

years as an aide to Senator Howell Heflin. He also worked for Senators Lister Hill, James Allen, and Maryon Allen before joining Senator Heflin's staff in 1978.

In 1992, the City of Muscle Shoals, Alabama reorganized its government into the current mayor-council structure that it utilizes today. Mayor Mitchell was elected as the city's first mayor.

During his two terms as Mayor, he worked to change the face of the city through numerous building campaigns, including a new high school, a modern library, recreational facilities, and a post office. He also successfully worked to establish an early warning system and address the city's flooding problem.

Madam Speaker, Mayor Mitchell passed away last Saturday. He is survived by his wife Betty and daughters Leslie Ann and Carrie, stepdaughters Kim, Shannon, and Laurel, as well as five grandchildren and step-grandchildren.

Mayor Mitchell was a good friend, community and civic leader that will be missed in both Alabama and Washington. His willingness to help others and dedication to his community is an inspiration for all in North Alabama and across the country to follow. I rise today to celebrate his life and honor his achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. RUTH ZISES

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ACKERMAN. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today to honor the memory of Ruth Zises, a dear friend and role model, who sadly succumbed to illness earlier this year.

Ruth was a unique woman whose presence brightened the faces and warmed the hearts of everyone she encountered. Ruth was a deeply principled woman who wore her passions with profound pride. She was enormously dedicated to her family and friends and intensely devoted to her beliefs. Ruth translated her convictions into action by founding, together with her family, the Genesis Center in Jerusalem, an academy devoted to enhancing the lives of young adults by incorporating Jewish scholarship with civic engagement and political action. Ruth's service and support of countless other institutions, organizations and charities made her a model of generosity.

While Ruth's attention to the needs of her community was commendable, her family was always the focal point of her life. Ruth's devotion to her husband Bernie, sons Selig, Seymour and Jay, her nine grandchildren and six great-grandchildren, inspired all who knew her.

Ruth's life will be celebrated at the Annual Reishit/Genesis Center Dinner on Tuesday, June 19, 2007. In honor of her memory, Reishit students who have completed their study of the entire Mishnah will make a presentation at the event.

Madam Speaker, words can not capture the generosity of spirit and warmth that Ruth Zises exuded. All that can be said is that she will be terribly missed by the scores of people fortunate enough to have had known her.

Madam Speaker, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in recognizing and remembering the exemplary life of Ruth Zises.

RECOGNIZING A GREAT MINNESOTA GAY RIGHTS LEADER

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. ELLISON. Madam Speaker, it is fitting that the Twin Cities Pride Parade falls on the same day that former Minnesota State Senator Allan Spear celebrates his 70th birthday. For those unfamiliar with the legacy Allan created in Minnesota, I want to take this moment to recognize him, thank him, and extend my wishes for a very happy birthday.

Allan served in the Minnesota State Senate from 1972 to 2000. He is widely recognized as not only the first openly gay legislator in Minnesota, but in the Nation, as well. Allan was certainly in uncharted waters—this was long before organizations like the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) or the Victory Fund even existed. I've read accounts that Allan went public because he felt "lousy" for staying silent about his sexuality during an antidiscrimination bill debate. His commitment to equal rights never wavered and I think our new generation of GLBT legislators and allies is a testament to his courage and honesty.

In 1993, Allan was elected President of the Senate—the same year he succeeded in guiding the passage of Minnesota's gay civil rights law. During the debate on this legislation, several senators described homosexuality as "a choice, not a condition of birth." Spear famously replied, "I'm 55 years old; it's not a phase." The amendment to Minnesota's civil rights law is an incredible achievement.

Although I did not have the opportunity to work with Allan during my time in the Minnesota legislature, his accomplishments over 28 years in the State Senate certainly inspire my own work on civil and human rights.

It is an honor for me to recognize Allan during our month of celebrating the accomplishments and contributions of the GLBT community. Allan has made a real difference in the quality of family life in Minnesota. Because of his unwavering commitment, we have much to celebrate, and more to be hopeful for! Thank you, Allan.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION ON INTERNATIONAL UNITED NATIONS PEACEKEEPING DAY

HON. JOHN P. SARBANES

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. SARBANES. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation commemorating the work of United Nations Peacekeepers by recognizing May 29 as International United Nations Peacekeeping Day.

Since 1945, our U.N. Peacekeepers have aided in resolving a wide array of very complex regional conflicts across the globe. In many cases, these individuals have put themselves at great risk and indeed made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of a safer, more secure global community. Since its inception, the United Nations has undertaken 61 field missions and helped implement 172 peaceful settlements. These missions have ended regional

conflicts and enabled people in more than 45 countries to take part in free and fair elections. More than 2,355 individuals from 113 nations, including the United States, have given their lives to this cause.

In the past 3 years alone, U.N. peacekeeping has helped to initiate missions in Liberia, Côte d'Ivoire, Haiti, Burundi, Sudan, and East Timor, and bolstered the missions in the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Lebanon. These missions often come with difficult and complex mandates such as containing or preventing the outbreak of conflict and its spill-over across borders or helping implement peace agreements. In 2005 alone, U.N. peacekeepers supported elections in five post-conflict countries, including Afghanistan, Burundi, Iraq, Liberia, and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Through these efforts, over 56 million people were allowed to cast votes.

Currently, the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations has more than 100,000 troops and personnel deployed in 18 peacekeeping missions and 13 political missions worldwide, all with an annual budget of \$6 billion. This U.N. peacekeeping force has grown five-fold over the last 10 years, reflecting not only the broad international support for U.N. peacekeeping, but also the U.S. support for new and expanded peacekeeping missions.

In 2005, the Human Security Report, a major international study funded in part by the Rockefeller Foundation, judged that, perhaps contrary to popular belief, civil strife has plummeted 80 percent worldwide since the early 90s. It attributed that decline to the rise in international activism, in particular the increase in support for and deployment of U.N. peacekeeping missions and their growing complexity.

The U.S. Office of Management and Budget recently granted all U.S. contributions made to international peacekeeping activities three-stars, its highest rating. This distinction is reserved for expenditures that "set ambitious goals, achieve results, are well-managed, and improve efficiency."

Madam Speaker, I take this opportunity to commend the work and courage of our U.N. peacekeepers around the globe and the logistical guidance provided by the U.N. Department of Peacekeeping Operations. I hope you will join me in supporting this resolution drawing attention to these brave men and women and in honoring those who have sacrificed their lives in the name of international peace.

DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 14, 2007

Mr. HARE. Mr. Chairman, I rise in strong opposition to the amendment offered by the Gentleman from Kentucky that would strip critical Davis-Bacon protections from H.R. 2638, the fiscal year 2008 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act.

The goal of the Davis-Bacon Act is to protect local construction wage standards by preventing contractors from bidding for federally

funded contracts on the basis of wages lower than those prevailing in the area.

Davis-Bacon applies to procurement of construction services by Federal agencies; however, it does not automatically apply to construction projects financed in whole or in part by federal grants and other forms of federal financial assistance to states and localities.

Section 536 has therefore been included in H.R. 2638 in order to assure the consistent application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to construction projects funded with federal assistance.

Contrary to arguments we have heard this morning, numerous recent academic studies demonstrate that the application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to construction projects does not substantially increase the cost of public works projects.

Additionally, claims that the application of Davis-Bacon prevailing wage standards to recipients of DHS grants violates states' rights raise a legal argument that was resolved 70 years ago when the Supreme Court held that federal statutes which offer financial assistance subject to acceptance of federal standards do not invade state sovereignty. The statute simply extends the right for states and localities to accept or reject the opportunity to obtain DHS grants and other federal financial assistance to help meet security and recovery needs.

By guaranteeing payment of the prevailing local wage rate, Davis-Bacon provides a better standard of living and economic security for workers, particularly in rural communities and small towns like those in my Congressional district. It is crucial that these protections remain in H.R. 2638. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to reject the Rogers Amendment.

TO HONOR MARTHA ANN CASE
JARVIS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to an outstanding citizen, Mrs. Martha Case Jarvis. Mrs. Jarvis was not a pioneer in the field of medicine, but she certainly found innovative ways of caring for the medical needs of her six children. Her field of expertise was not in the world of business, although she taught her children the importance of hard work. Mrs. Jarvis worked two jobs her entire life. She was an exceptional homemaker, and she worked tirelessly in the fields until her health no longer permitted. Between these two occupations, she instilled in her children integrity, honesty, diligence, faith, persistence, and the ability to see that hard work yields great rewards.

Mrs. Jarvis was born on June 14, 1917 to the late Joseph and Emily Case in the backwoods of Powells Point, North Carolina. She was the fifth of eight children and is now the sole survivor. Joseph Case was a Surfman in the United States Lifesaving Service, while Emily was the homemaker.

Madam Speaker, Mrs. Jarvis met, fell in love, and married Columbus Jarvis in 1934. This union produced six outstanding children: Norma Shirley of Barco, N.C.; Patricia Ann of Wappingers Falls, N.Y.; Ardella J. of Moyock,

N.C.; Lenora J. of Elizabeth City, N.C.; William of Camp Springs, Md.; and Leonard of Freeport, N.Y. Norma, now retired, worked as a nurses' aid and was a homemaker like her mother. Patricia Ann, now retired, was a school teacher. Ardella, now retired, was a teacher's assistant. Lenora is currently serving as President, CEO, and Co-Founder of the River City Community Development Corporation. William III retired from the Air Force and is currently employed with the Army and Air Force Exchange System. Leonard is an Independent Insurance Account Executive and the assistant pastor of the Berean Baptist Church in Brooklyn, New York. Martha Case Jarvis is the proud grandmother of fourteen and great-grandmother of seven children.

June 14th marks Mrs. Jarvis' 90th birthday. She has seen many significant historical events over the past 90 years, including six wars, more presidents than she can remember, and several heartbreaking national disasters. During her life Mrs. Jarvis has faced a countless number of personal trials, but she never faltered. She knew she had a family to raise and a home to run, and she did both with a lot of elbow grease, tenacity, and tender loving care.

Outside of her home, Mrs. Jarvis was very active in her church and community. She was a devoted member of the Eastern Stars. She was also one of the first African-Americans to qualify to register and vote in Currituck County.

While Martha Case Jarvis did not set the world on fire with inventions or miraculous medical cures, she has certainly made a difference to the hundreds of people she touched along the way. Her children are eternally grateful for her guidance and devotion, and they are honored to follow in her footsteps. I ask my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this outstanding citizen.

TRIBUTE TO COLONEL JAMES F.
KING, JR.

HON. JACK KINGSTON

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Mr. KINGSTON. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional officer of the United States Army, Colonel James F. King, Jr., upon his retirement after more than 20 years of distinguished service to our Nation.

I came to know Colonel Jim King in 2001 when he was selected as an Army Congressional Fellow, and became my Military Legislative Assistant during the historic year following the tragic events of September 11th. Our Nation was still recovering from the attacks, and we were thrust into the war against terror in Afghanistan. Jim handled all my National Defense matters during this very challenging time in our Nation's history, and he did an outstanding job.

Prior to becoming a Congressional Fellow, Colonel King had a long and distinguished career in the Army. After graduating from Georgia State University in 1985, he attended the United States Army Officer Candidate School at Fort Benning, Georgia and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant. After his initial assignment as a Second Lieutenant, he was

selected to attend Flight School at Fort Rucker, Alabama, and was the Honor Graduate of his class.

Following flight school in 1988, Colonel King served in many command and staff positions worldwide. He served in Korea where he flew helicopter missions in and out of the DMZ. Later he served in Germany where he flew aerial reconnaissance missions along the former East German border, and directly contributed to our Nation's Cold War victory. Upon return from Germany, Colonel King served at Hunter Army Airfield in Savannah, Georgia and supported Operation Uphold Democracy in Haiti, and flew reconnaissance missions against Cuba.

In 1995 Colonel King was assigned to the Army's Operational Support Airlift Command where he served in numerous leadership positions coordinating operations and training for over 80 subordinate units throughout the globe, and orchestrating uninterrupted airlift support for Theater Commanders in Saudi Arabia and Bosnia. He was then selected for C-20 Gulfstream jet training in Savannah, Georgia, before taking Command of the Army's elite jet detachment in Hawaii. While in command, Colonel King successfully managed a complex split-based operation, providing Humanitarian support in East Timor, while simultaneously providing worldwide airlift support to senior military and civilian leaders throughout Pacific Command (PACOM).

Following his command in the Pacific, Colonel King returned to Washington where he served as an aviation staff officer, and helped develop the Army's fixed-wing doctrine and future cargo airplane requirements. Colonel King was then selected for the Army Congressional Fellowship Program where he served as my Military Legislative Assistant. Following his Fellowship, Colonel King served as the Deputy Chief of Legislative Liaison at National Guard Bureau, and then as Deputy Chief for Reserve Affairs at Army Congressional Liaison in the Pentagon.

During his time as a Congressional Legislative Liaison, Colonel King provided outstanding leadership, advice, and sound professional judgment on numerous critical issues of enduring importance to both the Army and the Congress. Jim's counsel and support were invaluable to Army leaders and Members of Congress as they considered the impact of their decisions on these important issues, and it is my privilege to recognize his many contributions. I commend his superb service to the United States Army and our great Nation.

On behalf of Congress and the United States of America, I thank Colonel Jim King, his wife Cindy, and his entire family for the commitment, sacrifices, and contributions that they have made throughout his honorable military service. I congratulate Colonel Jim King on completing an exceptional and extremely successful military career, and wish him blessings and success in all his future endeavors.

WE NEED IMMIGRATION REFORM

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 15, 2007

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to express my congratulations