

education program of the public universities in Chicago and is one of the top producers of education degrees in the state.

Dr. Hahs is the perfect choice to lead this fine school, as demonstrated by her career which has been devoted to post-secondary education. Prior to assuming the role of president, Dr. Hahs served as Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs and Director of Special Projects at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

Dr. Hahs has more than 30 years of experience in higher education, beginning with a 10-year term as a member of the chemistry department at Metropolitan State College in Denver. She served as Dean of the School of Humanities and Sciences at the University of South Carolina at Spartanburg from 1984 to 1994. She then became the first-ever Dean of the newly formed College of Arts and Sciences at SIUE, and served in that role from 1995 to 2000. On July 1, 2000, Dr. Hahs was appointed Provost and Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs at SIUE.

A native of Washington, Indiana, Dr. Hahs earned a B.A. in chemistry from Illinois Wesleyan University, and an M.S. and Ph.D. in inorganic chemistry from the University of New Mexico. She and her husband of 38 years have two daughters and a grandson.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the citizens of the 5th Congressional District, I again wish to congratulate Dr. Sharon K. Hahs on her installation as President of Northeastern Illinois University. Her experiences as both a teacher and an administrator make her a valuable leader at Northeastern Illinois and for the State of Illinois. I wish her continued success as the President of NEIU and beyond.

CONGRATULATING MS. MAGGIE CARTER

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Maggie Carter of Greenwood Village, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Carter to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, D.C.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Carter and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SETH KRAUSE FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Seth Krause, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 100, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Seth has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Seth's Eagle Scout project was to arrange for the purchase and installation of a 25 foot flag pole outside the local community gymnasium. Over the years Seth has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Seth Krause for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION OF CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 2669, COLLEGE COST REDUCTION AND ACCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 7, 2007

Ms. MCCOLLUM of Minnesota. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of the conference report for the College Cost Reduction and Access Act (H.R. 2669) and congratulate Speaker PELOSI and Chairman MILLER on keeping a key promise of the new Democratic Majority—increasing access to higher education for all Americans.

The College Cost Reduction and Access Act is the largest investment in higher education since the G.I. bill and at no new cost to the taxpayer. This legislation makes a common-sense choice by cutting excessive subsidies to lenders and investing those dollars in our students.

H.R. 2669 will make a real difference in the lives of students, families and new graduates. We know that too many students are making the choice to delay home ownership or marriage because of student loan debt. This bill cuts the interest rates on student loans in half and ensures that borrowers have manageable re-payment requirements. In real terms, over 7 million students will save \$4,400 over the life of their loans.

By increasing the purchasing power of the Pell Grant and expanding access to this critical resource, we will help to ensure that qualified students do not delay or refuse college based solely on ability to pay.

In addition, too many student interested in public service careers cannot pursue them because of the debt to salary ratio after graduation. With the passage of H.R. 2669, upfront tuition assistance is available for students who

commit to teachers in high-poverty school districts, and loan repayment will be available for military service members, first responders, nurses, early childhood educators and others.

Education is a top priority for the 110th Congress. It is an issue that is important to students, families and communities. It is also a critical part of ensuring our global competitiveness and economic stability. I urge my colleagues to support, and the President to sign, this critical bill.

INTRODUCTORY FLOOR STATEMENT FOR A BILL TO RATIFY A CONVEYANCE OF THE JICARILLA APACHE RESERVATION TO RIO ARriba COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, PURSUANT TO THE SETTLEMENT OF LITIGATION BETWEEN THE JICARILLA APACHE NATION AND RIO ARriba COUNTY, STATE OF NEW MEXICO, TO AUTHORIZE ISSUANCE OF A PATENT FOR SAID LANDS, AND TO CHANGE THE EXTERIOR BOUNDARY OF THE JICARILLA APACHE RESERVATION ACCORDINGLY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Madam Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill to ratify a conveyance of a portion of the Jicarilla Apache reservation to the county of Rio Arriba, New Mexico. This legislation will bring resolution to a long-standing dispute between the Jicarilla Apache Nation and Rio Arriba County. In the 109th Congress, H.R. 4876, a nearly identical bill, passed the House under suspension of the rules.

The dispute, which has been ongoing for nearly two decades, is over the ownership of a road on a parcel of land formerly referred to as Theis Ranch. The Jicarilla Nation purchased Theis Ranch in 1985 and, in March 1988, the Nation subsequently conveyed a trust deed for Theis Ranch to the United States. The Theis Ranch property then, by proclamation of the Secretary of the Interior, became part of the Jicarilla Reservation in September 1988.

A lawsuit was filed in October 1987 and the District Court was asked to determine the ownership status of the disputed road. In the original lawsuit, Rio Arriba County sought to establish that the county acquired the disputed road by prescription and, therefore, the county was the road's rightful owner. However, the Jicarilla Nation contended that the Nation owned the road because the road was, and continues to be, within the boundaries of the expanded 1988 Jicarilla reservation. On December 10, 2001, the District Court found in favor of the Jicarilla and determined that the disputed road traversed the Jicarilla Reservation in several locations. Rio Arriba County appealed the December 2001 District Court decision; the appeal is currently pending before the Court of Appeals of the State of New Mexico. In a separate yet relevant matter, Rio Arriba County appealed a February 2003 decision by the Southwest Bureau of the United States Department of the Interior to acquire a

tract of land referred to as the Boyd Ranch in trust for the Jicarilla Nation. Rio Arriba's appeal of this determination is currently pending before the Interior Board of Indian Appeals.

In an effort to settle the road dispute, the Jicarilla Nation and Rio Arriba County entered into mediation. The parties successfully reached a settlement that was subsequently executed by the Jicarilla Nation on May 3, 2003, and Rio Arriba County on May 15, 2003. Representatives of the Secretary of the Interior approved the settlement on June 18, 2003. The settlement agreement, which would be implemented by this legislation, provided that the Jicarilla Nation would transfer approximately 70.5 acres of land located with the expanded 1988 Jicarilla reservation to Rio Arriba County. In exchange for the Jicarilla Nation's land conveyance, Rio Arriba County agreed to permanently abandon any and all claims to the disputed road. The settlement also provides that the terms of the agreement do not take effect until all parties complete their respective promises in the agreement and the United States, pursuant to federal law, approves of the conveyance of this particular Jicarilla trust land to Rio Arriba County.

Both parties and the Secretary of the Interior have fully performed the terms agreed to within the settlement agreement. All that stands between the parties to this dispute and long overdue resolution is Congressional approval. Consequently, the legislation will adjust the Jicarilla Reservation border in order to account for the transfer. At the same time, this legislation upholds Congress' trust responsibility to the Jicarilla Nation by placing restrictive covenants on the trust land transferred to the County. In other words, this legislation recognizes that the transferred land is immediately adjacent to the remainder of the Jicarilla Nation. As a result of the transferred land's proximity to the reservation, certain uses of the transferred land would have a detrimental effect on the remaining reservation. Therefore, this legislation allows the County to use the land only for governmental purposes but specifically prohibits the County from using the land for prisons, jails, or other facility for incarcerating persons.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to expedite passage of this legislation. Both the Nation and the County have waited years for this agreement to be implemented. Congress must now do their part to provide long overdue resolution.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF MAJOR HENRY SAN NICOLAS OFECIAR, U.S. ARMY

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay grateful tribute to the life of MAJ Henry San Nicolas Ofeciar who recently made the ultimate sacrifice in Afghanistan for our Nation. MAJ Henry Ofeciar, 37, lost his life in the cause of freedom in Jalalabad, Afghanistan, as a result of an attack on August 27, 2007. The people of Guam suffer the loss of outstanding soldiers like Major Ofeciar with profound sadness. But it is Henry's loved ones and friends who bear the greatest burden and

for whom we send our messages of support and gratitude.

MAJ Henry Ofeciar graduated from John F. Kennedy High School in 1988. He joined the University of Guam Reserve Officers Training Corps, ROTC, where he excelled as a leader and as a soldier. Henry Ofeciar graduated from the University of Guam in 1993, and received his commission as a second lieutenant in the United States Army in 1994, beginning a distinguished career of service to our country. He earned a master of arts degree in business administration and public administration from Syracuse University in 2005, continuing his development as a professional soldier.

MAJ Henry Ofeciar was assigned to the 1st Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, Fort Riley, KS. Major Ofeciar, like the many sons of Guam who served before him and gave their lives in defense of our country, served with honor and distinction. He lost his life answering the call to duty of our Nation, fighting in Afghanistan in order to help make the United States more secure. For his sacrifice on our behalf, we will always be eternally grateful.

We offer our thoughts and prayers to Henry's wife Angali, who he married in January 2007. We offer our deepest sympathies to his parents, Agnes S.N. and Leonard Rillera of Talofofo, Guam, and Pedro and Lougene Ofeciar of El Paso, TX. We also extend our sympathies to his sisters and brothers, Orlene Ofeciar Arriola, Pete, Doreen, Chris, April, and Patrick San Nicolas Ofeciar. On behalf of a grateful country and the people of Guam, we share their loss and we offer our prayers for their comfort.

Henry Ofeciar had a favorite quote from the Greek philosopher Epictetus, which epitomizes his personal commitment to duty, "First say to yourself what you would be; and then do what you have to do." Today we honor MAJ Henry Ofeciar, a hero who did what he set out to do, and for whom we will be forever in his debt. His family, his people, and his fellow soldiers take pride in knowing that we will all remember him for many years for what he did for us. God bless MAJ Henry Ofeciar, God bless Guam, and God bless the United States of America.

CONGRATULATING MS. BRENNAN DIVITA

HON. THOMAS G. TANCREDO

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. TANCREDO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to one of my constituents, Ms. Brennan Divita of Littleton, Colorado, who will attend a People to People World Leadership Forum in 2008. Her outstanding academic merits and communal involvement have laid a solid foundation of individual integrity and dedication: both characteristics of a qualified leader. I am honored to represent such a promising young woman.

Created in 1956, the People to People Program is an educational travel program dedicated to fostering leadership potential in youth worldwide. People to People has helped more than 200,000 students and professionals develop their leadership skills based upon Dwight D. Eisenhower's belief that "people can make a difference where governments

cannot." This unique interaction and exposure will enable Ms. Divita to gain a greater understanding and insider's perspective of Washington, DC.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to acknowledge one of Colorado's own. Please join me in congratulating Ms. Divita and wishing her the best in her future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SPENCER FRAZIER FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Spencer Frazier, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 138, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Spencer has been very active with his troop, participating in many Scout activities. Previously, he volunteered his time to work with the Second Harvest Food Bank where he organized an effort to make 35 quilts for the Backpack Buddies program. Over the years Spencer has been involved with Scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Spencer Frazier for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

SUDDEN CARDIAC ARREST AWARENESS DAY

HON. DARRELL E. ISSA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, September 10, 2007

Mr. ISSA. Madam Speaker, today I rise to remember those who have died as a result of sudden cardiac arrest, and to introduce a House Resolution in support of the goals and ideals of Sudden Cardiac Arrest Awareness Day.

Sudden cardiac arrest, SCA, is a condition in which the heart suddenly and unexpectedly stops beating, causing blood to stop flowing to the brain and other vital organs. SCA usually causes death if not treated in minutes.

Annually, 250,000 to 450,000 Americans have sudden cardiac arrest, and 95 percent of these people die within minutes. But SCA does not have to take this many lives. Rapid treatment of SCA with a defibrillator, a device that sends an electrical shock to the heart, can be lifesaving. According to the Department of Health and Human Services' National Heart, Blood and Lung Institute, automated external defibrillators, AEDs, which are often found in public places like airports and office buildings, can be used to save the lives of people having SCAs.

On May 20, 2005, 14-year-old Travis Roy was at school in Murrieta, CA, when he suffered SCA. His school, like most schools, did