

forests healthy and as a result generate revenue for future projects, counties, and schools.

The achievements of this act over the last few years are positive and substantial. This law should be extended so it can continue to benefit the forest counties, their schools, and continue to contribute to improving the health of our public lands.

If we do not work to reauthorize this act, all of the progress of the last 6 years will be lost.

Schools in timber dependant communities will lose a substantial part of their funding. These school districts will have to start making tough budget decisions such as keeping or canceling after school programs, sports programs, music programs, and trying to determine what is the basic educational needs of our children.

Next, counties will have to reprioritize road maintenance so that only the essential services of the county are met because that is all they will be able to afford.

Congress needs to act now in order to ensure a future for rural schools and counties.

ZIMBABWE

Mr. OBAMA. Mr. President, the events of the last few days in Zimbabwe are outrageous and warrant universal condemnation. It is time for the government of Robert Mugabe to cease its repressive and divisive actions and to allow Zimbabweans to pursue their hopes for legitimate political change and opportunity.

Since Sunday, the world has watched with horror and outrage as the Mugabe government has cracked down on legitimate opposition, detained 50 Zimbabweans attending a peaceful prayer meeting outside of Harare, and brutalized opposition leaders and ordinary citizens alike.

A protestor was shot and killed. Morgan Tsvangirai, the leader of the Movement for Democratic Change, has been badly beaten and suffered severe head injuries. Lovemore Madhuku, the leader of the National Constitutional Assembly, reportedly has a broken arm and numerous other wounds. Many of their colleagues in opposition remain in Harare hospitals.

The Government has responded to the outrage prompted by these attacks on human rights and legitimate expression with characteristic bluster. Once again, we are told that the opposition is to blame. Once again, we hear ominous warnings that the opposition is "set to pay a very heavy price, regardless of who they are." Meanwhile, the true cause of the strife—President Mugabe's disastrous rule—remains unaddressed. To the dismay even of his own party, he has declared his intention to run for a new term in office in 2008.

These events are shocking, but sadly they do not come as a surprise. For years, it has been increasingly apparent that the Mugabe government is interested only in its own survival and enrichment, not the welfare of the peo-

ple of Zimbabwe. International observers—including the United States—concluded that the Presidential election of 2002 and the parliamentary elections of 2005 were not free and fair.

The State Department reported just last week in its country report on human rights in Zimbabwe that: "The government engaged in the pervasive and systematic abuse of human rights. The ruling party's dominant control and manipulation of the political process through intimidation and corruption effectively negated the right of citizens to change their government."

Meanwhile, the Government's corruption and mismanagement has brought the Zimbabwean economy to the brink of ruin. Estimates place inflation at a world high of 1,700 percent, and the IMF forecasts that this could pass 4,000 percent by the end of the year. Unemployment stands at 80 percent. Poverty rates are soaring. Zimbabwe's economy is shrinking faster than any other country in the world that is not at war.

I am heartened, though, that this political and economic deterioration has been met with growing calls for change.

Within Zimbabwe, the opposition to Mugabe is showing resilience and courage. Factions of Mugabe's own party have indicated that they want a transition in 2008, and ordinary citizens are increasingly voicing their hopes for a new chapter.

Beyond Zimbabwe, frustration with the Mugabe government is mounting. The head of the African Union has expressed his embarrassment at the situation in Zimbabwe. South Africa and the Southern African Development Community, which have been slow to criticize Zimbabwe in the past, seem to be losing patience. The United States, European Union, and the United Nations were swift in condemning this latest outrage and have been consistent in their calls for change.

The United States must continue to stand strongly against the Mugabe government's abuses of power in Zimbabwe. We must join with our European allies, the United Nations, and—most importantly—the countries and institutions of the region to press for positive change in Zimbabwe. That means a peaceful democratic transition in 2008 and support for economic growth and opportunity—including the lifting of sanctions—once the dark cloud of Mugabe's rule is lifted and Zimbabweans are able again to reach for the new horizon they deserve.

I call on President Mugabe to immediately release all political detainees and repeal the ban on political rallies, to end the use of violence and torture in the jails, permit a free media and abide by the rule of law. His government must also urgently address the humanitarian crisis that has put the mass of his population in dire need of assistance.

Zimbabwe is a nation rich in history and rich in resources. Its talented people have known great hardship just as they have achieved great heights. When Robert Mugabe became President

over a quarter century ago, there was great hope. Zimbabwe had emerged from British rule, claiming its freedom and its future for itself.

Sadly, the freedom and opportunity for which Zimbabweans fought have been eclipsed in the last decade by repression and uncertainty. Instead of peaceful self-determination, we see Zimbabweans intimidated and beaten in the streets. Instead of the responsible management of Zimbabwe's state institutions, we see state-sanctioned corruption, violence, and property seizures. Instead of economic self-sufficiency, we see what was once one of Africa's most promising economies in a free-fall.

Yet I am confident that the people of Zimbabwe will once again claim for themselves a better future. As they seek to hold their leaders accountable, as they try to rebuild their lives and their country, they must know that they have a strong and steady friend in the United States. The events of the last few days—and the Mugabe regime—must belong to the past, and the United States must work with the international community to help all Zimbabweans forge a better future.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

RECOGNIZING MAUI ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY, INC.

• Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I offer my congratulations to Maui Economic Opportunity, Inc. for 42 years of outstanding community service. A private, non-profit organization dedicated to helping individuals and families in need, MEO was chartered as a community action agency on March 22, 1965, by Federal mandate under the Economic Opportunity Act of 1964.

For more than four decades, MEO has served the people of Maui, Molokai and Lanai through a number of poverty fighting initiatives. By providing employment training and placement, business education for low income entrepreneurs, and micro-enterprise loans, MEO has helped countless citizens get back on the path to financial independence.

Moreover, MEO has helped citizens lead fuller, richer lives by providing housekeeping for seniors, allowing them to remain in their homes, and providing specialized transportation for seniors, persons with disabilities and children to doctor's offices, grocery stores, and schools. In addition, they have helped former inmates reintegrate and become productive members of the community.

The hard work and dedication of Maui Economic Opportunity's staff and volunteers have earned national recognition by receiving the prestigious Excellence in Community Action award from the Community Action Partnership. To this I would like to

add my sincere appreciation for the tireless efforts of these men and women for their continued advocacy on behalf of those in need of a helping hand.●

RETIREMENT OF DR. STEPHEN JOEL TRACHTENBERG

● Mr. INOUE. Mr. President, I want to pay tribute to an exceptional man who is retiring in July, after 19 years of impeccable service to the George Washington University, GW.

Stephen Joel Trachtenberg, 68, became the 15th president of GW on August 1, 1988. A native of Brooklyn, NY, President Trachtenberg earned a bachelor of arts degree from Columbia University in 1959, the juris doctor from Yale University in 1962, and the master of public administration degree from Harvard University in 1966. In 1968, he was selected as a Winston Churchill Traveling Fellow for study in Oxford, England.

He came to GW from the University of Hartford, Connecticut, where he had been president for 11 years. Before assuming the presidency of Hartford, President Trachtenberg served for 8 years at Boston University as vice president for academic services and academic dean of the college of liberal arts. Earlier, in Washington, DC, he was a special assistant for 2 years to the U.S. Education Commissioner, Department of Health, Education and Welfare. He has been an attorney with the U.S. Atomic Energy Commission and a legislative aide to former Indiana Congressman John Brademas.

Just a few of the highlights in his career include the following: President Trachtenberg was named one of the top 100 leaders in the American Academy in a 1978 *Change* magazine poll. He received a 1987 Human Relations Award from the National Conference of Christians and Jews. In 1988, the Connecticut Bar Association honored him with its Distinguished Public Service Award, and he was recognized by the Hartford NAACP for his contributions to the education of minority students. In 1992, he received the Hannah G. Solomon Award from the National Council of Jewish Women. In 1993, the Washington, DC, Urban League named him "Father of the Year." And in 1992 and 2007, he received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards.

President Trachtenberg has served the GW community as a drum major for change and has led by example a commitment to public, civic, and personal service. Throughout the years, he has worked tirelessly in honoring and enhancing the symbiotic relationship between the University and the District of Columbia, supporting and mentoring students, and leading and advocating for reinvention, change, and civic engagement. He has worked successfully for almost two decades to propel GW further into the first ranks of world-class institutions of higher learning.

As a result of President Trachtenberg's efforts, the number of

applications for undergraduate admission more than tripled, from 6,000 in 1988 to almost 20,000 in 2006, while the university's acceptance rate of these applicants was reduced by two-thirds. President Trachtenberg made financial aid for students a priority so that today the university offers nearly nine times, \$113 million, as much financial aid to incoming students as was offered in 1988.

It can confidently be said that the university's faculty now comprises experts on topics ranging from administrative law to zoology and contribute to scholarly journals, law reviews, and media outlets on a regular basis. The university's sponsored research enterprise has quadrupled from \$33 million in expenditures in 1988 to \$132 million in expenditures in 2006. Through President Trachtenberg's efforts, GW has significantly upgraded its information technology and library system which now contains more than 2,000,000 volumes and is a member of the prestigious Association of Research Libraries.

Under President Trachtenberg's unprecedented leadership, the university robustly developed academic, residential, and recreational facilities on campus—including the opening of the Media and Public Affairs Building and the establishment within of the Luther W. Brady Art Gallery in 2001, the Annette and Theodore Lerner Health and Wellness Center in 2001, GW Hospital in 2002, 1957 E Street, the new home of GW's Elliott School of International Affairs and Geography Department in 2002, and Ric and Dawn Duques Hall, the new home of GW's Business School in 2006—in a way that served the institution's scholarly and other programmatic needs while respecting the interests of its Foggy Bottom neighbors.

President Trachtenberg's commitment to the enhancement of academic and other space on campus supported the renovation and expansion of the law school complex, begun in 2000 and completed in 2006, the renovation of Morton and Norma Lee Funger Hall, dedicated in February 2006, and improvements of the Cloyd Heck Marvin Center including the addition of the Marc C. Abrahms Great Hall, dedicated in December 2002, and the renovation of J Street dining facilities, opened August 2004.

President Trachtenberg also spearheaded a campus beautification effort that transformed a series of city streets into a cohesive and vibrant urban campus with the addition of the Mid-Campus Quad, Kogan Plaza, pocket parks, and outdoor sculptures.

President Trachtenberg presides over the District of Columbia's largest private employer. And to support all the foregoing, President Trachtenberg oversaw two decades of balanced budgets, and the increase in the university endowment from \$200 million in 1988 to more than \$1 billion in 2007.

In 1989, President Trachtenberg created the 21st Century DC Scholars Pro-

gram, now the Stephen Joel Trachtenberg Scholars, which has granted almost 100 full scholarships, representing over \$13 million, to students from the DC Public Schools to attend GW. Under Trachtenberg's leadership, GW's Multicultural Student Services Center was named and has become a strong center for cultural awareness and celebrations, student development, and diversity training. Additionally, the Office of Community Service was created in 1992 and has become a focal point for civic engagement for the Washington DC community. His dedication to civic service is reflected throughout the university, which was named a "college with a conscience" in 2005 by Princeton Review, and most recently in the top 10 schools sending students to the Peace Corps.

His passion and demonstrated commitment to DC—the city, the schools, the business community and its residents—are unparalleled and have been recognized on several occasions by the District of Columbia Mayor, City Council and Chamber of Commerce. President Trachtenberg has received numerous accolades from across the Nation and abroad for his service, vision, intellect, wit, and compassion. Thanks to President Trachtenberg, GW went from being one of the best kept secrets in town to being one of the best known and most admired global universities.●

CONGRATULATING GILAD JANKLOWICZ

● Mr. AKAKA. Mr. President, I wish today to honor Gilad Janklowicz from the great State of Hawaii in recognition of his induction into the National Fitness Hall of Fame in Chicago on Saturday, March 17, 2007.

Gilad, a longtime resident of our beautiful State, is a pioneer in the fitness industry and one of the world's most popular fitness personalities. For over 23 years, he has helped over 38 million viewers stay healthy through his award winning instructional home fitness videos and popular television programs, "Bodies in Motion," "Basic Training the Workout," and "Total Body Sculpt with Gilad." "Bodies in Motion," which is filmed on location in the Hawaiian islands, is the longest running fitness show in the United States and was chosen as the No. 1 TV fitness program in the world by *Self* magazine.

Since his years as a high school athlete where he excelled in track and field, Gilad has devoted his life to fitness and become a leading proponent of the fitness movement. His efforts to raise awareness of the importance of maintaining a regular fitness program along with a nutritional diet and proper medical care have helped millions around the world. Let me be the first to extend my warmest congratulations to Gilad Janklowicz for his well-deserved induction into the Fitness Hall