

Dr. Coleman-Adebayo's work has been frequently recognized and she has received numerous honors and awards, including Harvard University's award for Outstanding Commitment to Global Health and Development and Good Housekeeping Magazine's Woman of the Year. She was selected by the National Whistleblower Center as one of the most influential "truth-tellers" in the United States and was inducted into the Project on Government Oversight's Hall of Fame. Dr. Coleman-Adebayo is the subject of a major motion picture, currently in production, entitled "No FEAR: The Marsha Coleman-Adebayo Story."

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting Dr. Marsha Coleman-Adebayo for her lifelong commitment to civil and workers' rights.

HONORING NEWARK MAYOR DAVID
W. SMITH

HON. FORTNEY PETE STARK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. STARK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Mayor of Newark, California, David W. Smith. Mayor Smith has served the citizens of Newark, California for 27 years. He has the distinction of being the longest serving Mayor in California and presently the fourth longest serving Mayor in the United States.

Mayor Smith is a native of Detroit, Michigan. He has extensive management experience in the private sector and is currently Executive Director for Asset and Enterprise Management Systems at Ohlone College.

His government experience is equally impressive. He was elected to the Newark City Council in 1976 and was elected Mayor in 1978. He has served in the United States Conference of Mayors in a myriad of capacities including Trustee on the Executive Committee, Nominating Committee Chair, Membership Committee Chair, member of the Arts Committee and the Education Committee.

Mayor Smith is past President of the Alameda Conference of Mayors and former Chairman of the Alameda County Transportation Authority. He is Chairman of the Newark Redevelopment Agency, the Newark Community Development Advisory Committee and the Newark Disaster Council.

His awards and honors are noteworthy. He is a life member of the U.S. Jaycees, and had the honor of being selected as one of California's Five Outstanding Young Men, Outstanding Young Alumni at Michigan Technological University and is a former member of Mensa. He is among the Distinguished Alumni of Calumet High School and received the Hometown Hero Award from the Newark National Little League.

On March 22, 2007, the Mission Peak District of the Boy Scouts of America will present Mayor Smith with its 2006 "Good Scout Award" at a community breakfast in its honor. I join the community expressing appreciation to Mayor David Smith for his commitment to service.

INTRODUCTION OF THE PERMANENT INTERNET TAX FREEDOM ACT OF 2007

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I am proud to introduce the Permanent Internet Tax Freedom Act of 2007. This legislation completes the work begun by Congress in 1998, by permanently banning discriminatory or duplicative state or local taxes on Internet access and e-commerce.

When Congress first instituted a temporary moratorium in 1998, the goal was to promote the growth of online commerce and encourage universal access. This policy has been a resounding success, fostering growth in productivity and innovation and widening public access to information. A 2006 report by the Pew Internet and American Life Project demonstrated that 73 percent of those polled were Internet users, up from 66 percent in a similar 2005 survey. While Americans use the Internet for a myriad of reasons, e-commerce has particularly flourished and continues to grow at an exceptional rate. In 2006 alone, online retail exceeded \$100 billion, increasing 24 percent over 2005.

Despite the successes we have seen, there is still much work to be done. Internet usage still lags behind in rural and lower income areas and the United States has fallen from 4th to 16th in broadband penetration worldwide since 2001. In order to reverse this trend, we need to ensure that access costs are kept to a minimum. Prohibiting unnecessary access taxes will help accomplish this goal.

We also need to allow unfettered access to the products and new services that are only available through the Internet and prevent multiple layers of state and local taxes. Otherwise, we will open the door to a myriad of barriers to Internet commerce that will drive consumers from a web-based marketplace and stifle innovation.

Congress twice passed extensions to the moratorium in 2001 and again in 2004. Unfortunately, in November of this year the most recent extension will expire. Should Congress fail to renew this moratorium the continued growth and progress in Internet access and e-commerce will be endangered.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting my efforts to make this moratorium permanent and finally assure consumers that their Internet access and e-commerce will remain unhindered by discriminatory and duplicative taxes.

BLOUNTSTOWN FUTURE FARMERS
OF AMERICA

HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. BOYD of Florida. Madam Speaker, I come to the floor today to congratulate a group of students from Blountstown, FL, who have recently won the National Future Farmers of America Forestry Career Development Event at the National FFA Convention in Indianapolis.

The forestry team from Blountstown represented the State of Florida, competing against 37 other teams from around the country in the national forestry event. The competition was part of the 79th National FFA Convention.

I am pleased to recognize all of the members of the Blountstown forestry team who contributed to the victory. The championship team consisted of Blountstown students Nic Stoltzfus, Will Leonard, Max Herndon, and Jennie Fagen. As the winning team, these exceptional students received scholarships to further their educations at a post-secondary institution of their choice. Leading the team of future agricultural professionals was Blountstown FFA sponsor Ron Mears.

These students have demonstrated impressive knowledge in the area of forest management, and I'm so proud of their hard work and their dedication to this important field. On behalf of my fellow Floridians, I applaud the Blountstown Future Farmers of America on their victory and national recognition.

LANE EVANS POST OFFICE
BUILDING

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, January 29, 2007

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 521 which would designate the United States Postal Service building located at 2633 11th Street in Rock Island, IL, as the Lane Evans Post Office Building. I thank Representative HARE for introducing this legislation.

Lane Evans has been a close and dear friend to me and my husband, Bob Creamer, since Lane's very first campaign in 1982. That friendship, through thick and thin, has been and will always be so precious to us. We are grateful to Lane for being such an important part of our lives. We love him very much.

I had the privilege of working for Lane Evans's first campaign. At the time Lane declared his candidacy, he was considered a sacrificial lamb running against a well-entrenched Republican incumbent. His winning seemed like a pipe dream. However, there was something special in this young, legal assistance attorney, and he quietly fought to win his seat in the House, giving the many labor union workers, consumer and civil rights activists, and ordinary residents of this western Illinois district the representation they deserved.

During that first campaign, Lane was modest, unassuming, friendly, and also inspiring. He showed a humble respect for each and every voter, addressing them in the soft-spoken, sincere manner that he never lost. The quiet strength that came from being a United States Marine during the Vietnam era always shone through.

From the first day and throughout his career in the House, Lane Evans remained true to his core progressive beliefs. The working and retired men and women of his district and the veterans throughout the Nation could always count on Lane Evans being there for them—no excuses, no exceptions.

As the Ranking Democrat of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, Lane Evans was

recognized as the leading advocate of veterans in Congress, responsible for legislation to compensate veterans and their families for the effects of Agent Orange, help Persian Gulf and women veterans, and those now returning from Iraq and Afghanistan. The veterans' service organizations have honored Lane with their highest awards.

Lane Evans has always been a leader in the fight for universal health care. Although Parkinson's disease has forced him to end his productive service in the House, he always acknowledges how fortunate he is to be able to afford the best care, while so many Americans are not. He has become an advocate for expanding funding for research into the cure for Parkinson's and many other diseases that might benefit from government-funded embryonic stem cell research.

When Lane Evans retired from the House of Representatives last year, Senator DURBIN said the following: "There are two kinds of courage in this world. There is physical courage, which is rare. Then there is even a rarer commodity, moral courage. Once in a great while you find someone who has both. Lane Evans is that person." I could not agree with Senator DURBIN more.

I miss Lane Evans' presence in the Halls of Congress on a day-to-day basis. However, my sadness is easily deflected by Lane's legacy that will ever be reflected in the improved lives of the veterans of the United States and all the working families who will continue to benefit from his outstanding service.

I urge all of my colleagues to support H.R. 521.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO DESIGNATE THE THIRD FLOOR OF THE ELLIS ISLAND IMMIGRATION MUSEUM AS THE "BOB HOPE MEMORIAL LIBRARY"

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. ENGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to encourage my colleagues' strong support of legislation that I have introduced to designate the third floor library of the Ellis Island Immigration Museum as the "Bob Hope Memorial Library." I would also like to thank Representative GALLEGLY for his assistance with this bill. I believe that it is important to honor Bob Hope, an American Citizen, who immigrated through Ellis Island and who contributed so greatly to the American people and culture.

Most Americans remember Bob Hope for his work in the entertainment business as a comedian, actor, dancer, and singer as well as his work with American troops abroad. But, what few know is that Bob Hope was an immigrant from England. He is sometimes even referred to as America's most famous immigrant, whose life epitomizes the "American Dream." After a long period of restoration, Ellis Island was turned into a museum in 1990 with the purpose for people to come and remember the 16 million immigrants who passed through Ellis Island from 1892–1954 to pursue the American Dream. Bob Hope embodies that American Dream which so many immigrants

sought and I believe that naming the library after this great American is a fitting tribute.

INTRODUCTION OF BILL TO PROVIDE PERMANENT FUNDING FOR THE PAYMENT IN LIEU OF TAXES (PILT) PROGRAM

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, together with my Colorado colleague, Representative JOHN SALAZAR, I am again introducing legislation to provide permanent funding for two programs that are very important to counties and other local units of government in Colorado and many other States.

Our bill is identical to one we introduced in the 109th Congress. Under the bill, the full amounts authorized under both the payments in lieu of taxes, PILT, program and the refuge revenue sharing program would be made available to the Secretary of the Interior annually, for distribution to eligible local governments in accordance with those programs.

This would eliminate the requirement for annual appropriations for PILT and refuge revenue sharing purposes and would shield them against the kind of political short-sightedness demonstrated in the presidential budget that has repeatedly failed to request full funding for PILT and has even proposed cuts from amounts Congress has previously provided.

While both programs are significant, PILT is particularly important for counties in Colorado and other States that include large expanses of Federal lands. In 2006, for example, counties in Colorado received more than \$17.4 million out of a total of more than \$232 million distributed nationwide.

Congress created the PILT program in response to a recommendation of the Public Land Law Review Commission, chaired by Representative Wayne N. Aspinall, who represented what was then Colorado's Fourth Congressional District. It reflected a recognition that a system of payments based on acreage was more equitable and reliable than one tied to management decisions such as timber harvests or other uses.

Counties use their PILT payments for a wide variety of purposes, including some—such as law enforcement, fire fighting, and search and rescue—that are directly related to the Federal lands within their boundaries and the people who use those lands.

For nearly two decades after the program was established, PILT funding remained level but the value of PILT payments was eroded by inflation. In 1995, Congress amended the law to raise the authorization level. However, since 1995, no budget request—from either President Clinton or President Bush—has requested more than two-thirds of the amount authorized by the PILT Act. As a result, the burden on county taxpayers has not been reduced to the extent that Congress intended when it passed the 1995 legislation. Our bill would ensure full implementation of that legislation.

HONORING HENRY M. THOMAS III

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 31, 2007

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday night, January 24, 2007, the University of Massachusetts presented Henry M. Thomas III of Springfield, MA, with its Distinguished Service Award. This award recognizes the "demonstrated leadership" and "exemplary accomplishments" of an individual, and I can think of no one more worthy than my friend Henry Thomas.

Henry Thomas is a life-long friend of mine and I would like to extend at this time my heartfelt congratulations to him upon receiving this prestigious honor. I would like to include in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD today a history of Henry Thomas's accomplishments and dedication to the city of Springfield, social activism and education. Congratulations Henry on an award that is well-deserved.

DISTINGUISHED ACHIEVEMENT AWARD PRESENTED TO HENRY M. THOMAS III, JANUARY 24, 2007.

No one in our time has made greater civic contributions to western Massachusetts than Henry M. Thomas III, or shown greater courage and resolve in doing so. His record of achievement during the past three and a half decades has been dazzling in its depth and diversity.

Thomas is president and chief executive officer of the Urban League of Springfield Inc., which he joined in 1971 as youth and education director. The Urban League serves the African American community by promoting through advocacy and services the academic and social development and the economic self-sufficiency of young people and families. It also fosters racial inclusion and social justice.

Thomas showed an early aptitude for leadership. Within 4 years he was promoted to director of voter registration and education at the Springfield Urban League, and then to deputy director. In 1975, when only 25 years old, he was named president and CEO, the youngest person ever so appointed in an Urban League affiliate. He is a past president of the National Urban League Executives and served for 2 years as vice president for youth development at the New York office of the National Urban League, developing infrastructure to support inner-city youth.

Many other institutions and organizations have been touched by Thomas's energetic idealism and executive skill. As the first African American chairman of the Springfield Fire Commission from 1985 to 1998, he demonstrated a courageous willingness to challenge a rule that forbade fire department applicants from having an arrest record, as opposed to a conviction—this at a time when blacks and Latinos were frequently arrested on spurious grounds. Ten years later, as the first black chairman of the Springfield Police Commission, Thomas received death threats after granting three African Americans promotions to sergeant.

In January 2006, Governor Mitt Romney appointed Thomas vice chairman of the Massachusetts Board of Education, on which he had served since 2001. Thomas was also recently appointed to the transition team of Governor Deval Patrick.

Camp Atwater in North Brookfield, MA, the Nation's oldest African American summer youth residential camp, has long benefited from Thomas's support: he reopened it in 1980 following a 6-year hiatus and serves