, has gotten not only from us here tonight, for his life, but during his life, recognized by Presidents, by Senators, by Congressmembers, by members of the State legislature and city council members; and, frankly, I cannot think of a person who we really know was a pioneer in being able to bring an understanding that if you are going to have

a government of by and for the people, it better look like the people.

I am very proud to be in a congressional delegation from California that is the most multicultural delegation in the United States Congress. Your father started that. I am very, very proud to serve with you.

Perhaps one of the nicest titles that your father has been given, which was while he was still alive, back in 2004, the Mexican-American Political Association named him the Latino Legend of the 20th Century.

LUCILLE, we appreciate the great life that your father gave to public service. We love you for serving with us in the United States Congress. Please pass on our best to all of your family, your sister, and your brother and your mother for the service that your father gave to this country. It made us a better America.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, I yield to Congressman JOSÉ SERRANO from New York.

(Mr. SERRANO asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for yielding. I come with a photograph that sits in my office for many years. It is a photograph of the day that I was sworn in as chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. In the picture is the previous chairman, SOLOMON ORTIZ, and at the center is Ed Roybal.

I think it is fitting that he was at the center, because he was always at the center of any change or movement or any small or large or historic moment in our community. The folks that gave me the photograph titled it "Passing of the Torch." At that moment, it was not passing of the torch because I was such a change in the caucus, but because he always welcomed every new Member, and he always felt that every new Member had something new to add.

Today, as I look at this photograph, I realize that we have two major parties and a lot of other parties courting the Latino vote. We have posters and journalists and editorial boards saying how strong we have become and how important we are. Yet I wonder at times what it must have been for Ed Roybal to be a member of the L.A. City Council at that time and to be a Member of Congress at the time that he was, when it was not fashionable to be a Latino Member of Congress, when it was indeed a pioneering effort.

What I remember most about him is sitting on the House floor and having him speak to me, and in the cloakroom speak to me, with such dignity and such respect about what was expected of me as a Member of Congress, and how much I had to represent the east coast and the Puerto Rican-American community in everything that we did.

He had a way about him that is mentioned here. He is what we call a class act. He conducted himself in such a way. He spoke in such a way. If you did

not know the history, you were baffled at the fact that this man spoke in a low voice, in a soft voice, and yet he had been a giant in tearing down walls.

I guess what he taught me more than anything else is you do not have to yell and scream and kick and get into a rage to make change. You just had to know what it was that you and your community wanted and go at it. This photograph has been replicated today; and tomorrow, LUCILLE, I will present it to you in the hope that your family takes it not as a moment when I was chairman of the caucus, but rather when the founder of the caucus took time to once again continue the message to yet another generation of Members of Congress and Latino Americans, that this was an important thing to do.

This was the passing of the torch at that moment, but he has been passing on the torch and will continue to for as long as we are around.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, we have heard many things today about Congressman Edward Roybal, what a giant he was, what a leader he was, how he stood up for people who had too little, how he changed our world. I am mindful all of us who lost a dad know how very hard it is in a very personal way. Leader or no, it is still your dad. I also know that the best way maybe to know a person, to know someone like Congressman Roybal, is to look at his daughter, who is the same kind of tenacious, dignified person who will stand up for those who have nothing and make a difference, as she is making a difference, just as her father did in the Congress for those in need.

□ 2115

I would like to yield to our beloved colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD).

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Roybal family I sincerely thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. NAPOLITANO), and my colleagues for tonight's special order and for their kind words about my father, former Congressman Edward R. Roybal.

I thank the President and Mrs. Bush for their considerate letter of condolence, the Speaker of the House, the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. HASTERT) for his graciousness in presenting my mother the flag flown over our Nation's Capitol in my father's honor, and Senate Minority Leader HARRY REID for sharing his special memories of my father on the Senate floor.

For their kind and eloquent words during the memorial services in Los Angeles, I thank my colleagues, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), the Minority Leader, the gentleman from California (Mr. DREIER), the chairman of the Rules Committee, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. ORTIZ), my father's good friend and colleague, and the gentleman from California (Mr. BECERRA).

The Roybal family is also extremely grateful to my father's former chiefs of staff and Antonio Villaraigosa, Mayor of Los Angeles, and his staff for providing so much help and support during this difficult time. My family also send a heartfelt thank you to my many colleagues, constituents, and friends who gave their condolences, attended the services and/or sent flowers.

Mr. Speaker, my father Edward R. Roybal loved our country and this House of Representatives where he served proudly for 30 years. During the past weeks we have heard stories of my father's many legislative accomplishments and oftentimes lonely battles on behalf of the sick, the elderly and the disadvantaged. As one of the 13 cardinals of the House Committee on Appropriations, colleagues from both sides of the aisle have related to me stories of his fairness and ability to work in a bipartisan way on behalf of his constituents and our Nation.

We have also heard about his many tributes, including the naming of the Atlanta campus of the Centers for Disease Control in his honor, and the recognition received for his lifelong leadership when he was awarded our Nation's highest civilian honor, the Presidential Citizens Medal.

I would like to end this special order, Mr. Speaker, by talking about Edward Roybal, the father, from the personal experiences of his three children. As many families do in such times of sadness, my brother, sister and I sat and talked about our memories of Dad or "Pop" as we lovingly called him.

We recalled how deeply he loved our mother and his wife of 65 years, Lucille Beserra Roybal. Always by his side, her hard work and devotion was the glue that held our family together and provided the strength and support that helped to make possible our father's many accomplishments, which started when he was only a teenager, successfully leading the fight against discrimination at a local swimming pool and continued when he was a public health educator in the State of California.

We remembered his strong belief in the value and strength of family and how he, with my mother, shaped our values and modeled for us deep personal integrity.

He taught us faith in God, the value of family and friends and the importance of giving back to one's community. And, without a doubt, he taught us the importance of participating in the political process.

My sister Lillian, my brother Ed and I remembered how we never sat down to dinner at a normal hour with just the immediate family but always surrounded by our political family and friends. We remembered how at any time our house could fill with people and another emergency meeting would be convened, for our house was always the gathering place. We remembered triumphant elections, painful defeats, high expectations, and fearful realities.

The fearful realities were particularly vivid during the forties and fifties when we were young children growing up in the Boyle Heights community of Los Angeles. During that time in our city's history, Mexican Americans and other minorities were not welcomed in many parts of our city. Therefore, one can well imagine the reception my father received in 1949 when he was the first Latino to be elected to the Los Angeles City Council in the 20th century. The racial slurs and not-so-quiet whispers directed at him and our family when we attended events and dinners remain vivid in our minds today.

But equally as vivid is the strength and the courage he demonstrated as many in our society tried to humiliate and intimidate him to give up his cause. Giving up was something he would never consider, because he clearly understood and reminded us often that the struggles and the victories were not about him and our family but about creating a foundation of opportunity for future generations of Latinos and other disenfranchised Americans and community.

In the midst of all of the political turmoil, we also remembered that there was laughter and fun, and we always knew we were loved. We remembered family gatherings when Dad played his guitar and sang with our mother. We remembered his love for his sons-in-law, Michael Rose and Edward Allard, and the deep love and pride he had for his grandchildren, Lisa Elliott, Ricardo Olivarez, Michael Rose, Loushana R. Rose and his great grandchildren Emily Rose, Diego, Santiago, and Lourdes Olivarez and Mason Elliott.

The void my father leaves behind will always be filled with these and many more fond memories and values he left with us as part of his legacy. We miss him, and he will always be in our hearts with great love and pride.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Roybal family, I again thank my colleagues for tonight's special order and for sharing their thoughts and special memories of my father, Congressman Edward R. Roybal.

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Molina of Los Angeles, Judge Harry Pregerson, U.S. Court of Appeals for the Ninth Circuit, Sheriff Lee Baca of Los Angeles County, Councilman Alex Padilla, President of the Los Angeles City Council, Antonia Hernandez, Dan Maldonado, Evelyn Verdugo-Tabarez, Brenda Sutton-Wills, Ricardo Olivarez, Eloise Sotello, Linda Newton, and Manuel Gonez.

The Roybal family is also extremely grateful to my father's former Chiefs of Staff, Ed Avila, Henry Lozano, Dan Maldonado, Jorge Lambrinos, Harry Pachon and the Mayor of Los Angeles Antonio Villaraigosa and his staff, for providing so much help and support during this difficult time.

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We miss him and he will always be in our hearts with great love and pride.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Roybal family, I again thank my colleagues for tonight's Special Order and for sharing their thoughts and special memories of my father, Congressman Edward R. Roybal.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize the contributions of an outstanding Californian. We lost a tireless public servant and inspiring colleague when Edward R. Roybal passed away on October 25th. He dedicated his career to a better America for minorities, the poor, and the elderly. This is a sad loss for our delegation, but also a time to reflect upon and remember the aspirations and accomplishments of an outstanding colleague and friend.

Edward Roybal served here for 30 years as the first Hispanic member from California in over 80 years. He was a founding member and the first chair of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC). He was a founding member of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute.

Before his election to the House, Ed worked in health education and fought for equal rights in housing, education and employment. Ed brought these passions to the House of Representatives in 1963, and made his mark as a visionary for a more inclusive America. In the years to come, Ed labored to pass legislation to outlaw age discrimination. He worked for numerous benefits and opportunities for those with handicaps. As we accept and embrace the rights of these fellow citizens, Ed was a trailblazer leading the way.

In his work on the Appropriations Committee, Ed led efforts to protect funding for programs for the elderly, including public housing programs for senior citizens, community-based alternatives to nursing homes, and the Meals on Wheels program. Ed also continued to fight for laws that treated all Americans fairly. He voted to pass the Equal Rights Amendment and played a key role in helping to pass legislation that reversed a 1989 Supreme Court decision allowing age-based discrimination in employee benefits. Ed retired following the 1992 elections leaving a thirty-year record of success for minorities, the poor and the elderly.

Los Angeles County, the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, California State Los Angeles, and the University of California, Los Angeles, recognized Ed with facilities carrying his name. President Clinton awarded Representative Roybal the Presidential Citizens Medal for "exemplary deeds of service for our Nation. These honors stand in constant reminder of the lives he touched through his public service to California and the nation.

When Ed retired, he left us an outstanding legacy when his daughter, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, was elected to represent a part of his old Congressional district. She continues in that tradition of public service today as a valued friend and colleague. My wife Annette and I extend to her and all her family and friends our most sincere sympathy.

I ask all of my colleagues to join me in remembering a true public servant, Edward Roybal, who served California and our nation with honor, helping to make a better place for all Americans.

Mr. STARK. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of former Representative Edward Roybal who passed away on October 24, 2005. He is survived by his wife, Lucille Beserra Roybal, and his three children, Rep. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, Lillian Roybal-Rose and Edward Roybal, Jr.

Edward Ross Roybal was born on February 10, 1916 in Albuquerque, New Mexico and then moved to the Boyle Heights area of Los Angeles at an early age.

He began his political career as many of us did—by losing his first run for office. In reaction to that defeat, he founded the Los Angeles Community Service Organization (CSO) with the goal of mobilizing Los Angeles's Mexican-Americans against discrimination in housing, employment and education.

In 1949, following a groundswell of support from minority communities, Mr. Roybal was elected to the L.A. City Council, the first Hispanic to serve on the city council in more than a century.

In 1962, he was elected to the U.S. House of Representatives representing an LA District that changed several times during his 30-year tenure in the House.

At the time of his election, he became the first Hispanic from California to serve in Congress since 1879.

He was one of the founding members—and became the first chair—of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus (CHC).

During his time in Congress, he ascended to the powerful Appropriations Committee, where he was an outspoken advocate for funding for education, civil rights, and health programs.

He was one of the first members of Congress to press for HIV/AIDS research funding.

He was a true advocate for senior citizens as well. He served on the Select Committee on Aging—and was the Chairman from 1985 to 1993. He worked tirelessly for the rights of senior citizens and was most proud of his efforts to protect and expand the Meals on Wheels program.

Upon his retirement from Congress in 1992, Representative Roybal was honored to see his daughter—and our colleague—LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD elected to Congress to represent the newly-created 33rd District, which included a portion of the same district that Rep. Ed Roybal had represented in Congress for 30 years.

After leaving Congress, Ed continued to advocate for those he cared most about and founded a non-profit research agency, now called the Edward R. Roybal Institute for Applied Gerontology, at the California State University—Los Angeles campus.

In 1999, the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) honored Rep. Roybal's support for public health programs by naming its main campus in Atlanta in his honor and awarding him its Champion of Prevention Award.

Rep. Roybal was a tireless advocate for the less fortunate. He served his country with honor both in uniform and in this Congress. His contributions will be remembered and celebrated; his death will be deeply mourned.

On behalf of Congress, I extend my deepest sympathies to those he loved and those who loved him. He had a rich life and we can best honor him by striving to live up to his example of how best to serve.

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I thank my distinguished colleague and good friend from Texas for organizing this Special Order and for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay honor to a visionary leader, a distinguished public servant, and a great American, the late gentleman from California, Edward Roybal. Though I never had the pleasure of serving with Congressman Roybal in the House, I hold him in the highest regard, and I am grateful for the opportunity to join my colleagues in paying tribute to this amazing man.

Today, we mourn the loss of a truly inspiring individual, who spent his long career working to improve the lives of the underprivileged and underrepresented.

During his 30-year tenure in the House of Representatives, Congressman Roybal served with distinction and established himself as a powerful voice in the fight for social justice and a trailblazer among Latino leaders. He rose from the ranks of local politics to become one of the most powerful members of Congress, eventually serving on the House Appropriations Committee.

Though Congressman Roybal was not the most outspoken member of Congress, he was known as a man of action. He worked dili-

gently to give a voice to the voiceless, and fought to make significant policy changes to important issues that affected his constituents, especially the elderly, Latinos, and immigrants.

Even before his political career began, Congressman Roybal was fighting for civil rights and working to create unity in his East Los Angeles community. He established the Community Service Organization, which partnered the Jewish and Mexican-American communities in efforts to end the discrimination he witnessed in education, housing, and employment.

In 1949, Congressman Roybal overcame threats and racism to become the first Hispanic to serve on the Los Angeles City Council in more than a century. Though he faced discrimination, he was not deterred. He used his experiences as motivation to invoke change, and spent his career in public service advocating civil rights. As a leading figure in the Latino community, he worked to address the issues facing his many Latino constituents, whose problems were often ignored. Congressman Roybal understood the importance of supporting the Hispanic community—and in a country with more than 40 million Latinos, we see that his investment in this community was well founded.

As the son of immigrants, I applaud Congressman Roybal's work to protect the rights of those coming to America in search of a better life. He played a pivotal role in getting Congress to support funding initiatives for educational and medical services for immigrants, and he authored the Bilingual Education Act of 1968—the first federal law of its kind.

Congressman Roybal's efforts to help those that society often overlooks did not end there. During his extensive career in this chamber, he played a critical role in developing legislation to improve the lives of the elderly. As the founder and chairman of the House Select Committee on Aging, he was committed to improving housing and health care for our nation's seniors.

In the 1980s, when the country knew little about HIV and AIDS, Congressman Roybal was instrumental in securing funding for research of this deadly disease. His hard work inspired the Centers for Disease Control to rename its main campus after him.

The first Mexican-American to represent a district of California, Congressman Roybal began his career in the House in 1962, joining Henry B. González as the second Hispanic serving in the chamber at that time.

But Congressman Roybal was not content being merely a shining star among Latinos. He made it his personal mission to see that others would follow and served as a mentor to numerous lawmakers and aspiring public servants. He went on to found the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute and the National Association of Latino Elected and Appointed Officials, both influential organizations that empower Latinos and encourage their participation in politics. Today, thanks in part to CHCI's work and NALEO's advocacy, more than 6,000 Latinos serve in elected and appointed offices. Within the halls of Congress, he founded the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, which today boasts 21 members.

Congressman Roybal helped pave the way for Latinos in politics, and all of us serving in Congress—myself included—owe part of our success to him. I know his daughter, Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, feels

blessed to have had such an inspiring figure in her life, and I'm sure Congressman Roybal enjoyed seeing her continue his legacy in the House.

Once introduced as the "new Mexican councilman who also speaks Mexican," Congressman Roybal not only educated public officials about the Latino community, but created a lasting legacy in Los Angeles, where he has more buildings named after him than almost any other politician in the city.

Congressman Roybal received numerous honors, including two honorary doctor of law degrees and the Presidential Citizens Medal of Honor. But it is not his awards that people will remember. It is his dedication to serving his district and the Nation.

Edward Roybal was a man ahead of his time, who saw beyond the limits society tried to impose. His vision for this country has empowered and improved the lives of many in this Nation—and I would not be standing here in the midst of so many of my distinguished Latino colleagues if it hadn't been for the work of leaders like him. We are impressed by his many accomplishments and truly grateful for his outstanding service.

I would like to offer my sincere condolences to his wife, Lucille, and to my dear colleague, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, and her entire family. May they take comfort in the proud legacy that Congressman Roybal left behind, and may they find peace in knowing that his mission to defend civil rights and empower Latinos will be taken up and continued by those of us here today.

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of the most pre-eminent trailblazers in the Hispanic community—the recently departed former Congressman Edward Roybal from the great State of California.

Recently, we celebrated the unveiling of the portrait of Romualdo Pacheco—the first Hispanic elected to this body from the State of California. The man we honor today, Congressman Edward Roybal was the second Hispanic Member of Congress, elected in 1962—over 80 years since Congressman Pacheco served.

Congressman Roybal was a founding member of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus. He was also one of the founding members of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials (NALEO) and the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute. He made sure that the voice of the barrio was heard loud and clear in our Nation's capital. His example looms large over all of the work we do today.

Congressman Roybal wrote the first bilingual education law. He was a tireless champion for children and families whose first language was not English. He made a personal commitment to ensuring that language was no barrier to education, health services, voting rights, our court rooms and other areas vital to the community.

He was a champion for elderly Americans. He served on the Select Committee on Aging and fiercely protected programs such as Meals on Wheels.

As we prepare for the reauthorization of the Older Americans Act, his handiwork is evident, and his spirit lives on.

After leaving Congress, he found new venues for his advocacy. In 1993, former Representative Roybal used his leftover campaign funds to found a non-profit research agency dedicated to improving the quality and effec-

tiveness of health and human service delivery to older persons, now called the Edward R. Roybal Institute for Applied Gerontology at the California State University—Los Angeles campus.

Here in the halls of Congress, his legacy continues. The Congressional Hispanic Caucus that he founded is now 21 members strong and poised for growth. His daughter, our friend and colleague, Congresswoman LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD, carries on the family tradition of service and great leadership. LUCILLE has earned the respect of Members of Congress on both sides of the aisle the same way her father did it during his many years of service in Washington.

The best way we can honor Edward Roybal's memory is to continue the fight to improve the quality of life for our community— young and old, immigrant and native born, English speakers and speakers of other languages. To the Roybal family, I offer my heartfelt condolences and my pledge to continue the fight.

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in tribute to the late California Congressman Ed Roybal.

Ed Roybal left this nation a rich legacy. He was a civil rights and social justice champion. He was an advocate for those least likely to have a voice—the poor and the elderly. Ed Roybal consistently fought to invest in people, seeing the long-term benefit and future pay-off of this investment.

But Ed Roybal also forged a path in politics creating new opportunities for many Hispanics. Not only was Ed an inspiration to future generation, he' actively worked to encourage many in the Hispanic community to explore a future in politics—personally serving as a mentor to a number of future elected officials.

While I did not serve with Ed Roybal, my late husband did. Bob was honored to have served in the House of Representatives with him, as he greatly admired Ed. They shared a similar philosophy. Both chose not to allow discrimination in their youth define their role in life. Instead of condemning intolerance in this nation, Ed Roybal, chose to serve and make it a better place.

To my friend and colleague, LUCILLE and the entire Roybal family, please accept my deepest condolences on your loss.

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, Edward Roybal was a man of dignity and determination. I had the great pleasure of serving in Congress with him for 10 years. During that time, we worked very closely on immigration issues and on many matters affecting Los Angeles and California. He was not only a colleague, but my mentor and my friend.

Ed served his country in the Army during World War II and returned to serve it as one of America's political trailblazers.

Beginning with his first election to the Los Angeles City Council in 1949, Ed's distinguished career in politics spanned more than six decades. He was the first Hispanic elected to the Council since 1881 and he served there for four terms. It would take 23 additional years before another Mexican American took a seat on the City Council.

Although "just" a city official, Ed was a vociferous critic of the excesses of the House Un-American Activities Committee—and Jewish leaders in Los Angeles well remember how he stepped forward in the early 1950s to welcome the prime minister of Israel to the City of Angels.

In 1962, he was elected to Congress—the first Hispanic from California to serve in Congress since 1879. From that first campaign, the support given him by his constituents was unwavering. He never received less than 66 percent in a general election. The three times he was challenged in a primary, he won by more than 80 percent.

From his position as chairman of the Appropriation Committee's Subcommittee on Treasury, Postal Service and General Government, he sought funding for Alzheimer's victims, and for Alzheimer's disease research.

He introduced a medigap proposal, and had a universal health care bill. He promoted a measure to offset a national nursing shortage by providing funds to recruit and raise the salaries of nurses.

He also took on the cause of mental health treatment, passing provisions that expanded demonstration projects for rural mental health care and establishing a national mental health education program.

In 1985, he succeeded Representative Claude Pepper as chairman of the Select Committee on Aging. The two of them worked long and hard to provide funding for long-term health care for the chronically ill. In the 101st Congress, he helped enact legislation that reversed a 1989 Supreme Court ruling allowing age-based discrimination in employee benefits.

As a founding member and the first chairman of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, Ed mounted strong opposition to the Simpson-Mazzoli immigration bill because it imposed sanctions on U.S. employers who hired illegal immigrants. He worked against this provision with such intensity that it had to be brought up in three Congresses—two as Simpson-Mazzoli and one as Simpson-Rodino—before it finally won passage. I supported it, and learned in the process, that he could be not only a good friend, but a worthy adversary.

After his retirement from Congress, Ed maintained his interest in health care and public health programs and to this end, he founded the Edward R. Roybal Institute for Applied Gerontology at UCLA. The Centers for Disease Control named its Atlanta campus after him and named him their "Champion of Prevention"—an honor reserved for individuals who have made significant contributions to public health. He was also honored by President Clinton with the highest civilian award in the Nation—the Presidential Medal of Freedom—for his "exemplary deeds of service for our Nation."

No award meant more to him than the affection and respect of his family. He was enormously proud of his three children, LUCILLE, Lillian and Edward, Jr.—and I am certain that he was greatly pleased that his oldest daughter followed him into public service and into this great body, where U.S. Representative LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD serves with dedication and distinction and where she is one of my favorite colleagues.

I am privileged today to tell you of my enormous regard and high esteem for Edward R. Roybal—a mentor for a whole generation of Hispanic community leaders, a prominent national advocate for the elderly and the infirm, and a great champion for civil rights and social justice.

Mr. WAXMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of my former colleague, Edward Ross Roybal.

Ed Roybal lived an extraordinary life. As a young man growing up during the Great Depression, he joined the Civilian Conservation Corps. Later he served his country in World War II.

He made his jump into politics—and into history—in 1949. Ed was elected to the Los Angeles City Council, becoming the Council's first Hispanic Member in over 100 years. After 13 years of distinguished service to Los Angeles, Ed was elected to the House of Representatives.

From 1963 to 1993, Ed Roybal served this House—and his constituents—with distinction. He was a quiet power on the Appropriations Committee and used his enormous influence to help those who needed help the most. He worked tirelessly for funding health and civil rights programs and spearheaded efforts to restore funding for programs benefiting the nation's elderly population. He was ultimately successful in preserving the widely used Meals on Wheels program.

In 1976, Ed was one of the founding members of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus and served as its first chair. He was also one of the founding members of the National Association of Latino Elected Officials, NALEO, as well as the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute.

After deciding not to run for re-election in 1992, Ed's daughter, LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD was elected to Congress to carry on Ed's essential work.

His service to his community did not end when he left public office. In 1993, Ed established a non-profit research organization committed to efficient health and human service delivery to the elderly. The center is now known as the Edward R. Roybal Institute for Applied Gerontology. In 2001, Ed Roybal received the Presidential Citizens Medal from President Clinton. And in 2004, the Mexican-American Political Association honored him as a "Latino Legend of the 20th Century."

Ed Roybal will always be remembered as a dedicated community activist and a devoted public servant who always made the needs of those he served paramount. His life and work will continue to serve as an example to us all. I was proud to have served in the House with him and I consider him a friend and mentor.

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, today we mourn the loss of a 20th Century American giant, Congressman Edward Roybal. When I got to Congress so many years ago, there were not many people in Washington that I could identify with or look up to as a role model. There were just a few Hispanics in Congress when I arrived there. Nobody stood taller than Ed Roybal in my eyes. He was already a legend in Congress and Los Angeles.

Lord knows we were different—he was a businessman from California, I was a sheriff from Texas. But we were more the same for our backgrounds in families that came from modest means. We both represented a large number of low income people.

We met in 1976—the year the Congressional Hispanic Caucus, or CHC—was founded. Even then he was organizing the nation's elected Hispanic officials; and as a County Commissioner in Texas, I was invited to a conference on Hispanic matters.

My first impression was what a gentleman he was, and how smart and well-organized. He seemed to know everybody and know everything about the organs of government at all

levels. He was a charming and gentle mentor. Paying tribute to Ed Roybal is to remember that to see the future, you must stand on the shoulders of a giant. And this Hispanic pioneer had giant shoulders on which we all stand today.

When Ed came to Congress in 1963, he was nearly alone as a Hispanic member of Congress. He faced quite a quandary: While he represented a Los Angeles area district, he carried the hopes and dreams of a growing segment of the population that lived all over the Nation.

When he left Congress in early 1993, he saw not only his beloved daughter win a seat in Congress—he witnessed yet another growth spurt of the number of Hispanic members sitting in Congress. That year our Caucus grew to 20 members, quadrupling the membership just over a decade earlier when Ed founded the CHC.

Ed knew that he and his Hispanic colleagues: Herman Badillo, Kika de la Garza, Henry Gonzalez, and Baltasar Corrada del Rio represented disjointed districts and the interests of the national Hispanic community. It was Ed's leadership in this group that led to the creation of the Congressional Hispanic Caucus in 1976.

When he talked about the formation of the CHC, he talked about the use of other Hispanic members as a "force multiplier"—or the philosophy that more people working together created more opportunities and more information for the larger national community. In the beginning, there were just the five members and they all sat on various committees. Ed knew if there was a central organization for the sitting members, it would be easier for all of them to know what was coming in the various committees.

In Washington, information is power. Ed understood that and through the CHC the Hispanics in Congress shared information in a regular, organized way.

He was an extraordinary visionary. Just as he organized the Hispanic members of Congress to maximize our numbers to serve the larger Hispanic population—Ed also carried that vision beyond Capitol Hill.

He helped create the National Association of Latino Elected Officials, NALEO, which connects the Hispanic office holders around the Nation.

Visiting Ed's Capitol Hill office was to take a walk through the important events of the 20th Century.

There were pictures of Ed with President Kennedy, with President Johnson, with Cesar Chavez, and with dozens of other bigger-than-life people. His office seemed almost like a living museum.

He loved his wife very much. They were a beautiful couple. They were always together and he was so attentive.

He was forever explaining to the younger members: the issues are large and complex, and our population is growing, be smart. He was enormously respected on both sides of the aisle and that may have been the legacy he will be remembered for by those of us who labor on Capitol Hill.

Ed never believed the other party was bad or evil; he knew we were all Americans, and we all wanted the best for our Nation.

He brought his considerable business sense to our cause.

Realizing that our future was literally ours to shape, Ed founded, in 1978, a non-profit

called the Congressional Hispanic Caucus Institute, whose main purpose was: "each one, teach one."

CHCI, the Institute, was created to bring young people to Capitol Hill each year, put them in congressional offices to learn and understand the dynamics of our government, then send them back to their communities with more savvy about affecting change at the national level. In the early 1980s after my service in Congress began, Ed pointed out that we were wasting precious resources on rent for the Institute on Capitol Hill and insisted that we buy a building. He told us this was literally an investment in our children's future, and in the future of the Hispanic community. As always, he was right.

While Ed was a quiet man, he had an unwavering commitment to the principles of justice and compassion and to the poor, the elderly and the disenfranchised. He had an enormous heart, a quick wit, and was among the smartest members I ever served with. I was always fascinated by his stories of his early days in the 1960s when the population of Hispanic members of Congress could be counted on one hand. Many of his stories reminded me of experiences many of us shared—how other members of Congress were surprised that he spoke English fluently, with exceptional diction how people didn't think he was Mexican because he didn't have a long mustache or wear a sombrero.

Ed Roybal's legacy simply cannot be measured but it can be found in policies he championed, in the organizations he created to further the cause of Hispanic Americans, in the thousands of young lives he touched and influenced during the course of his amazing public service and in the service of his daughter who went on to follow in his footsteps in Congress.

Mr. LANTOS. Mr. Speaker, at the recent memorial service for our former colleague the Honorable Edward Roybal of California, whom we remember tonight, my distinguished friend the Honorable DAVID DREIER delivered a moving eulogy. The remarks that I will submit for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD include Mr. DREIER's recollections of the powerful influence that our friend Mr. Roybal had on this House. It is in that same bipartisan spirit that I compliment my colleague, Mr. DREIER, for his comments. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the remarks of Mr. DREIER be included in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

STATEMENT OF THE HONORABLE DAVID DREIER HONORING FORMER CONGRESSMAN ED ROYBAL, NOVEMBER 15, 2005

Mr. Speaker, recently, our nation lost two icons in the battle for equal rights. Twenty-five years before Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on that bus in Montgomery, Alabama, a young Ed Roybal was in the vanguard of the struggle for equality here in Los Angeles.

Speeches are given in Congress every day. Mr. Roybal's account of his fight for justice was one of the most memorable speeches I've ever heard.

He told a packed House chamber that the Evergreen swimming pool in Boyle Heights was a favorite neighborhood hangout where fun was had by all. There was just one problem. They would only allow Mexican Americans to swim the day before the pool was to be cleaned. Still a teenager, Ed Roybal led the effort to overturn that abhorrent policy.

Without bitterness or anger but with resolve he spent the rest of his life confronting the Evergreen pools that pervade our culture and laws.

The Times called him, "a mentor to scores of lawmakers." I hope this doesn't upset anyone but he had at least one Republican protege who has been inspired by his example. Mr. Roybal was a giant in public service. A gracious man, who through his conscience and his actions was one of the great leaders of this city and our nation.

I have served in Congress for twenty-five years. It has been an honor to be a colleague of Mr. Roybal's for half that time and a colleague of Lucille's for the other half. There is no greater tribute to his legacy than the dedication of his daughter to the very same ideals and beliefs that guided him.

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart at the loss but pride for the service of Congressman Ed Roybal that we yield back the balance of our time.

MEDICARE PRESCRIPTION PART D DRUG PLAN

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. DAVIS of Kentucky). Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2005, the gentleman from Georgia (Mr. GINGREY) is recognized for 60 minutes as the designee of the majority leader.

Mr. GINGREY. Mr. Speaker, I have an hour as the designee to talk about the subject that I want to bring to my colleagues, but I think I need to take at least a few seconds of my time from this side of the aisle to express my and our heartfelt sympathies to our colleague, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD), on the death of her father.

I spent the last 15 minutes listening to their special hour and learning about that great, great American who represented the State of California so well in this body for 30 years; and I want to express my sympathy to my colleague from California.

Mr. Speaker, today, November 15, is a historic day and not just because it is my wife Billie's birthday, which it is. Happy birthday, honey. But really the historic aspect of today is the roll-out and the sign-up today for the first of a 6-month window of opportunity for our seniors to voluntarily sign up for the Medicare part D prescription drug plan which this Congress made available to them in December of 2003. So indeed, Mr. Speaker, today, November 15, is indeed a historic day.

I have seen clips of the original signing of the Medicare legislation back in 1965 when President Lyndon Baines Johnson signed that bill into law. Actually, the very first person to sign up for the other voluntary part of Medicare, the part B which is applicable to the physician care and outpatient testing, not the hospital part but the voluntary part, the first individual to sign up for that was former President Harry Truman, that being 40 years ago.

Here we are now finally, Mr. Speaker, after all of these years, offering something that was left out of that original program, I guess for a fairly good reason. Maybe back then, I was a freshman in medical school, I barely knew who was happening, but there was not

quite the emphasis then on prescription drug treatment. We had some good prescriptions but not nearly what is available to our public and our seniors today; and there was much more emphasis on trying to get hospital care and needed surgery, emergency room care, indeed long-term care, skilled nursing home care for people who had, as an example, suffered a stroke.

So this was all very, very important in the program; and I know my colleagues on both sides of the aisle would agree with me it has been a great success. There was some concern, though, I remember this much about it as I was working as a scrub technician during the summertime hearing the doctors at the scrub sink before they went into surgery, talking about this new law that was going into effect, this Medicare bill. There was some naysayers, no question about it, and some were downright opposed to it. But so many seniors were living in poverty and not getting needed health care, and it at that time was a Godsend for them.

Mr. Speaker, I will say this. I think today, starting today, November 15, 2005, some 40 years later another Godsend is coming to our seniors, brought to them by this Congress and this President, this administration, and that is the Medicare part D prescription drug coverage. It is especially a Godsend for those seniors who are living at or near the Federal poverty level, and I say that because heretofore they have not been able to afford prescription drugs.

They go to their doctor and get maybe a handful of prescriptions because many of our seniors who are living just off of a Social Security check are the very ones that have what are called co-morbidities, more than one disease, maybe high blood pressure, heart disease and diabetes; and they need to take four or five or maybe six prescriptions a day. They are the very ones who cannot afford it, not that they do not want to. They want to take care of themselves, but they also want to eat, and they want to have a roof over their head, and they have to pay their utility bills, so this program is so necessary for them.

In the past, Mr. Speaker, what has been happening is they would put off taking care of themselves because they have could not afford the prescriptions. Then, when some catastrophe would occur, they would finally get care, whether it was in the emergency room because their high blood pressure led to a stroke or whether it was on the operating table because their blood sugar, their diabetes was out of control and led to a limb becoming gangrenous and needed an amputation or maybe even because of high cholesterol they would have to have open heart surgery.

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We have finally begun this prescription drug part D sign-up as of today, and that is what makes November 15, 2005, so historic.

I want to spend most of my time then talking about this aspect of the Medicare Modernization Act of 2003. There are other things that I think are going to be tremendously helpful.

I will mention just briefly, Mr. Speaker, the fact that with this change in the law, for the first time a senior can actually go to his or her internist or family practitioner, we call them primary care specialist, and get a complete, thorough physical examination when they turn 65, if you want to call it an entry-level physical examination. In the past, that was not paid for, and a lot of these diseases that I have already spoken of in their earlier stages have no symptoms at all, and people really do not know, but with this new program, they get an opportunity to go have that physical exam.

Also included in the modernization piece is the coverage for a lot of screening tests that were not included in the original Medicare. I am talking about things like mammograms, screening for breast cancer obviously; colonoscopies, screening for colon cancer; PSA blood testing, screening for prostate cancer. I am talking about checking blood sugar. I am talking about getting a cholesterol level to see if the patient needs to be on one of these statin drugs that do such a great job of hopefully preventing heart attacks.

All of this is now available to our seniors. I am not going to spend a lot of time, as I say, Mr. Speaker, on that aspect of the bill because I really do want to spend most of the hour talking about the prescription drug part because it is so important.

I have got a few posters here, and we will be referring to them from time to time. I also have some of my colleagues that have worked so hard and been so supportive of this legislation and are working hard in their districts as we roll out this program. As they go home, usually we get back into the district on Thursday or Friday morning, and I know a lot of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle are holding town hall meetings and trying to explain to the seniors and assure them that although this is somewhat complicated, there are people there to help them through the process and encouraging them, especially the low-income individuals that I spoke of, to sign up and sign up early.

They do have 6 months to do it. It starts November 15, today, and goes until May 15 of 2006. They have that window of opportunity; but it would be a real mistake, particularly for our low-income seniors, not to get signed up before the end of the year because the program really starts, Mr. Speaker, and I know my colleagues are aware of this, it starts on January 1. So if they wait till the last minute into May of 2006, they will have actually missed 5 months of opportunity, in many instances, to get their prescription drugs with hardly any cost, and I will repeat that, with hardly any cost except