

"yea"; on rollcall No. 822, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 823, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 824, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 825, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 826, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 827, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 828, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 829, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 830, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 831, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 832, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 833, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 834, I would have voted  
 "nay."

On rollcall No. 835, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 836, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 837, I would have voted  
 "yea"; on rollcall No. 838, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 839, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 840, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 841, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 842, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 843, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 844, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 845, I would have voted  
 "nay"; on rollcall No. 846, I would have voted  
 "yea."

PAYING TRIBUTE TO DR. DIXIE  
 SUE ALLSBROOK

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook who has voluntarily served the National Committee of Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESRG) for twenty years, and serving the past five years as the Chair of the Nevada ESGR.

Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESRG) is a grass roots volunteer organization working with the Department of Defense. ESGR provides free education, consultation, and mediation as necessary for employers of Guard and Reserve employees. ESGR's goal is to support America's employers who share their employees with the nation to ensure our national security.

In her twenty years volunteering with the ESGR, Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook has served in many different areas of the organization. She began in California as an Area Chair, Ombudsman, and ultimately she served as Executive Director there. When she moved to Nevada she continued to serve ESGR as an ombudsman until she was appointed as Chair in 2002. Her amazing work in the community extends beyond that of the ESGR and includes the Equal Opportunity Board of Clark County, the Susan B. Komen Foundation, and the Wardley Charity Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Dr. Dixie Sue Allsbrook. Her commitment to supporting Nevada's Guard and Reserve through her work with the ESGR is outstanding, and I thank her for continuing efforts.

SHIFTING TOWARDS A REGIONAL  
 PRIMARY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act of 2007. This companion legislation to the work of my friends Senator KLOBUCHAR, Senator LIEBERMAN, and Senator ALEXANDER reflects an effective, equitable alternative to the current system used to determine presidential primary election dates.

As we have seen with the current disputed primary date in Florida and its partisan implications, our political parties have shown that they may not be the most appropriate administrators of this vital part of the presidential election process. Other states face similar disputes as each vie to enact earlier primaries to increase their influence in the selection of presidential candidates. It is apparent that with this trend, money is gaining even more influence in politics. When candidates have less time for citizens to evaluate their merit and less time to raise necessary campaign funds, the voices of many continue to be marginalized.

We need a more equitable system. Every person in every state deserves an equal opportunity to engage the selection of presidential candidates. Unless we enact legislation to restructure this system in a non-partisan manner, we will never have a system that takes into account the true principles of democracy upon which this nation was founded. The Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act of 2007 is a necessary step towards more equitable elections. This legislation reflects components of a plan previously advanced by the National Association of Secretaries of State and the suggestions of chief election administrators throughout the nation.

The Regional Presidential Primary and Caucus Act of 2007 establishes four geographic regions and four regional primary/caucus dates in each presidential election year. Under the bill, beginning in 2012 and on a rotating basis during each presidential election year, states in one region will hold their presidential primary elections on the first Tuesday in March. States in the next region will hold their primary elections on the first Tuesday in April, states in the next region on the first Tuesday in May, and states in the final region on the first Tuesday of June. The order of regions will rotate in each of the four years, ensuring that all states have the opportunity to hold their primary election first in the cycle once every four presidential elections.

I call upon my colleagues of the House of Representatives to support this commonsense approach to improving the administration of presidential primary election dates.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF  
 JEANINE M. ARMSTRONG

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I ask my colleagues to join

me today in honoring the memory of my good friend, Jeanine Armstrong of Clovis, California.

Jeanine was a loving wife, mother, and a dedicated member of the community who approached her work with an upbeat attitude and spirit that was an inspiration to us all. Her passing is a sad loss for the community of Clovis and Fresno.

Jeanine is remembered by all who knew her as an active participant in the political process, the Democratic Party, and a passionate supporter of the community of Clovis, California. She is well-known for her commendable service to the public and as a champion of the arts and public television.

Jeanine worked closely with her friend, the late Mayor Tom Bradley of Los Angeles, to secure the 1984 summer Olympic Games in California. She also organized the Youth Olympics and numerous public television projects. Jeanine served on the board of the Fresno Junior Museum, where she stressed the importance of the arts for poverty stricken populations.

Jeanine is survived by her husband for life of 52 years Harry Armstrong, their three children, Thomas, Jim and Megan; her 6 grandchildren, Kelsey Joan-Marie Armstrong, Brittney Armstrong, David Armstrong, Kathleen Armstrong, James Armstrong and Audrey Armstrong; her five stepgrandchildren, Arthur Wille, Maya Wille, Ashley Hatter, Jon Hatter and Randy Hatter; and one great-grandchild, Lynn Ann Armstrong.

My heart goes out to Jeanine's husband Harry, her family and friends. We take comfort in knowing that future generations will benefit from her vision and leadership and that her spirit continues through the lives of the people she so graciously touched.

TRIBUTE TO ERVIN JAMES

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 6, 2007*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a phenomenal figure in African American history, Ervin James, the founder of Jamestown in Florence County, South Carolina. The extraordinary legacy of Ervin James's life powerfully changed the course of African American history in the South during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries.

Ervin James's legacy richly contributed to the story of black history after the Civil War, the story of southern agriculture, and the story of community development in a time when many groups of African Americans struggled to survive.

In 1870, Ervin James bought a sizable tract of land on his own from Eli McKissick and Mary Poston near Florence, South Carolina. The transaction was formally documented in a deed recorded on January 23, 1871. James's purchase developed into more than just a family farm. During the last two decades of the nineteenth century, his tract of land grew into a small rural African American community. The community thrived for 70 years, from its establishment in 1870 until its decline in the 1940s.

The development of Jamestown is a remarkable one. Beginning with Ervin James's

original purchase, the community expanded through cooperative purchase by James's five sons, Sidney, Ellison, Eli, Fisher, and James James as well as Ervin James's son-in-law, Alonza Wright. James's five sons and son-in-law divided up the original tract of land into six twelve-acre plots for each of them to farm individually. Throughout the last decade of the nineteenth century and the first decade of the early twentieth, these six men made several cooperative purchases to increase the collective land holdings of Jamestown.

All six names appear on a deed recorded on March 26, 1891. In that year, the men bought several tracts of land from J.A. Grice and his wife Sarah E. Grice, the daughter of Eli McKissick. A subsequent deed recorded on May 29, 1891 documents the purchase of more land from Rebecca A. Gibson acting as trustee for the will of Nathan S. Gibson who owned land that bordered the James family holdings. The practice of cooperative purchase continued into the next generation of the James family. On June 29, 1915, Ephraim Ford, Eli James, James James, Robert James, Pat James, Elliott James, Mitchell James, James Wright and Betsy Williams collectively purchased land from J.R. Moody. The presence of several surnames other than James on the deed suggests that several other African American families had established themselves in the community by that time or had married into the James family. Jamestown had become a community.

Land divisions were made during the earlier years of the community to establish individual homes and tracts of land for separate families to work. Over the years, the property was passed down to the family heirs in each generation who collectively owned the land of their ancestors.

Social historian Edward Magdol asserts that owning land where family members could be reunited, live, and work together were primary concerns of freed African Americans. The community of Jamestown embodied each of these aspects. Without the dream of Ervin James, Jamestown and its powerful influence on African American history in the South would not have become a reality.

A marker was erected in Florence County, Jamestown on July 23, 2006 commemorating the extraordinary achievement of Ervin James. The marker thus reads:

FLORENCE COUNTY, 21-22, JAMESTOWN

This African American community, which flourished here for 70 years, has its origins in a 105-acre tract bought in 1870 by former slave Ervin James (1815-1872). James, determined to own his own farm instead of being dependent on sharecropping or tenant farming, bought the tract from Eli McKissick and Mary Poston. His five sons and a son-in-law later divided the tract into individual farms.

Between 1870 and 1940 Ervin James's descendants and other area families purchased additional land, creating a rural community of about 250 residents. Among its institu-

tions were the Jamestown Cemetery, dating from its earliest days; the Summerville Methodist Church (renamed Bowers Chapel), established about 1880; and the Summerville Elementary School, built in 1926.

Erected by Jamestown Reunion Committee, 2006

THE UNITED NATIONS OFFICE OF  
LEGAL AFFAIRS REJECTED TAI-  
WAN'S BID FOR MEMBERSHIP

HON. BILL SALI

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. SALI. Madam Speaker, the United Nations Office of Legal Affairs (OLA) rejected Taiwan's bid for membership, according to a July 23 statement posted on the UN Chinese language website. The OLA said its decision was based on UN Resolution 2758, which recognized the UN's "one China" policy.

The UN Secretariat's rejection of Taiwan's application was reactive and hasty. It should allow Taiwan's application to be duly processed in accordance with the relevant rules of procedure of the United Nations. Also, I believe that the OLA's reference to UN Resolution 2758 as a basis for rejecting Taiwan's bid was anachronistic.

Resolution 2758 assumes that the People's Republic of China has legal jurisdiction over Taiwan. This is a dubious assertion. Taiwan has been independent of the PRC since 1949, and in recent years has had a robust political system characterized by competitive parties, active public participation and political liberty—values all Americans embrace.

It is unreasonable to claim that the PRC presumes to speak for a land and people over which it has no control. If the United Nations is founded on the principle of the equality of sovereign nations, it has no reason not to recognize Taiwan as an independent nation. On that basis it would seem that the UN must and should give Taiwan representation.

As noted, Taiwan in 2007 is free and democratic. In Taiwan, direct presidential elections have been held, political parties are proliferating and Taiwan has become one of the freest countries in Asia. As the UN claims to be the forum for resolving international differences, it should give fair and thorough consideration to Taiwan's application for membership in the United Nations and letting the 23 million people of Taiwan have due representation in that world body.

I presume that Taiwan will probably not succeed in joining the United Nations this year, but Taiwan's case is compelling. It is unfortunate that Taiwan has been treated so poorly by the United Nations. We ask the UN Secretariat to rescind its rejection of Taiwan's application and let the application go forward to the Security Council and the UN General Assembly for a vote.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MARGARET  
MCMILLAN

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 6, 2007

Mr. PORTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Margaret McMillan for greatly enriching the community of Southern Nevada with a lifetime of service as an exemplary leader and businesswoman.

Margaret is retiring after having served the telecommunications industry for over 47 years. Throughout her tremendous career she served as a pioneer for women in business. In 1972 she became the first woman to hold the position of Outside Plant Engineer, a position that is now staffed approximately 20% by women. During her time as Staff Engineer of Centel in Chicago she participated in the design of the company's first fiber optics system which was run from the Las Vegas central office to the MGM Hotel and Casino. In 1979 she was promoted to Outside Plant Engineer Manager in Las Vegas where she supervised the design and installation of all outside plant facilities in the Las Vegas area.

Along with being a pioneer for women in the telecommunications industry, Margaret's immense talents and work ethic were recognized and she rose through the ranks of several companies, eventually becoming the Director of Governmental Affairs in Las Vegas for the EMBARQ Company. In that position she has been instrumental in the development of many prominent pieces of legislation, including both the state and federal versions of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.

Margaret's accomplishments as a professional are bolstered by her contributions to the Las Vegas community. She has served two terms as president of the Nevada Telecommunications Association, is a member of the Las Vegas Southwest Rotary Club, has served as area Governor of Toastmasters International and is a member of the Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. Her work with these organizations has been extremely well recognized and she has been the recipient of many awards such as the Chamber of Commerce's Community Achievement Award. Margaret also received the Foundation for an Independent Tomorrow Citizen of Distinction Award in 2007. She is also listed in the book "Distinguished Women of Nevada."

Madam Speaker, I am proud to honor Margaret McMillan. Her aptitude and work ethic have made her a beloved fixture in the Las Vegas community and her reputation as a pioneer for professional women is well deserved. I wish her the utmost happiness in her retirement and thank her for a lifetime of service.