

Antioch Church housed the first school for black citizens in Decatur. Later, the church was blessed by a faithful servant named Reverend Dr. Turner who led the congregation from 1965 until his death in 1995. During the 30 years of his service, Reverend Turner established a free food bank and clothing room, which continue to serve needy families in the community today. Reverend Turner also opened a local extension of the United Theological Seminary through which many ministers in Decatur and in neighboring cities earned their bachelor's and master's degrees in theology.

I am deeply honored to represent the Antioch Missionary Baptist Church and congratulate its congregation for 150 years of service. The strong faith and history of Antioch will no doubt continue to serve the Decatur community for another 150 years, and remind us of the values of diversity and public service upon which it was established.

CONGRATULATING SANTA CLARA
UNIVERSITY'S SOLAR DECATHLON
TEAM

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Santa Clara University's Solar Decathlon Team for placing third in the Department of Energy's 2007 International Solar Decathlon. I am joined by my colleague the Honorable ZOE LOFGREN, a graduate of Santa Clara University, in congratulating the students, administration, and sponsors for their tremendous accomplishments.

In this competition, university teams were challenged to design, build, and operate an energy-efficient and aesthetically-pleasing home powered by solar energy alone.

Santa Clara University was selected as one of just 20 international competitors in the 2007 Solar Decathlon, and was the only school west of the Rockies chosen to compete. Even more impressive was that Santa Clara, a school of approximately 4,500 students, competed against schools like MIT, Carnegie Mellon, and Georgia Tech, making them by far the smallest school in the Decathlon and the only competitor without a school or department of architecture.

In addition to placing third overall, they were one of five teams to score a perfect 100 points in the Hot Water contest and one of seven teams to score a perfect 100 points in the Energy Balance contest. Santa Clara's home boasted a variety of unique features that are both sustainable and energy-efficient, including the first bamboo I-beams in the United States and insulation made from recycled blue jeans.

We are extremely proud of the accomplishments of the Santa Clara University's Solar Decathlon Team and the generous support provided by their industrial sponsors. Their project highlights the technology and innovation characteristic of Silicon Valley.

On behalf of Representative LOFGREN and myself, congratulations to Santa Clara University's Solar Decathlon Team for placing third in this international competition and for your strong representation of the strengths of the Silicon Valley and the State of California.

RECOGNIZING RACHEL SAVAGEAU

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. MCGOVERN. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Rachel Savageau of Shrewsbury, MA. A talented and intelligent young woman, Rachel has been named one of the recipients for the Eleanor Roosevelt Humanitarian Youth Award from the Shrewsbury Democratic Town Committee.

A 2007 graduate of Shrewsbury High School, Rachel proved to be an exceptional young woman during her 4 years there. Rachel helped found the Young Democrats of Shrewsbury High School and served as secretary for all four years of her high school career. She was also a member of her school's Political Action Committee and a GSA leader. Currently a political science major at UMASS Boston, she has started a Young Democrats group there and is interning for the League of Women Voters.

Rachel's active role in numerous groups makes her the perfect recipient for this award. Our country's future is invested in young people like Rachel and I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring her today.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" MCKEON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. MCKEON. Madam Speaker, due to the ongoing wildfires in Southern California, and specifically those in the 25th District of California, I was unable to vote on the following measures. Please enter into the record this personal explanation for my absence on the following rollcall votes:

Rollcall No. 986—On Motion to Table the Resolution, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 987—Joshua Omvig Veterans Suicide Prevention Act, which I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 988—Charlie Norwood Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center, which I would have voted "yea."

Rollcall No. 989—Condemning the actions of September 7, 2007, resulting in damage to the Vietnam Veterans War Memorial.

Rollcall No. 990—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1011, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 991—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1483, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 992—Providing for consideration of H.R. 1483, which I would have voted "nay."

Rollcall No. 993—Violent Radicalization and Homegrown Terrorism Prevention Act of 2007, which I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I was on a leave of absence on October 24,

2007 due to the San Diego wildfires. The following list describes how I would have voted had I been in attendance.

Rollcall No. 995: Motion to Recommit with Instructions on Celebrating America's Heritage Act, H.R. 1483—"yea."

Rollcall No. 996: Passage of Celebrating America's Heritage Act, H.R. 1483—"yea."

Rollcall No. 997: Previous Question on the Rule providing consideration of Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"yea."

Rollcall No. 998: Providing consideration of Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"yea."

Rollcall No. 999: Motion to Recommit with Instructions on Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"nay."

Rollcall No. 1000: Passage of Native Hawaiian Government Reorganization Act, H.R. 505—"yea."

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO REINSTATE CERTAIN FEDERAL BENEFITS TO CITIZENS OF THE FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mrs. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to join my colleague, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, in introducing a bill to reinstate certain Federal benefits to citizens of the Freely Associated States, FAS.

This bill is a companion measure to S. 1676, introduced earlier this year by Senators AKAKA and INOUE, which provides eligibility for non-emergency Medicaid, Food Stamps, Temporary Assistance to Needy Families, TANF, and Supplemental Security Income, SSI, to FAS citizens residing in the United States.

Citizens from the FAS are from the Republic of the Marshall Islands RMI, Federated States of Micronesia, FSM, and the Republic of Palau, which are jurisdictions that have a unique political relationship with the United States. The Compact of Free Association established these nations as sovereign States responsible for their own foreign policies. However, the FAS remain dependent upon the United States for military protection and economic assistance.

Under the Compact, the United States has the right to reject the strategic use of, or military access to, the FAS by other countries. This right is often referred to as the "right of strategic denial." In addition, the U.S. may block FAS Government policies that it deems inconsistent with its duty to defend the FAS, which is referred to as the "defense veto." The Compact also states that the United States has exclusive military base rights in the FAS.

In exchange for these prerogatives, the U.S. is required to support the FAS economically, with the goal of producing self-sufficiency, and FAS citizens are allowed free entry into the United States as non-immigrants for the purposes of education, medical treatment, and employment. Because of this ability to travel within the United States as a non-immigrant, many FAS citizens have since migrated to the State of Hawaii.

According to Governor Linda Lingle, in 2006 the State of Hawaii spent an estimated \$91 million in State funds to provide health and social services to migrants from the FAS. This amount is almost double the cost of \$48 million reported to the U.S. Department of the Interior by the State of Hawaii for health and social services provided to Compact migrants in 2003, which was the last year such figures were compiled. Clearly, the cost to the state is growing and will continue to grow.

No State can expect its taxpayers to bear such an increasingly costly burden for an agreement that is in the interest of our entire Nation. The Federal Government should do more to help address the unintended social services consequences of the Compact.

I know that Guam, American Samoa, and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands face the same challenges in the provision of health and social services to FAS citizens as the State of Hawaii. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF NATIONAL CHEMISTRY WEEK

SPEECH OF

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, October 22, 2007

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 751, a resolution I have introduced supporting the goals and ideals of National Chemistry Week, which starts today, October 22, 2007.

During the next 5 days, millions of people, particularly students in elementary and secondary schools, will be engaged in chemistry-related activities that show the importance of chemistry to our quality of life. With assistance from American Chemical Society, ACS, staff, thousands of volunteers will conduct these activities in venues from shopping malls, to classrooms, to university labs.

National Chemistry Week was created by ACS in 1987 to draw attention to the positive contributions chemistry makes to our everyday lives. These contributions include helping feed, house, and clothe the world's population; tapping new energy sources; providing renewable substitutes for limited materials; improving public health; strengthening our national security; and protecting our environment.

During this year's 20th anniversary of National Chemistry Week, we are celebrating "The Many Faces of Chemistry." This theme was chosen to emphasize the extensive variety of careers available in the world of chemistry and to honor the tremendous diversity of people who have contributed and will contribute to the advancement of chemistry and all of its branches. This year's theme takes added importance when you consider that a disproportionately low number of minority, underprivileged, and young women students are taking up careers in science and technology.

The inclusion of women and under-represented minorities in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields, STEM, is not just important to correct for historical employment inequities, but to provide under-represented minorities an opportunity for pros-

perity. The increased education and participation of this segment of the workforce is also essential to supplying the American economy with the STEM expertise the country needs to innovate and remain competitive. According to the U.S. Census, 39 percent of the population under the age of 18 is a racial or ethnic minority. That percentage is on a path to pass 50 percent by the year 2050. Yet, in 2000, only 4.4 percent of the science and engineering jobs were held by African Americans and only 3.4 percent by Hispanics. Women constitute over half of the post-secondary students in the Nation, but represent a little more than one-quarter of our science and engineering workforce. We must correct these disparities, and fast.

This is not an issue of compromising high standards. If America is to achieve its strategic objectives in STEM, the enormous potential of groups that are currently under-represented in the STEM fields must be realized through expanded and focused educational opportunity. Some see tension between policies that focus resources on certain groups and the pursuit for excellence, but the simple truth is that the general achievement of excellence is strongly linked to the prevalence of opportunity.

Scientists from these under-represented groups have demonstrated excellence through important contributions to our understanding of the environment and the sciences. Two notable examples include Mario Molina, an atmospheric chemist who received a Nobel Prize for his work establishing the link between CFCs and atmospheric ozone destruction, and Percy L. Julian, who was the first black chemist elected to the National Academy of Sciences and whose work in synthesizing a compound used to treat glaucoma led to his having been ranked by ACS as one of the top 75 Distinguished Contributors to the Chemical Enterprise.

If we are to remain an innovative and economically competitive nation, the face of our high-tech workforce must reflect the true face of America. Our workforce will not be the best America has to offer if we do not ensure that we are taking advantage of all pools of domestic talent. "The Many Faces of Chemistry" theme is especially significant because it focuses on promoting diversity, which will help ensure national competitiveness by encouraging broad participation from all sources of talent in the sciences and chemistry.

I thank the American Chemical Society for their work in promoting the chemical sciences and the important role of diversity. I urge my colleagues to support this resolution.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. BECERRA. Madam Speaker, on Monday, October 22, 2007, I was unable to cast my floor vote on rollcall votes 983, 984 and 985.

Had I been present for the votes, I would have voted "aye" for rollcall votes 983, 984 and 985.

TRIBUTE TO DEBORAH ONSLOW

HON. MICHAEL R. McNULTY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. McNULTY. Madam Speaker, I wish to recognize and celebrate the tenure of Deborah Onslow, President and General Manager of WMHT Educational Telecommunications in Troy, NY.

On November 1, 2007, the Tech Valley community in my district will come together to celebrate Ms. Onslow's many years of dedication, hard work, and accomplishment on behalf of public broadcasting at the community and national levels. Her leadership and commitment to local community values is integral not only to the success of WMHT, but to the entire public television and radio community.

Ms. Onslow assumed the position of President and General Manager of WMHT Educational Telecommunications in March 2001, becoming the first woman ever to head a New York State public broadcasting station. During her distinguished career, Ms. Onslow has received national recognition for outstanding achievements in local fundraising, as well as for local program production. Before joining WMHT, Ms. Onslow served as Vice President and General Manager of WGBY in Springfield, MA, and as Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of WXXI in Rochester, NY.

Ms. Onslow is a member of the WGBH Educational Foundation, and has also served on the PBS Board of Directors. Locally, she is serving on the Business-Higher Education Roundtable, as well as on the Board of Directors of the Center for Economic Growth. She was co-chair of the 2003 American Heart Association's Capital Region American Heart Walk.

I ask my colleagues to join me today in commending Deborah Onslow for her distinguished career in furthering the mission and values of public broadcasting.

HONORING THE LOUISIANA HONORAIR VETERANS

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 25, 2007

Mr. BOUSTANY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor a very special group from South Louisiana.

On October 27, 2007 a group of 97 veterans and their guardians will fly to Washington with a very special program. Louisiana HonorAir is providing the opportunity for these veterans from my home State of Louisiana to visit Washington, DC on a chartered flight free of charge. During their visit, they will visit Arlington National Cemetery and the World War II Memorial. For many, this will be their first and only opportunity to see these sights dedicated to the great service they have provided for our Nation.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring these great Americans and thanking them for their unselfish service.