

say that though he is the President, it's Debbie that does all the work. In 1994, Debbie was diagnosed with Multiple Sclerosis. Several times during her battle with this debilitating disease, Debbie has had to be hospitalized or homebound. Each time, she has demanded her work be brought to her home and she always showed more concern for the men and women the Association serves than for her own health.

Robert Criss has been a part of the Association since 1991. He retired as a Captain from the Highland Park Police Department in 1999. His first-hand knowledge of the needs of the law enforcement officers the Association serves has made him an invaluable volunteer. And, by all accounts, Bob Criss volunteers "excessive amounts of time" to this work, perhaps most importantly as the Chair of the Youth and Child Identification program.

The New Jersey State Law Enforcement Officers Association will be seventy years old next year. Its members serve the people of New Jersey as Federal, State, county, and municipal law enforcement officers, special police, and auxiliaries. It is the outstanding commitment of people like Debbie Ferroni and Bob Criss that allows the Association to serve these brave officers so well.

As it does each year, this past weekend, the Association honored several of its members for their valor and bravery in the line of duty. I join the Association in the pride they show for these officers and I am proud to honor Debbie and Bob for their sense of duty as well.

RECOGNIZING LOGAN JAMES REED
FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF
EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Logan James Reed, 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 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Logan has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Logan has been involved with scouting, he has earned 31 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Assistant Patrol Leader and Patrol Leader. Logan has earned the Master Camper Award and became a warrior in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

Logan used his leadership skills to lead a group of boys and adults in constructing two pre-fabricated water fountains and benches with a concrete pad that is handicap accessible on the walking trail in Kearney. He is a member of the Northern Hills Baptist Church and attends the Excelsior Springs Area Career Center for the HVAC program.

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

EXPRESSING SORROW OF THE
HOUSE AT THE DEATH OF THE
HONORABLE JUANITA MILLEN-
DER-MCDONALD, MEMBER OF
CONGRESS FROM THE STATE OF
CALIFORNIA

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 23, 2007

Mr. GARY G. MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor JUANITA MILLENDER-MCDONALD. She was my colleague and, more importantly, she was my friend.

JUANITA and I served together in the California State Assembly and later in Congress. Each week we shared a flight back and forth from Southern California and we grew to be very good friends.

In Congress, we partnered on the House Transportation and Infrastructure Committee to address the unique and pressing transportation needs of Southern California. We joined together to bring a national focus to the importance of Southern California's goods movement, highway financing, and transit needs. As conferees for the SAFETEA-LU Act, together we worked hard to bring historic levels of Federal transportation funding back to the Southern California region.

I am saddened by the loss of a great public servant and colleague that fought for the needs of her constituents and the Southern California region with grace, dedication, and honor.

I am also saddened by the loss of a dear personal friend.

JUANITA was a kind and gentle soul who was called home far too soon. Her wisdom and leadership in Congress will be sorely missed. I join my colleagues in praying that she is in a better place and that her family is able to find peace in knowing the tremendous contributions she made to her State and Nation during her years of public service.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MARKETS
TAX CREDIT BILL

HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. NEAL of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, I rise to offer legislation to extend the New Markets Tax Credit program for an additional five years. I am pleased to be joined by Rep. RON LEWIS in offering this bill, along with several other cosponsors.

The New Markets Tax Credit program has proved to be a remarkably successful way to revitalize communities. Current authority for the program, however, is due to expire at the end of next year. It is important that we extend this credit soon and that we provide for a long-term extension.

The credit was first enacted in 2000 as part of the Community Renewal Tax Relief Act. From enactment through fiscal year 2005, the New Markets Tax Credit has generated financing for the construction or rehabilitation of over 43 million square feet of real estate, and has helped to create or retain 72,000 construction

jobs and 20,000 full time equivalent jobs in low-income community businesses.

The credit stimulates investment and economic growth in low-income urban neighborhoods and rural communities. Investors receive over seven years a 39 percent Federal tax credit for Qualified Equity Investments, with a 5 percent credit during the first three years and 6 percent during the next four years. These investments are made through vehicles known as Community Development Entities (CDEs), which raises capital from the tax credits and then makes loans to or investments in worthy businesses and projects in low-income areas. These CDEs must be domestic corporations or partnerships with a primary mission of providing investment capital to low-income persons or communities, must provide accountability to the communities or residents, and must be certified by the Treasury Secretary as an eligible entity.

Eligible communities, which include both metropolitan and rural areas, are low-income communities with a high poverty rate or low median family income. In the 2006 extension of this credit, the Treasury Secretary was directed to prescribe regulations ensuring that there was a balance in allocations between metropolitan and nonmetropolitan counties. Further, the Treasury Secretary may also designate targeted populations as low-income communities if certain individuals or an identifiable group of individuals, including an Indian tribe, are low-income persons or lack adequate access to loans or equity investments. Some have recently argued that service-connected disabled veterans are such a group and I encourage the Treasury Secretary to look into this reasonable suggestion.

Finally, the law requires that businesses, in order to be eligible for such investments, show that at least half of the total gross income of the business is derived from active operations in a low-income community, and that a substantial portion of the business property and the services performed by the employees are located in a low-income community.

I believe that all of these rules ensure that the credit is appropriately targeted. A recent GAO report found that the program is very effective at increasing investment in low-income communities. To date, New Markets Tax Credit investments in low-income communities total over \$7.7 billion. The tax credit has been used to support a wide variety of community and economic development initiatives including, among others, the financing of charter schools, health care facilities, manufacturing businesses, grocery-anchored retail centers, and numerous other commercial and mixed-use real estate projects.

Now, despite this explanation, some of my colleagues may be wondering how these credits really work. Let me detail one local success story from my Congressional district, and encourage my colleagues to look into projects in their districts as well. Hot Mama's Foods is a Massachusetts-based food company, specializing in salsas, pestos, and other spreads. Recently, the company was able to secure a loan from the Massachusetts Development Finance Agency, a CDE, along with other financing in order to relocate to a USDA-certified food production facility in Springfield, which is in my district. That relocation and expansion meant the company could add an additional 10 jobs to its 50-person workforce and revitalize a neighborhood.

These tax credits work. They help businesses expand and add valuable jobs. The credits need to be extended. I urge my colleagues to join us in sponsoring the New Markets Tax Credit Extension Act of 2007.

RECOGNIZING GRANT RICHARD SAMPSON FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Grant Richard Sampson, 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 314, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Grant has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the years Grant has been involved with scouting, he has earned 31 merit badges and held numerous leadership positions, serving as Librarian, Troop Guide, Assistant Patrol Leader, and Historian.

For his eagle project, Grant assisted in building two full-size soccer goals for a playground at Line Creek Elementary School. He earned the Arrow of Light and Order of the Arrow awards, and is a Foxman in the Tribe of Mic-O-Say.

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

CONGRATULATING THE OSWEGO STATE MEN'S HOCKEY TEAM UPON WINNING THE 2007 DIVISION III NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. JOHN M. MCHUGH

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. MCHUGH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the State University of New York at Oswego (Oswego State) Lakers upon winning the 2007 NCAA Division III Men's Ice Hockey National Championship, the first national championship ever won by Oswego State in a team sport.

On March 18, 2007, Oswego State, which is located in my Congressional District, won the Division III National Championship when it defeated the Middlebury Panthers by a score of 4 to 3 at Wessman Arena in Superior, Wisconsin. In that game, Ryan Scott, the Lakers' East Region Second Team All American goalie, set a Division III championship game record with 47 saves and Garren Reisweber scored two goals, including the game-winning goal 12:55 into overtime. Other Lakers who recorded points in the championship game were Trevor Gilligan, Ryan Koresky, Derrell Levy, Mark Lozzi, Brendan McLaughlin, and Peter Magagna.

The Lakers team also included coaches Ed Gosek, Pete Sears, and Glenn Sisman as well

as the following players: Tony DiNunzio, Brad Dormiedy, Ryan Ellis, Francois Gagnon, Chris Hyk, Jeffrey Johnstone, Tyler Laws, Tyler Lyon, Kyle McCutcheon, Neil Musselwhite, Mike Novak, Ryan Scott, C.J. Thompson, Rick Varone, Matt Whitehead, Matt Wolf, Ryan Woodward, and Rich Zalewski.

The Lakers completed the 2007 season with a record of 23–3–3. Moreover, their coach, Ed Gosek, an Oswego native and former Lakers player, was named the 2007 Men's Division III Ice Hockey Coach of the Year. Mr. Speaker, it takes a tremendous amount of dedication, hard work, perseverance, and teamwork to win a national championship. Accordingly, I now ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the entire Lakers hockey team for its very significant accomplishment.

MR. PAUL HAYS—THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES READING CLERK

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, April 30, 2007

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I would like to take a moment to recognize the service to the House of Representatives of our reading clerk Paul Hays, who after 19 years in that position and 41 years as an employee of this House has announced that he will retire—effective Monday, April 30—and begin a new phase of his life.

The fact is, Madam Speaker, Paul Hays—with his deep, crisp, commanding voice—is perhaps more recognizable to regular viewers of C-SPAN than many of the Members of Congress who are privileged to serve here.

Since 1789, the House has employed reading clerks, who are responsible for reading aloud the text of bills, amendments, motions, messages, special rules and other privileged resolutions, and veto messages.

Our reading clerks almost always have been appointed from the ranks of existing House employees who have extensive prior floor experience.

And, Paul—a graduate of Georgetown University—is no exception.

In fact, Paul was appointed reading clerk in 1988 by my very good friend and a great public servant, the former Republican minority leader Robert Michel of Illinois.

It is no coincidence, Mr. Speaker, that—given his speaking talents—Paul intends to do voice-over work in the future.

Paul, we thank you for your service and wish you well in the future.

SOWING THE SEEDS THROUGH SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BART GORDON

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 24, 2007

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 363) to authorize appropriations for basic research and re-

search infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships, and for other purposes:

Mr. GORDON of Tennessee. Mr. Chairman, I submit the accompanying exchange of letters regarding H.R. 363.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES,
COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE,
Washington, DC, April 27, 2007.

Hon. BART GORDON,
Chairman, Committee on Science and Technology, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: I write regarding H.R. 363, which authorizes appropriations for basic research and research infrastructure in science and engineering, and for support of graduate fellowships, and for other purposes. I am concerned that certain provisions of the bill as reported may be broad enough to include applicability with respect to biomedical and behavioral research conducted or supported by the National Institutes of Health or other agencies of the Public Health Service. As you know, those matters are within the jurisdiction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

I support passage of the bill based on my understanding that you have agreed that the inaction of the Committee with respect to the bill does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees.

Further, as to any conference on the bill, the Committee on Energy and Commerce reserves the right to seek the appointment of conferees for consideration of any portions of the bill that are within the Committee's jurisdiction. It is my understanding that you have agreed to support a request by the Committee with respect to serving as conferees on the bill (or similar legislation).

I request that you send me a letter confirming our agreements as to jurisdiction, including with respect to conferees, and that our exchange of letters be included in the Congressional Record as part of the consideration of the bill.

I look forward to working with you on this important legislation. If you wish to discuss this matter further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

JOHN D. DINGELL,
Chairman.

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY,
Washington, DC, April 26, 2007.

Hon. JOHN D. DINGELL,
Chairman, Committee on Energy and Commerce, Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: Thank you for your letter regarding the consideration of H.R. 363, the "Sowing the Seeds Through Science and Engineering Research Act." I appreciate your support of this important legislation.

I recognize your Committee's jurisdictional interest in this area as it pertains to the National Institute of Health and other agencies of the Public Health Service. I agree that the inaction of the Committee on Energy and Commerce with respect to the bill does not in any way serve as a jurisdictional precedent as to our two committees, and I will support any request you may make to have conferees on those portions of H.R. 363, or similar legislation, that implicate the Public Health Service. The exchange of letters between our two committees will be placed in the Congressional Record.