

CONGRATULATING MARIQUITA C. LEON GUERRERO ON BEING NAMED THE 2007 SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION HOME-BASED BUSINESS CHAMPION FOR GUAM

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Ms. BORDALLO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Mrs. Maraquita C. Leon Guerrero on being named the U.S. Small Business Administration 2007 Home-Based Business Champion of the Year for Guam. Mrs. Leon Guerrero, affectionately known as "Tita," is the proprietress of Tita's Bakery, a home-based bakery that has produced Chamorro pastries since 1965.

This honor is richly deserved. Tita has made a much-loved local confection very nearly an icon of my home district. Some people call them Chamorro jaw breakers, others call them a cookie, and still others a candy. Guguria is all of those. They are small, hard sugar-coated cookies made with coconut milk.

For more than 40 years now, Tita's Guguria has fulfilled the sweet-tooth cravings of my constituents who didn't want to undertake the laborious process of making guguria themselves. Newcomers to Guam quickly discover Tita's Guguria and have sent them to their families and friends far and wide. Tita's Guguria also has become a staple in "care packages" from families at home to relatives here in the mainland. In 1998, during his visit to Guam, President Bill Clinton was served some of Tita's Guguria. Upon his return to Washington, DC, the White House placed an order for more.

Mrs. Leon Guerrero's business model—the secret to her success—is a classic one: She found a need and filled it admirably. But Tita did not intend to build a successful small business. Like most home-based entrepreneurs, she simply wanted to augment her family income. Her little bake shop, which started as a 12-by-14-foot room, now covers more than 5,000 square feet. One of Tita's daughters now follows in her mother's footsteps, operating her own home-based bakery business called "Tita, Jr.," which specializes in baked goods from handed-down family recipes.

Mrs. Leon Guerrero is a role model not only for her daughters but for all other would-be home-based entrepreneurs. She has proven that a good idea is a valuable thing, and hard work really does pay off. "You have to be happy, and you must enjoy your work in order to succeed," she is quoted as saying in a magazine feature.

Although she still gets up at 2 in the morning to start work, Tita devotes the weekends to her family. Her husband Ben is her most loyal and loving "employee"; he helps with deliveries. We send Tita, Ben, Genny, Renee, their grandchildren, and the employees of Tita's bakery our best wishes as they join other Home-based Business Champions from around the country for consideration to be the Small Business Administration's National Champion for that category.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAHM EMANUEL

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. EMANUEL. Madam Speaker, I was absent from the Chamber for rollcall No. 103 on February 27, 2007. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN HERBAL PRODUCTS ASSOCIATION (AHPA)

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the American Herbal Products Association (AHPA), an organization that is celebrating its 25th anniversary.

Since AHPA's founding in 1982, the organization has been at the forefront of promoting the responsible commerce of herbs and herbal products and has continually been a leader in the herbal products community. AHPA began by organizing growers, processors, manufacturers and marketers of herbal products and has since grown into a diverse trade association, representing over 250 companies in the herbal products industry and their affiliated businesses.

AHPA has distinguished itself in the dietary supplement world for the quality of its work and advocacy before lawmakers and regulators. AHPA is highly regarded in as a knowledgeable and trusted voice on issues that impact trade in herbal products. Over the years, AHPA has gained a reputation for tackling complex issues in this diverse sector.

One of the many contributions that AHPA is proud of is its publication of the reference, Herbs of Commerce, which established standardized common names for herbal ingredients and is used by the Food and Drug Administration as a reference in the labeling regulations for dietary supplements. AHPA also made significant contributions toward the passage of the Dietary Supplement Health and Education Act of 1994. More recently, AHPA played a seminal role in the effort to establish a Federal serious adverse event reporting mechanism for the dietary supplement industry. AHPA's lead voice on this issue was extremely instrumental in the passage in December 2006 of the Dietary Supplement and Nonprescription Drug Consumer Protection Act of 2006.

AHPA and its members should be commended for their ongoing commitment to supporting the responsible commerce of herbs and herbal products in the United States. I once again rise to recognize this momentous occasion and to wish AHPA a happy 25th Anniversary.

THE PSORIASIS AND PSORIATIC ARTHRITIS RESEARCH, CURE, AND CARE ACT

HON. DAVID WU

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 5, 2007

Mr. WU. Madam Speaker, I rise today to support all those in the United States battling psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis and that is why on February 9, 2007 I introduced H.R. 1188, The Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis Research, Cure, and Care Act.

Today as many as seven and a half million Americans are affected by psoriasis—a chronic, inflammatory, painful, disfiguring and disabling disease for which there are limited treatments and no cure. What's worse is that along with living with this disease is that many of these patients are still living with the painful stigma that has accompanied psoriasis for some many years.

The Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis Research, Cure, and Care Act seeks to create a fundamental understanding of where we are as a nation in fighting psoriasis and how we can align our resources and focus our efforts in combating the disease. The Act calls on the Secretary of Health and Human Services to convene a summit of researchers, public health professionals, representatives of patient advocacy organizations and policymakers to review current efforts in psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis research, treatment, quality-of-life being conducted by federal agencies whose work involves psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis and psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis related comorbidities.

The Act also commissions the Institute of Medicine to investigate and recommend changes to the current ways psoriasis is treated by the insurance industry and what treatments are available to patients and how effective available care is for patients.

Finally, the Act directs the Center for Disease Control and Prevention to begin to develop a patient registry to collect much-needed, and highly informative longitudinal data on psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis so researchers can begin to understand the long-term impact of these conditions and evaluate the effects of various therapies.

I would also like to recognize the work of the National Psoriasis Foundation, and their leadership to work with patients and their families, doctors and researchers to work toward a better understanding of the disease and their commitment to improve the quality of life for people living with psoriasis and psoriatic arthritis.

This bill is an important move forward to realizing the promise of the current research in the field, as well as the creation of possibilities for the future.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the Psoriasis and Psoriatic Arthritis Research, Cure, and Care Act.