

news of fallen officers who fell in the line of duty. And it is right and proper that we have a National Peace Officers Memorial Day to honor their sacrifice made on behalf of all of us.

But what we do not hear about is the tremendous courage and dedication that officers exhibit each and every day and the cases that they sometimes find themselves in, which places their life and safety in great danger. And this, unfortunately, occurs on an all too frequent basis.

Madam Speaker, I also want to just take a moment and commend a member of my own family, my youngest brother, Terry Kind, for his years of dedicated service as a police officer for the Town of Holmen Police Department in western Wisconsin.

I have the chance to talk to him from time to time to try to keep a foot in the law enforcement community back home. And sometimes the stories that he relates to me are blood-curdling and quite startling. Not only talking about the victims of crime, but also the incredible danger that our officers face from time to time.

Madam Speaker, I would encourage all of my colleagues to support this resolution today. I want to commend my colleagues on the floor here for bringing this resolution forward and speaking so favorably about it. I also want to commend and thank those law enforcement officers across our country who do a tremendous job under very difficult and dangerous circumstances each and every day of their dedicated lives.

Mr. CANTOR, Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution to support the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Recently, Virginia lost Detective Vicky Armel with the Fairfax County Police Department. Our Nation and the Commonwealth of Virginia experienced great loss as this fine police officer gave her life in line of duty.

Law enforcement officers take a solemn oath to protect and serve the communities they serve. With honor, they uphold our laws and protect the innocent.

As a nine-year veteran of the force, Detective Armel specialized in burglary crimes. She worked tirelessly each day to investigate and bring to justice those criminals who violated our homes, property, and peace of mind.

Her loss is felt deeply by her husband, Tyler, who is also a proud member of the Fairfax County Police Department, and their two children, 4-year-old daughter Mason and 7-year-old son Thomas. I stand with Detective Armel's community and congregation in support of her family.

Detective Armel's dedication and the sacrifices she made symbolize the honor of the law enforcement profession. Our thoughts and prayers are with her family, friends, and the community in which she served as we honor her passing on this Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Recently, Virginia lost Officer Gary J. Buro of the Chesterfield County Police Department. Our Nation and the Commonwealth of Virginia experienced great loss as this fine police officer gave his life in line of duty.

Law enforcement officers take a solemn oath to protect and serve the communities they serve. With honor, they uphold our laws and protect the innocent.

Officer Buro proudly served his Nation at home and abroad. As a U.S. Marine during the Gulf War, he defended our Constitution and fought to liberate Kuwait from Saddam Hussein's grasp. After returning home, he began a distinguished 11-year career in law enforcement. He served with the Lantana, Florida and New York City Police Departments. Only recently, Officer Buro brought his experience and dedication to Virginia and joined the Chesterfield County Police Department in January of this year.

Officer Buro's dedication and the sacrifices he made symbolize the honor of the law enforcement profession. Our thoughts and prayers are with his family, friends, and the community in which he served as we honor his passing on this Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Ms. NORTON, Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. TOM DAVIS of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time, and urge Members to support the adoption of House Resolution 788.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. TOM DAVIS) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 788.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

#### REMOVAL OF NAME OF MEMBER AS COSPONSOR OF H.R. 4217

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that my name be removed as a cosponsor of H.R. 4217.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

#### RECOGNIZING CULTURAL AND EDUCATIONAL CONTRIBUTIONS OF AMERICAN BALLET THEATRE

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res 751) recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company".

The Clerk read as follows:

H. RES. 751

Whereas American Ballet Theatre (ABT) is recognized as one of the world's great dance companies;

Whereas ABT is dedicated to bringing dance to America and American dance to the world;

Whereas over its 65-year history, ABT has appeared in all 50 States of the United States, in a total of 126 cities, and has performed for more than 600,000 people annually;

Whereas ABT has performed in 42 countries as perhaps the most representative American ballet company, with many of those engagements sponsored by the Department of State;

Whereas ABT has been home to the world's most accomplished dancers and has commissioned works by all of the great choreographic geniuses of the 20th century;

Whereas Dwight D. Eisenhower recognized ABT's ability to convey through the medium of ballet "some measure of understanding of America's cultural environment and inspiration";

Whereas over the years ABT has performed repeatedly at the White House, most recently in December 2005;

Whereas ABT is committed to bringing dance to a broad audience and provides exposure to dance to more than 20,000 underprivileged children and their families each year;

Whereas ABT's award-winning Make a Ballet program and its other outreach initiatives help to meet the need for arts education in underserved schools and communities;

Whereas ABT's Studio Company brings world class ballet to smaller communities like Rochester, New York; Stamford, Connecticut; Sanibel, Florida; South Hadley, Massachusetts; and Winston-Salem, North Carolina; and

Whereas The Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis School at ABT and the ABT's other artistic development initiatives provide the highest quality training consistent with the professional standards of ABT: Now, therefore, be it

*Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

(1) recognizes and commends American Ballet Theatre for over 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company", during which it has provided world class art to citizens in all 50 States;

(2) recognizes that American Ballet Theatre also serves as a true cultural ambassador for our Nation, by having performed in 42 countries and fulfilling its reputation as one of the world's most revered and innovative dance companies; and

(3) recognizes that American Ballet Theatre's extensive and innovative education, outreach, and artistic development programs both train future generations of great dancers and expose students to the arts.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) and the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. KIND) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New York.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous information on H. Res. 751.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New York?

There was no objection.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise in support of House Resolution 751, recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as "America's National Ballet Company."

When the American Ballet Theatre began, it inspired to develop a repertoire of the best ballets from the past, and to encourage the creation of new works by gifted young choreographers, whenever they might be found. Since then it has continued to be dedicated to bringing dance to America and American dance to the world.

I would say it has succeeded. Today the American Ballet Theatre is recognized as one of the great dance companies of the world, and throughout its 65-year history, the American Ballet Theatre has appeared in 50 U.S. States, in a total of 126 cities around the world, and has performed for more than 600,000 people annually.

America's National Ballet Company has also made 15 international tours to 42 countries, and has been sponsored by the U.S. Department of State on many of these engagements.

It was also the first American company to dance in the Soviet Union. Additionally the theatre has commissioned works by all of the great choreographic geniuses of the 20th century and many of the world's most accomplished dancers, including Mikhail Baryshnikov, have called the American Ballet Theatre home.

Lastly, Madam Speaker, I would like to emphasize the many enrichment programs the American Ballet Theatre offers for families, for training young and future dancers, and for the public and private schools.

I would specifically like to point out the work that the American Ballet Theatre has done to expose more than 20,000 underprivileged families and children in the fine art of dance, as well as introducing such children to career opportunities in the arts, both on stage and back stage, while also helping students develop valuable life skills.

Madam Speaker, I want to thank my colleague and fellow New Yorker, Mrs. MALONEY, for introducing this resolution. I am happy to join my colleagues in recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of America's National Ballet Company, the American Ballet Theatre, and ask my colleagues to support this resolution.

Madam Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

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

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of House Resolution 751, recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of the American Ballet Theatre throughout its 65 years of service as America's National Ballet Company.

Madam Speaker, I also want to applaud Congresswoman CAROLYN MALONEY for her leadership in sponsoring this resolution. Unfortunately, due to illness, it prevents her from being here on the House floor today to speak about it.

Madam Speaker, H. Res. 751 recognizes the anniversary of one of the finest and most distinguished ballet companies in the world, the American Ballet Theatre. The ABT is recognized as a living national treasure. Using dance as its medium, the American Ballet Theatre has brought joy to audiences here and abroad for over 40 years.

Equally important to the ABT has been its educational programs. Not only have they trained world class ballerinas, but ABT brings its art into the classroom by sponsoring dance programs in public schools across the country.

The Young People's Ballet Workshop offers students who would not ordinarily have the opportunity to experience the ballet to see the company perform and learn about the art of ballet. Again, I join my colleagues here today, and especially Congresswoman MALONEY, in supporting this resolution and congratulate the American Ballet Theatre on its 65th anniversary.

Mr. REYNOLDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 751 to honor the American Ballet Theatre. For 65 years, the theatre has entertained and educated thousands, becoming a national cultural icon as "America's National Ballet Company."

The American Ballet Theatre has performed in all 50 states inspiring and thrilling Americans with their skilled artistry. The company has also served as America's cultural ambassador by bringing American dance to more than 42 countries, often as representatives of the State Department.

Yet beyond being one of the world's truly great ballet companies, the American Ballet Theatre has also excelled off the stage in its remarkable education efforts. Throughout its history, the company has brought classical dance to communities not typically able to experience world-class ballet and to students throughout the country. The theater has created some of the most innovative educational programs dealing with the arts, including the Make a Ballet program, empowering at-risk students by giving them the resources and confidence to produce and stage their very own ballet.

In my community, the American Ballet Theatre has also been a giving and vital artistic institution, providing Rochester-area residents rare performances and indispensable educational opportunities. In 2004, the company presented an extraordinary internationally-themed program at New Auditorium Theatre in Rochester, giving audience members the unique chance to see up close famed performers and dance styles from throughout the world. The American Ballet Theatre also offered a class—taught by the former theater dancer and artistic director John Meehan—giving local dance students the opportunity to learn and perform alongside up-and-coming ABT dancers.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 751 to celebrate and honor an important cultural icon of America, the American Ballet Theatre.

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 751, recognizing the cultural and educational contributions of American Ballet Theatre.

For 65 years American Ballet Theatre has educated and inspired us through their artistry

and commitment to bringing dance to America and American dance to the world.

While ABT is truly a national company and has performed for countless people in all 50 states and 42 countries, I want to speak today about the special relationship between American Ballet Theatre and the city of New York.

In my district we have been the beneficiaries of six decades of American Ballet Theatre's world-class art. Next week, ABT will open their annual engagement at the Metropolitan Opera House, performing their renowned mix of great ballet classics and challenging new works.

These performances are a primary reason that American Ballet Theatre is universally regarded as one of the world's great ballet companies. From the scale of the productions to the artistry of the dancers, ABT's performances are truly something to behold and I encourage my colleagues to see one of their engagements at the Kennedy Center, in New York City, or in your home state.

ABT's importance to my city transcends these annual performances at the Met, however. Every year the company performs a second series at smaller venues in New York, allowing ballet fans the unique opportunity to watch many of the world's greatest dancers in an intimate setting and enhancing New York's status as one of the world's cultural capitals.

Beyond their performances, American Ballet Theatre's educational mission and their focus on bringing ballet and the classic arts to audiences that otherwise would not have access is truly special. For over 10 years, ABT has offered extensive outreach and in-school arts programming in public schools, completely free of charge. ABT focuses its efforts in underserved communities and "at-risk" schools in New York, bringing the arts to schools that suffer from budgetary cuts to arts programming, and they reach over 20,000 New York students each year. During the 2006 spring season at the Metropolitan Opera House, ABT will distribute 10,000 complimentary tickets to New York students who would not otherwise have access to ABT's incredible artistic resources.

American Ballet Theatre truly is an American treasure, and should be recognized for enriching the cultural landscape of New York and our country. I want to thank my cosponsors and the leadership of both parties for bringing this resolution to the floor. And again, I encourage all of my colleagues to experience the talent and artistry of American Ballet Theatre.

Mr. KIND. Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. KUHL of New York. Madam Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New York (Mr. KUHL) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 751.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds having voted in favor thereof) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.