

cancer. The town of Ramsey, Harrison County, and the state of Indiana lost a proud and prominent member of their community. I am privileged to have had such an outstanding Hoosier as a constituent and I cannot see any greater honor for a father, husband, community leader, employer, veteran and friend known for his dedication to family, faith, business and community, Wilfred Edward Sieg, Sr., Cousin Willie than by bestowing this honor upon him.

COLLEGE ACCESS AND
OPPORTUNITY ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 30, 2006

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 609) to amend and extend the Higher Education Act of 1965:

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Chairman, I rise today to support H.R. 609, the College Access and Opportunity Act. While this bill to reauthorize the Higher Education Act is by no means perfect, the bill represents an expanded opportunity and a chance to succeed for the hundreds of thousands of minority students who dream of obtaining a college degree. That is why I plan to vote for the bill today.

College degrees open many doors to the future. Students that obtain bachelor degrees have on average higher earning potentials, more competitive jobs, and higher standards of living. But many minority students are unable to obtain a college degree because they lack the necessary resources to do so, and as a result the doors to opportunity often remain closed. Data from 2000 shows that only 13 percent of Hispanics and 15 percent of Blacks in California earned a bachelor's degree, compared to 31 percent for Caucasians.

Despite its flaws, H.R. 609 contains key provisions that will help Hispanics and other minorities succeed academically from the day they enter Kindergarten to the day they receive their college diploma and beyond.

The bill supports minorities in elementary and secondary education by recruiting minorities to the teaching profession and focusing on the needs of Limited English Proficient students.

In addition, the bill creates new "Centers for Excellence" programs that will prepare teachers, including minority teachers, to become "Highly Qualified" in K-12 classrooms.

Beyond high school, the bill reauthorizes the High School Equivalency Program (HEP) that assists low-income migrant and seasonal farmworkers to obtain a high school diploma or certificate, and it reauthorizes the College Assistance Migrant Program (CAMP) that provides tutoring and counseling to migrant students in their first year of college.

The bill also supports Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs) by establishing a new HSI grant for graduate degrees and by eliminating the two-year wait between grant applications.

In closing let me highlight some of my concerns, which I hope will be addressed as the bill moves through the process to passage. In particular, I am concerned that the bill does

not invest in critical student aid programs on a high enough level. The most telling example is that of Pell Grants, which help many disadvantaged children to go to college. This bill would set maximum Pell Grants at the abysmally low amount of \$6,000. I was especially disappointed that Democrats were not allowed to offer an amendment to authorize higher funding levels for Pell Grants and other student aid and support programs.

Nevertheless, this bill does provide a much needed single definition of higher education and reauthorizes successful programs such as GEAR UP, TRIO, grants for alcohol and drug abuse prevention, and the Perkins Loan. These efforts to strengthen existing programs and provide benefits for Hispanic and other minority students who dream of a college education led me to vote for H.R. 609 today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, on the evening of April 6, 2006, I was unable to vote due to an important prescheduled speaking engagement, for which I was granted a leave of absence. I would like the RECORD to reflect that, had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call vote numbers 93, 94, 95, 96, 97, 98 and 99.

TRIBUTE TO REVEREND JEROME
A. GREENE

HON. JOSÉ E. SERRANO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. SERRANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Rev. Jerome A. Greene, a dear friend, who used his life to uplift and empower others. Although Reverend Greene passed away on August 23, 2004, his lifetime of service lives on in the hearts and minds of the residents of the Bronx. On Wednesday, April 19, 2006, his city and his home borough will show its gratitude to this remarkable man by renaming Teller Avenue between E. 168th and E. 169th "Reverend Jerome A. Greene Place".

Reverend Greene was born March 12, 1941 in Welch, West Virginia to Emmanuel Greene and Savannah Elsie Anderson. As a young man he led the fight for the integration of his high school in West Virginia and became the first black male to graduate with honors. Upon graduating from high school, he moved to Queens, NY and enrolled in City College. Graduating with a degree in education, Greene began his teaching career in Harlem in 1963.

In 1967, Reverend Greene left the public school system to serve as Director of Programming, Evaluation, Education and Training at the Morrisania Community Progress Center. Although he was no longer with the public school system, Reverend Greene remained committed to improving the educational experience of New York students. Realizing the importance of putting more teachers in the classroom, he helped to secure millions of dollars

to create more than 600 paraprofessional jobs in various school districts. His efforts not only earned him the nickname "Father of Paraprofessionals" but the respect and admiration of the young men and women he helped to employ, myself included. My experiences as a paraprofessional in the late 1960's provided me with a unique understanding of the public school system and helped to shape my career as a public servant. I will always be grateful to Reverend Greene for helping to open the door that enabled me to serve my community.

In 1975, Reverend Greene married his beloved Aurelia and for 29 years they worked side by side in an effort to improve the lives of the residents of the Bronx. It was not long after his marriage that he began teaching prayer ministry in his home, which ultimately became the Bronx Christian Charismatic Prayer Fellowship, Inc. In 1991, the church moved to its current location on Third Avenue in the Bronx, providing the good Reverend with more space to teach the benefits of living a virtuous life.

Reverend Greene also served as Treasurer and Chairperson of Bronx Community Board #4 and was elected Male District leader of the 77th Assembly District, where he served until his passing in 2004.

The recipient of many civic and professional awards, Reverend Greene was well loved and well respected. His works will continue to impact the lives of New Yorkers for generations to come. Surely, that is the mark of a great life.

May "Reverend Jerome A. Greene Place" forever stand as a reminder of his selfless efforts to improve the lives of his fellow man and may it compel us all to do the same.

Mr. Speaker, for his indomitable spirit that continues to inspire even though he has passed on, I ask that my colleagues join me in honoring Rev. Jerome A. Greene.

TRIBUTE TO GRAND RABBI OF
SATMOR, RABBI MOSES
TEITELBAUM

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker. I rise to join the Satmar and Jewish communities across the world in mourning the passing of the Grand Rabbi of Satmar, Rabbi Moses Teitelbaum. Thousands amassed in Brooklyn and Monroe, New York on short notice to show their respect and admiration. It is indeed a tribute to Rabbi Teitelbaum's leadership that the Satmar community now numbering over 120,000, experienced remarkable growth during his tenure.

Rabbi Teitelbaum's life was one of perseverance, dedication and commitment to the Satmar and Jewish communities. A survivor of Auschwitz and the Holocaust, Rabbi Teitelbaum began a new life in the United States after he lost his immediate family to the Nazi genocide. As perhaps a tribute to his life, his first great, great granddaughter was born on the day the Rebbe passed away.

I was blessed with the opportunity to meet with the Grand Rabbi on numerous occasions in his home in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. A simple and humble man, his poignant advice and

encouragement were sought by many and the depth of his wisdom will sorely be missed.

Mr. Speaker, I know that my colleagues will join me in marking the passing of this great leader. We can all be comforted with the enormous legacy that survives Rabbi Moses Teitelbaum's remarkable life.

INTRODUCTION OF THE "MILITARY RANGE LEGACY ACT OF 2006"

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the "Military Range Legacy Act of 2006." This bill strengthens military base clean-up programs through the use and development of new technologies, better programmatic organization, and a greater attention to the needs of the communities impacted by base closures.

I am proud that the United States has the best trained military in the world. Yet, as a result of this training, over 3,000 sites on former military ranges are contaminated with unexploded ordnance, UXO discarded military munitions, and munitions constituents. These sites, littered with still-dangerous explosives and harmful contaminants, pose health and safety risks to our communities while preventing the redevelopment of closed bases and limiting opportunities for job creation and economic growth. By passing the Military Range Legacy Act or including provisions of it in the 2007 National Defense Authorization Act and providing the necessary funding, we can achieve real progress towards making our former defense communities safer, healthier, and more economically secure.

TRIBUTE TO KIMBERLY OLIVER, NATIONAL TEACHER OF THE YEAR

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my constituent Kimberly Oliver for being named the 2006 National Teacher of the Year. Ms. Oliver, a kindergarten teacher at Broad Acres Elementary School in Silver Spring, Maryland, exemplifies the best of the teaching profession—an innovative instructor who inspires her students to reach their full potential. Today, Ms. Oliver makes history as the first Montgomery County Public School or Maryland teacher to win this prestigious honor.

Ms. Oliver has worked tirelessly, not only as a teacher but also as a leader outside of the classroom. Just a few short years ago, Broad Acres was on the brink of a takeover by the Maryland State Department of Education due to low performance by its students. Thanks to the hard work and dedication of Ms. Oliver and other faculty members, staff, and students, Broad Acres is now a model of school reform.

Oliver was named Montgomery County Teacher of the Year in April 2005 and was selected Maryland Teacher of the Year last October. She was named one of four finalists for

the national honor in January. As the 56th National Teacher of the Year, she will spend the next year representing our Nation's teachers at events around the country.

The National Teacher of the Year Program is one of the oldest and most prestigious national honors programs that recognizes excellence in teaching. I am proud that one of Montgomery County's many outstanding teachers was awarded this honor.

Education is the foundation of opportunity and America's children need teachers like Ms. Oliver to help provide them with the knowledge and training they need to become the leaders of tomorrow. I applaud Kimberly Oliver's achievement and wish her success in her future endeavors.

COMMEMORATION OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the victims of the Armenian Genocide.

Each year on April 24th, the Armenian community and others throughout the world remember and solemnly commemorate the 300 Armenian religious, political, and intellectual leaders that were arrested in Constantinople, taken to Turkey and murdered. Today marks the 91st anniversary of the deliberate campaign of genocide perpetrated by the Ottoman Empire in 1915. From 1915–1923, 1.5 million Armenians were murdered and more than 500,000 were forced from their homeland into exile.

Despite the effort of some to minimize the scope and deny its occurrence, the Armenian Genocide is a historical fact. In the years since, descendants of Armenian immigrants have clung to their identity and have prospered across this nation and throughout the world. In my district, there is a significant population of Armenian survivors and their families that showed heroic bravery and a will to survive. With faith and courage, generations of Armenians have overcome great suffering and proudly preserved their culture, traditions, and religion by sharing their story of the genocide. It is through their unforgettable tragedy that we are able to share in their history and strong heritage.

Mr. Speaker, it is impossible to imagine an evil more powerful than the massacre and willful destruction of a people. By commemorating the Armenian Genocide, we renew our commitment to prevent future atrocities, and therefore we ensure the lessons of the Armenian Genocide are properly understood and acknowledged. As U.S. efforts to aid victims of genocide continue, it is imperative that we pay tribute to the memory of others who have suffered and to never forget the past.

RECOGNIZING THE 91ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. HILDA L. SOLIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Ms. SOLIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 91st anniversary of the Armenian genocide.

From 1915 to 1923, more than 1.5 million Armenians suffered mass killings and more than half a million others were forced from their homeland into exile by the Ottoman Empire. Yet, from the ashes of destruction, the survivors rebuilt their lives. In the years since, descendants of Armenian immigrants have clung to their identity and have prospered across this nation and throughout the world. Communities in California and across the United States are fortunate to be home to an organized and active Armenian community, whose members contribute and participate in every aspect of civic life.

Despite the many thriving communities, the scars of genocide remain deeply embedded in history and in our conscience. Today we mourn the victims, pay tribute to the survivors, stand together with all who are committed to promoting awareness about the atrocities of genocide, and renew our commitment to prevent future atrocities. Today we remember to never forget.

COMMEMORATING THE 91ST ANNIVERSARY OF THE ARMENIAN GENOCIDE

HON. JOHN J.H. "JOE" SCHWARZ

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 25, 2006

Mr. SCHWARZ of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 91st anniversary of the Armenian genocide, to remember the victims, to recognize the survivors, and to keep the memory of this atrocity fresh and alive.

The Armenian genocide began April 24, 1915 with the Ottoman Empire's campaign to eradicate the Armenian presence within its borders. The alarmed American ambassador at the time protested Ottoman policy and wrote to Washington describing what was happening on the ground as a "campaign of race extermination." By the time the genocide ended eight years later it claimed one and a half million souls and forced another half a million Armenians to flee their homes and leave their country in order to survive, many coming to the United States where the community would go on to thrive.

This despicable mass murder, torture, and killing of innocents was indeed a genocide; that fact can neither be denied nor ignored. It is outrageous that 91 years later the governments of the United States and Turkey still refuse to acknowledge this slaughter for what it was. This is shameful in light of the magnitude of suffering the Armenian community has endured since their victimization and the subsequent historical denial of their persecution.

It is time to act by appropriately condemning this horrific event. I join my colleagues from