

from The Ohio State University and a diploma from Mt. Carmel Hospital School of Nursing. She is a Fellow of the American Academy of Nursing (1600 invited members out of 2.9 million RNs). She is a member of Zeta Theta At-Large chapter of Sigma Theta Tau International (the international honor society of nursing) and in 2002 became a charter member of Rho Chi, the first European chapter. She also is a founding member of the Nightingale Policy Institute, a virtual gathering of experienced nurses in the U.S. policy arena. Dr. Milstead received the Gamma Mu Chapter Award for Excellence in Nursing. She also received the first Search for Excellence Award from the American Nurses Association/South Carolina Nurses Association and was honored by the South Carolina General Assembly for her leadership and service. She was awarded a Duquesne University Creative Teaching Award in 1998 for her pioneering work in designing and implementing the first online course taught in the first PhD in Nursing program in the world that is offered completely online. Dr. Milstead served three terms on the AACN Government Affairs Committee, is serving a second term on the Health Policy Council of ONA, and is a member of the Expert Panel on Global Health for the American Academy of Nursing. She was appointed in 2005 to the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority and was a member of a trade delegation to China in April 2006. She and a team of educators evaluated BSN programs in Jordan in November 2006.

Many in our community have sought Dr. Milstead's counsel and leadership, particularly in nursing and psychiatric nursing, but also in matters of health care policy. She is a compassionate and gifted leader who guides people by her own example. She has a deep understanding of the nuances of health care delivery from all perspectives, and is skilled at negotiating the complex system. Her sterling talents, dedication to our community and its health, and commitment to health worldwide have earned her this well-deserved recognition. I am pleased to offer my personal congratulations.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIMOTHY V. JOHNSON

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. JOHNSON of Illinois. Madam Speaker, unfortunately today, October 10, 2007, I was unable to cast my votes on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 3056 and passage of H.R. 3056 and wish the record to reflect my intentions had I been able to vote.

Had I been present for Rollcall No. 959 on the Motion to Recommit with Instructions on H.R. 3056, the Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

Had I been present for Rollcall No. 960 on passage of H.R. 3056, the Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007, I would have voted "aye."

RESOLVING THE OFFICIAL NAME OF THE FORMER YUGOSLAV REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, finding an internationally-acknowledged name for the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM) is an issue that threatens the peace of the Balkans and the stability of the region.

Particularly troubling is the ongoing insensitivity displayed by officials of FYROM with respect to provocative propaganda and rhetoric that is offensive to Greece.

The latest example of this occurred on September 25, when Dr. Srgjan Kerim, President of the United Nations General Assembly and a native of FYROM, introduced to the Assembly, FYROM's President as "President of the Republic of Macedonia."

Resolution of this issue could bring substantial stability to the region and pave the way for further integration of FYROM into the international community.

I would therefore like to bring to the House's attention excerpts from the following article that appeared in the September 27, 2007 issue of *The National Interest* by His Excellency Alexandros P. Mallias, Ambassador of Greece to the United States.

When U.N. General Assembly president H.E. Dr. Srgjan Kerim, a native of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (FYROM), introduced on September 25 the president of his home country, Mr. Branko Crvenkovski, he implied that the national interest of FYROM prevails over his duties to the UN body. He therefore addressed Mr. Crvenkovski as the "President of the Republic of Macedonia."

Some people may think that what happened in the UN constitutes a minor or isolated incident. Nevertheless, this is not the case—this has deeper roots both on a regional and international level. Challenging UN resolutions and decisions and ignoring commitments undertaken through international agreements, as FYROM has systematically done by violating the US-brokered Interim Accord with Greece, is a bad precedent. This is a violation of the principle of good-neighborly relations and puts sustained regional stability in jeopardy.

Dr. Kerim, obviously acting under instructions from his government, has irreparably damaged his standing and credibility as president of the General Assembly. He did not respect the resolutions of the body over which he is presiding nor of the Security Council of the United Nations, the organization he has been called upon to serve.

The actions of Dr. Kerim and FYROM are a clear indication of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia's lack of respect for international law and international institutions. They are also a blunt violation of the US-brokered Interim Accord.

Many Americans may think this is a minor issue. But the history of the region, not to mention of Europe as a whole, demonstrates that whenever irredentist claims are left unaddressed, the seeds of future conflicts are sown. Europe today is governed by the rule of law; the completion of the European project in the Balkans—and the extension of a zone of peace and prosperity—rest upon the willingness of governments to live up to their international commitments. Obligations are like a tapestry; even pulling on

what might appear to outsiders to be a small and insignificant thread can end up unraveling the entire work. We have too much invested in the stability of the region to allow this to happen.

TAX COLLECTION RESPONSIBILITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 10, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss H.R. 3056, the Tax Collection Responsibility Act of 2007. I find myself in the awkward position of opposing the distinguished Chairman of the Committee on Ways and Means, but we are being asked to eliminate the Internal Revenue Service, IRS, program to collect past-due income taxes without an alternative. This program involves the collection of millions of tax dollars, and there are no plans in place to collect this money if the program were to be killed. There are no plans to collect the millions of dollars needed to close the tax gap. Additionally, there is also no alternative to finding employment for the countless disabled veterans and severely disabled Americans.

Before we eliminate this program, there should be an alternative in place. Our colleague in the other body, Senator BEN NELSON of Nebraska, has introduced an initiative that would take the IRS program and use it to create meaningful employment for persons with disabilities and disabled veterans. The Disability Preference Program for Tax Collection Contracts would give an incentive to private third-party collection companies to hire people with severe disabilities and provide them with quality jobs.

Mr. Speaker, one in ten Americans has a disability. While the current unemployment rate in the Nation stood at 4.7 percent in September, the low employment rate of persons with disabilities continues to hover at 70–80 percent. The high number of returning disabled American veterans from Iraq and Afghanistan will only serve to compound this problem.

Currently, there are not enough jobs to provide gainful employment for the severely disabled veterans with only a high school GED. The Disability Preference Program would serve to alleviate the lack of meaningful employment opportunities for these young men and women. Jobs with third-party debt collection agencies can translate to high-paying careers. These jobs pay anywhere from \$25,000 to \$150,000 including health and 401(k) benefits.

Under the provisions of the Disability Preference Program, an initial hire of 750 persons with disabilities would save the Federal Government close to \$350 million over ten years in Supplemental Security Income, SSI, and Disability Insurance, DI, benefits alone. This figure does not include the additional benefits associated with the hiring of people in the \$40,000 salary range. This landmark program would not only create well-paying jobs for our severely disabled Americans, it would save the Federal Government millions of dollars at no cost.

This legislation is necessary because the IRS stated that “under existing GSA Federal Supply Schedule, FSS, contracting procedures, it cannot set a specific number of awards aside for contractors employing significant numbers of persons with disabilities,” only for the one disabled employer who may never hire another disabled person.

This is an oversight in our law which needs to be corrected. It makes no sense that current law provides an employment opportunity for ONE disabled person, while this initiative would create opportunities for hundreds—if not thousands—of people who are disabled and without a college education.

Mr. Speaker, as I mentioned previously, there is particular concern over the group of young, disabled veterans who have few employment options. Most able-bodied soldiers without formal education, upon leaving service, take positions as bus drivers, cafeteria workers, janitorial services, or security personnel. If the Disability Preference Program is not enacted soon, a viable opportunity will be lost.

This initiative is supported by the Disabled American Veterans, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the American Association of People With Disabilities, the One Percent Coalition, and the National Rehabilitation Association. In addition, the language has been passed by the other body on numerous occasions.

I ask my colleagues in the House to join with me in supporting the Disability Preference Program for Tax Collection Contracts. I ask them to join me in providing meaningful employment opportunities for persons with disabilities and for our returning soldiers who have been disabled in the line of duty.

IN HONOR OF CALDWELL PUBLIC LIBRARY

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Caldwell Public Library, serving the Borough of Caldwell, Essex County, NJ, a vibrant community that I am proud to represent! On October 12th, the good citizens of the borough will celebrate their library's 90th anniversary with a rededication and the dedication of the Gene and Kathryn Collerd Local History Resource Room. The Caldwell Public Library, an Andrew Carnegie Library dedicated in 1917, is situated on Bloomfield Avenue, diagonally across from President Grover Cleveland's Birthplace Memorial, a national historic site.

On October 1, 1906, at a regular meeting of the Borough Council, a communication was received from the Caldwell Borough Improvement Association, requesting the Borough to assume the responsibility of operating and supporting a public library.

The following year, 1907, Professor Hedden, Superintendent of Schools, requested the Caldwell Borough Council submit to the voters a referendum to establish a free public library under the State Library Act. The councilmen endorsed the necessary requirements, and at the November elections, the Act was passed by the voters. The State Library Com-

mission accepted and approved the proposed charter.

On June 8, 1908 a letter from the Carnegie Library Foundation offered a sum of \$7,500 to construct a library. To meet the grant's specifications, the town was required to provide an appropriate lot, plus \$750 or 10 percent of the grant annually to sustain the library.

For the next 9 years, the library board was confronted with problems which hindered the construction of a new edifice. Acquiring a suitable location was the principal issue. West Caldwell resident Mr. George W. Canfield generously donated \$2,000 toward the purchase of a site for the library. With this contribution, and donations from other interested persons, a total of \$3,000 was raised to purchase a site.

On October 12, 1917, the Caldwell Library was formally dedicated by Mayor Peck, who was also President of the Library Board of Trustees.

Gene Collerd recorded much of the history of this area over the course of his life (1913–2004), and this Collerd Collection, to be housed in the Gene and Kathryn Collerd Local History Resource Room, will be an invaluable resource to not just the Caldwell, but beyond.

Madam Speaker, I urge you and my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Caldwell Library on the celebration of its 90th anniversary!

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 958, Final Passage of H.R. 2895, the National Affordable Housing Trust Fund Act of 2007, I was not present. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE MARIN CONSERVATION CORPS ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to salute the Marin Conservation Corps, MCC, on its 25th anniversary of helping young people to a brighter future by providing jobs and learning opportunities, at the same time protecting and conserving our natural resources.

MCC began more than 25 years ago when founder Richard Hammond was out jogging along one of the many gorgeous trails of the Marin Headlands. The father of teenage sons at the time, he had been seeking something productive to keep them occupied during summer vacation and came up with the idea to combine trail maintenance with young people's need for work. But it wasn't until devastating floods hit Marin in 1982 that the corps took shape.

The first local conservation corps in the country, MCC literally blazed the trail for others to follow. Workers have put in more than

3 million hours to maintain and conserve Marin County's 150,000 acres of public land. In association with AmeriCorps, MCC has partnered with the National Park Service to create a one-on-one mentoring program. MCC also provides young people with summer jobs through a combination of outdoor education, community service and recreational activities through its Project ReGeneration.

Under the leadership of Marilee Eckert since 1992, the nonprofit has grown to provide year-round employment to 116 people, operating under a budget of more than \$5 million and helping more than 3,000 young men and women gain job skills along with an education. Marilee also holds leadership roles in many local and national organizations. Her efforts have earned her recognition and awards from the county and the Sierra Club, as well as the gratitude of the many corps members who have benefited from her hard work.

Many of those who have benefited come from underserved populations. One such corpsman is Matthew Rainey, a 21-year-old convicted felon. “I didn't have an opportunity to work anywhere else,” he says. “Honestly, I was living in my car, didn't have anything going for myself, but every single day, I would come to work.”

Because of MCC, Rainey has earned his GED, saved enough to rent an apartment, and is considering following the trade he learned through his work at MCC.

“He has so totally blossomed,” notes Deborah Schoenbaum, MCC's deputy director. “He has won just about every award you can get in the corps. It's been a life-changing experience for him.”

Working at MCC has been a life-changing experience for many others, as well. An average of 300 young people go through the various MCC programs each year. In fact, some of MCC's sponsors and greatest supporters were previously in the corps program.

Corpsmembers not only arrive at work at 7 a.m. for a full day of work each day, but must put in 10 hours of education each week, as well. Marvin was one such young man willing to work this hard for a better future. Marvin came to the corps speaking absolutely no English, Schoenbaum remembers. “He now speaks English and has gotten a job with a top landscaping firm because he went through a landscaping program we have with College of Marin.”

Such success stories, Madam Speaker, is why the Marin Conservation Corps deserves to be congratulated for its past 25 years of service. May it have an equally successful future.

GREG SMITH: EDUCATOR, HUMANITARIAN, SCHOLAR AND CHAMPION FOR ENVIRONMENTAL RIGHTS

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, October 12, 2007

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, October 20, 2007, California State University Dominguez Hills, CSUDH, will celebrate the dedication of the Greg Smith Memorial Garden on its campus. Inspired by the late