

equitable for the 13th than the present situation.

In proposing this legislation, the shareholders of the 13th are seeking equity by being placed on a stronger and more equal footing with respect to the Native shareholders of the other 12 Native Regional Corporations. This is supported by the Alaska Native community. This proposal has been endorsed by the Alaska Federation of Natives, and by the Association of Regional Corporation Presidents, and it has been thoroughly considered by the Alaska delegation.

My first term in Congress was the one immediately following the enactment of ANSCA in late 1971. I can tell you that neither the act nor its implementation focused much attention on the 13th. They were not fully represented, so Members of the Washington State delegation like the late Congressman Lloyd Meeds and Senator Henry Jackson took their side but were not able to accomplish land rights for the 13th, or a monetary settlement in its stead. Congressman Meeds believed throughout his life that this was a matter that required resolution.

What the 13th will receive under the new bill is, with one major exception, the same per capita land right that all other regional corporations received, no more and no less. The number of acres is arrived at by taking the total number of acres conveyed to the other Regional Corporations pursuant to section 12(c) of ANSCA—15,769,600 acres—and after subtracting Sealaska's shareholders—Sealaska received a separate entitlement—and the shareholders of the 13th—which received no land—dividing this 15,769,600 acres by 60,026, the number of original Native shareholders enrolled to the other 11 Native Regional Corporations. On a per capita basis, the shareholders of the other 11 Regional Corporations received approximately 262.7 acres per original shareholder. This per capita number multiplied by the 4,426 original shareholders of the 13th results in the 1,162,710 acres.

The bill gives absolute priority to land selections of other Native Corporations and the State of Alaska. Additionally, the bill prohibits the 13th from making selections within conservation system units, the Tongass and Chugach National Forests, the National Petroleum Reserve—Alaska, and other potentially sensitive public lands.

The major exception is that all other interests, from the State, to other Native corporations and the conservation community, were able to make their land selections, and win congressional approval, when the land eligible for selection was prime, high on the list of priorities. The 13th comes behind all other priorities, including State and Native selections, national conservation lands, and others. The intent is that the land of the 13th is likely to be selected in a cooperative process with other land owners and can be complimentary to those selections, by other regions or villages, the State or other public purposes. I believe this is not only fair but good policy as Alaska moves forward. It is simply time to resolve this long-standing inequity and to provide the 13th with the right to do what all other Native regions have done. I urge my colleagues to join with me in achieving this goal this year.

HONORING GERRY B. SHREIBER

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Gerry B. Shreiber for his long-standing dedication to animal welfare and animal rights. On April 6, 2006, Gerry's family, friends, and colleagues gathered at the Mansion on Main Street in Voorhees, NJ, for the Animal Adoption Center Dinner where he was awarded the Southern New Jersey Humanitarian of the Year Award.

Mr. Shreiber is the President and CEO of J and J Snack Foods Corp., which has received numerous awards in the worlds of both business and philanthropy. Gerry is an avid animal lover and contributes significant time and resources to the betterment of animals. He is currently the Director of the North American Wildlife Park Foundation and is a member of many animal welfare organizations including the World Wildlife Fund, National Wildlife Federation, American Anti-Vivisection Society, International Fund for Animal Welfare, Animal Welfare Institute, Greenpeace, and PETA. Gerry has personally saved many animals' lives and currently lives on his New Jersey farm with over twenty animals. He is also active in our community at large including the Juvenile Diabetes Foundation, Jewish Community Center of Atlantic County, and serves on the Advisory Board at the Rutgers School of Business.

Gerry Shreiber's dedication and selfless service to animals and to our greater community is an inspiration to humanitarians everywhere. I thank Gerry, and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN E. PETERSON

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. PETERSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 273, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

TRIBUTE TO THE ARMY'S 231ST BIRTHDAY

HON. CHET EDWARDS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself and Representative JOHN MCHUGH. As the co-chairs the House Army Caucus, we would like to salute the United States Army on its 231st birthday.

On June 14, 1775, more than a year before the ratification of the Declaration of Independence, the Continental Congress created Continental Army, which later became the U.S. Army. That day, as the Americans prepared for war against the British, Congress undertook an effort to raise ten companies of riflemen and accepted responsibility for thousands

of men who were already assembled in New England and New York.

From that brave beginning was born the Army that defeated the British and gave us our Nation. From that brave beginning came more than 200 years of accomplishment and tradition and has brought us the unparalleled force we have today.

Through the last 231 years, the United States Army has fought to bring freedom to the American people and then to protect it. It has fought for liberty and against tyranny across the globe, and free people everywhere owe a debt to the sacrifices of individual soldiers, many of whom gave their lives for people they never knew.

Today's Army faces new challenges and new threats, but is still the right arm of freedom in this world. New democracies in Iraq, Afghanistan, Bosnia and Kosovo owe a debt of gratitude to U.S. Army soldiers that have sacrificed on their behalf.

We are representatives today of the House Army Caucus, but each of us have represented thousands of soldiers who have served our Nation in harm's way. Each of us has met with the men and women who are part of this outstanding institution and have devoted their lives to their Nation. These men and women are models of courage and dedication; their selfless service to the Nation will serve as inspiration to citizens in the 21st century and beyond.

Mr. Speaker, on this day, of all days, we recognize that without our Army, we truly would not have a nation in the first place. As we recognize this monumental day, we ask our colleagues to join us in celebrating the contributions, traditions, and service of the Army and its dedication to the past, present, and future of this great Nation.

TRIBUTE TO JUDGE LAWRENCE BIELAWSKI

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, today I ask the House of Representatives to join me in honoring Judge Lawrence Bielawski as he retires from his seat on the Michigan 18th Judicial Circuit Court in Bay County. His retirement will be celebrated at a dinner on June 23 in Bay City, Michigan.

Lawrence Bielawski is a lifelong resident of Bay City. After graduating from St. Stanislaus High School in 1964, he received a Bachelor of Science Degree in Business Administration from Central Michigan University and a Juris Doctor Degree from Detroit College of Law. His first position in the legal field was an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney in Bay County. He went on to private practice until Judge Bielawski became an Administrative Law Judge in the Bureau of Workers' Disability Compensation starting in 1984.

He went on to become a member of the Workers' Compensation Appeals Board and a Workers' Compensation Magistrate before being appointed to the 18th Judicial Circuit Court by Governor James J. Blanchard in 1988. Ten years later he became the Chief Judge of the Court and has served in that capacity since that time.

Staying true to his roots in Bay County, Judge Bielawski is a member of St. Stanislaus Church and is active in the St. Stanislaus Usher's Club and the Athletic Club. He served as the Vice President and Advocate with the latter organization until his appointment to the bench. His father served as the Chair of the Bay County Democratic Party for over 26 years. Judge Bielawski followed in his dad's footsteps and is a lifetime member of the Michigan Democratic Party. Larry Bielawski was the Vice President of the Bay County Democratic Party and the Chairman of the James Blanchard Election Committee for Bay County.

Always serving the community, Judge Bielawski is also affiliated with the Salvation Army Advisory Board, St. Hyacinth Athletic Club, Knights of Columbus, St. George Society, the Lion's Club, and the Bay Area Chamber of Commerce. He married his wife Patricia in 1969 and they have three wonderful children.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be able to stand before the House of Representatives and ask you to join me in paying tribute to a dedicated public servant, Judge Lawrence Bielawski, as he embarks upon a new phase in his life. I wish him the best in all his future endeavors.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL ENGLISH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. ENGLISH of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I was present and voting during the series of rolled votes that included rollcall No. 261, on ordering the previous question on the rule for consideration of H.R. 5576, Transportation, Treasury, HUD, Judiciary, D.C. Appropriations for 2007. While I was recorded as "yes" on the previous question, I intended to cast a "no" vote.

IN SUPPORT OF THE GLOBAL WAR
ON TERROR AND THE WORK
THAT GOES ON AT GUANTANAMO
BAY

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, the suicide of three suspected dedicated terrorists imprisoned at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, has once again provided fodder for the enemies of the U.S.-led Global War on Terror. They are using the suicides to attack one of the most important components of this war: our ability to detain dangerous men and women and extract important information from them that will help protect American lives.

The critics, who come from the media, Congress, the blame-America first crowd and even the terrorists themselves, have long sought the psychological victory that would come with the closing of the military prison at Gitmo, and now even President Bush has been swayed by their criticism, saying that the prison is damaging the image of the U.S. at home and abroad.

After the fire at the Pentagon was extinguished, the rubble was cleared at Ground Zero, and the remains of the last victim were buried, it seems that the memory of the September 11th attacks has slowly faded away from the minds of many people. I would urge those people to consider that the memory of that day would be a daily reality were it not for the brave men and women who serve in our military and have apprehended the heinous thugs and criminals housed at Guantanamo Bay.

To make matters worse, the blame-America first crowd is not only demanding that we close Guantanamo Bay, but they are also suggesting that those imprisoned there be released, so they can return to their homelands and plot more attacks against America; a move which the Bush administration has said

it absolutely would not make. As the President said, "there are some, if put on the streets, who would create grave harm to American citizens and other citizens of the world."

Moving prisoners to another facility would simply move the controversy from Gitmo to a new prison. Creating a Guantanamo Bay military prison somewhere else would do nothing to satisfy its critics, and in fact, would embolden the terrorists by providing them with a marvelous psychological victory by allowing them to praise that Gitmo is no more.

I wish the prison at Gitmo was not necessary and its cells were empty, but that's not the reality we live with today. There are fanatic and committed terrorists and Islamofascists throughout the world who are set on hurting Americans and the West, and they need to be captured and detained. The face of Gitmo may be ugly to some, Mr. Speaker, but so was the sight of human beings jumping from the top of the World Trade Center. The terrorists brought this war to us, and I believe we need to stand firm, and keep Gitmo in business until the Global War on Terror is finally won.

CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF JOSHUA WILLIAM ALBON

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 14, 2006

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, today I am happy to congratulate Captain and Mrs. Brian Albon, USMC, of Jacksonville, North Carolina, on the birth of their new baby son. Joshua William Albon was born on June 10, 2006, at 7:42 a.m., weighing 6 pounds and 13 ounces. Joshua has been born into a loving home, where he will be raised by parents who are devoted to his well-being and bright future. His birth is a blessing.