

vital to the morale and welfare of our men and women in the Armed Forces. For this reason, I am honored to have this opportunity to speak in support of H. Con. Res. 322 and recognize the USO for their invaluable contributions to the success of our U.S. military.

I urge my colleagues to support H. Con. Res. 322.

IN GRATITUDE TO MR. JESUS
SALAS

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the extraordinary accomplishments and contributions of a leader in the Fourth Congressional District. Mr. Jesus Salas retired in December 2005, concluding an 18-year teaching career at Milwaukee Area Technical College, MATC. Though his teaching career has ended, he will no doubt continue his life's work advancing the cause of civil rights and justice.

A noted pioneer in the fight for civil rights, Mr. Salas participated in a series of landmark actions in the 1960s. Together with Father Groppi, Mr. Salas helped organize the Welfare Rights March in downtown Milwaukee, and was a leader in the landmark march from Milwaukee to the State capitol in Madison. He was part of a multi-racial group of civil rights leaders who together protested segregated housing, pushed for greater worker protections and demanded greater access to education for people of color.

Mr. Salas has exhibited a profound commitment to the rights of migrant workers. He pushed for enforcement of laws that would protect migrant workers from exploitative conditions, including low wages, unhealthy working conditions and poor housing. As the founder of Obreros Unidos, Mr. Salas led the first sustained effort at unionizing migrant workers in the Great Lakes region, and he served as the first Hispanic executive director of United Migrant Opportunity Services, Inc.

Furthermore, Mr. Salas is a staunch advocate for education. He fought to improve access to college education for Hispanic youth, while also demanding that educational institutions provide curricula that reflect the history and accomplishments of the Hispanic community. As a result of his efforts, the University of Wisconsin-Madison created a Chicano studies program, the Milwaukee Area Technical College instituted a bilingual education program, and the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee created the Spanish Speaking Outreach Institute—now the Roberto Hernandez Center—to recruit, advise and support Hispanic students. Generations of Hispanic leaders to come will be able to thank Mr. Salas for working to ensure the increased educational opportunities they will enjoy.

I know Mr. Salas will continue to identify and advocate for educational innovations in his role as a member of the University of Wisconsin Board of Regents. Along with members of the Fourth Congressional District's Hispanic community, I extend to him my heartfelt congratulations and wish him all the best in his future endeavors.

A PROCLAMATION CONGRATULATING VICE ADMIRAL THAD ALLEN FOR HIS NOMINATION TO COAST GUARD COMMANDANT POST

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, Mr. COBLE, Mr. BROWN of South Carolina, and I would ask that you join us today in congratulating Vice Admiral Thad Allen in his nomination for the post of Commandant.

Mr. Speaker, on September 11, 2001 the United States of America experienced the greatest terrorist attack to ever reach U.S. soil. We were not prepared for such a horrific event, as we never imagined terrorists would take such drastic measures.

While we've always been a strong nation with resilient leaders, the post 9-11 world we live in has taught the American citizens that we must be prepared for the unknown. The people who lead this country must be amongst the elite. It has been challenging to restore the confidence Americans have in their leaders since that attack. As elected officials it has been our duty and privilege to protect and uphold the safety and the ideals of our citizens. We must be diligent in choosing people to manage this Country.

The White House announced that the Coast Guard's Chief of Staff, Vice Admiral Thad Allen was nominated for the Commandant Post. At this time, we ask that our colleagues join with us in congratulating him on this nomination.

Vice Admiral Thad Allen is known for his loyalty, hard work, and dedication to his post. The American people can be proud to have this man working for them. He first showed his distinct leadership skills as he led Atlantic services in the Coast Guard's reaction to the September 11th attacks. Then, just last year we watched with anticipation as he replaced FEMA Director, Michael Brown. His strength as a leader changed the dynamic of the relief efforts, helping to ensure our citizens received the assistance they sought.

Vice Admiral Thad Allen restored the faith the American people so desperately needed in a leader. Without a doubt, he is revered for his work after the Hurricane Katrina disaster. We are confident he will not disappoint with the Commandant Post. He has served as the Chief of Staff and Commanding Officer at the G.G. Headquarters, Commander of Atlantic Area, and Commander of the Fifth and Seventh Coast Guard Districts.

Mr. Speaker, we ask that you join with us today in congratulations to Vice Admiral Thad Allen for his nomination to the Commandant Post. A man of his caliber is truly an inspiration.

RECOGNITION OF THE HONORABLE FRANK L. OLIVER OF 195TH LEGISLATIVE DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. FATTAH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Pennsylvania State Representative Frank L. Oliver, for his outstanding service and invaluable dedication to the people of the 195th Legislative District of the State of Pennsylvania.

Representative Oliver, a lifelong Philadelphian, began his tenure in the State House in 1973. He serves on the Agricultural and Rural Affairs Committee, the Democratic Policy Committee, and most notably, as Chairman of the Health and Human Services Committee, a post he has held since 1995. As Chairman, he has overseen proposed regulations of the Pennsylvania Departments of Health and Public Welfare, and the Healthcare Cost Containment Council.

Most recently, Mr. Oliver recommended a study on ways to improve urban public health, specifically investigating the lack of supermarkets in urban areas. Within months of the study's completion, the General Assembly passed, and Governor Rendell signed into law, an economic stimulus package that will provide financial assistance to urban and rural supermarkets in underserved areas. Pennsylvania is the first state to create a statewide supermarket-directed development program of this kind.

Also notable in his legislative career is Mr. Oliver's "Healthier Women Today for a Better Tomorrow" initiative. The plan calls for expansion of family leave, strengthening of domestic violence laws, funding for community outreach to at-risk families with young children, and providing access to treatment options for breast and cervical cancer.

Representative Oliver's extensive legislative accomplishments are a testament to his unwavering commitment to the causes of the residents of the City of Philadelphia and the State of Pennsylvania. For that reason I am proud to recognize his accomplishments here in the United States House of Representatives.

HONORING ST. MARGARET OF SCOTLAND CATHOLIC CHURCH ON THE OCCASION OF ITS 100TH YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church on the occasion of its 100th year.

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church has been a vital partner of the city of Foley and the state of Alabama. The church was founded in 1906, and for a century, this congregation has been worshipping God and serving the people of south Alabama.

The congregation of St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church has used its resources

and opportunities to provide hope, comfort, instruction, and inspiration to so many along the Gulf Coast. Over the past two years, this parish has responded to the needs of the victims of Hurricanes Ivan and Katrina, including providing temporary housing, utilities and food for six evacuated families.

St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church has lovingly served the people of Foley through its contributions to Catholic Social Services for Baldwin County, Relay for Life, and Foley Alcoholics Anonymous.

It is my sincere hope that the St. Margaret of Scotland Catholic Church will continue to be such a source of inspiration, hope, and comfort to the people of Foley for another 100 years, and I rise today to salute this congregation and the many contributions they have made toward the betterment of south Alabama.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, February 14, 2006 due to urgent personal matters I missed Rollcall votes Nos. 8 and 9. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on H. Con. Res. 322 and S. 1989.

CONGRATULATING MR. GARY
DENICK ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Gary Denick on the occasion of his retirement after serving the U.S. House of Representatives for 28 years.

Mr. Denick joined the production staff of the House Recording Studio as a camera operator in 1978. He rose to production director and became director in 2002. Mr. Denick was even part of the history making crew that provided the first floor coverage of House proceedings.

Mr. Denick began his career in 1972 as a soldier in the U.S. Army after graduating from Miami University of Ohio. He was trained as a television specialist, served a tour of duty in the Republic of Korea and was honorably discharged in 1975. Over the course of his nearly three decades with the House Recording Studio, countless members and their staffs have come to know Gary and call him a friend, me included.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated professional and friend to many throughout this body. I know Mr. Denick's colleagues, his family, and his many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of the House Recording Studio and the U.S. House of Representatives.

CONGRATULATING MR. DAN
HORNAK ON THE OCCASION OF
HIS RETIREMENT

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 15, 2006

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise to honor Mr. Dan Hornak on the occasion of his retirement after serving the U.S. House of Representatives for 20 years.

From an elementary school teacher, to a sheriff's deputy, to a television news cameraman, there is not much that Dan Hornak has not tried. He joined the House Recording Studio staff in 1986 as a camera operator and rose to the position of television director. Over the course of his two decades with the House Recording Studio, countless members and their staffs have come to know Dan and call him a friend, me included.

In the midst of his professional schedule, Dan also found time to discover, restore, and return a stolen oil portrait to Italy. Among his many goals for retirement, Dan includes writing a book about returning this stolen portrait.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated professional and friend to many throughout this body. I know Mr. Hornak's colleagues, his family, and his many friends join with me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years on behalf of the House Recording Studio and the U.S. House of Representatives.