In closing, I think it is important to point out that many of the farmers facing challenges with trade are conducting their business independent of Government support. Fruit and vegetable farmers are not subsidized. They compete on the global market based on quality and efficiency. For this reason, our Nation's position in WTO trade negotiations should be to eliminate the Peace Clause for Chapters 7 and 8 of the Harmonized Tariff Schedule. This will allow the U.S. to initiate dispute resolution proceedings in the WTO when trading partners use distorting subsidies.

Madam Speaker, when provided a level playing field, U.S. agricultural products are well received by consumers around the world. However, our farmers do not have the resources to fight unfair trade barriers alone. The U.S. Specialty Crop Export Opportunities Act is vital if we are to renew our commitment for free and fair trade on behalf of American agriculture.

TRIBUTE TO ARMY SERGEANT WAYNE CORNELL

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to Army SGT Wayne Cornell, a Nebraska native who lost his life last week. Cornell and another soldier were killed when a roadside bomb exploded near their vehicle in Baghdad. They were soldiers with the 1st Battalion, 28th Infantry, 4th Brigade, 1st Infantry Division.

Wayne was on his first tour of duty in Iraq, and during 4 years with the Nebraska Army National Guard, had served twice in Bosnia and once in Afghanistan.

According to his family, Wayne was a strong man—both physically and emotionally. He was a black belt in taekwondo and a loving husband and father.

My thoughts and prayers go out to Wayne's wife, Patricia, who is expecting their third child this July. It is heartbreaking that a man who is often described as someone who ''lived for his wife and kids,'' will not be able to see his children grow and succeed in his footsteps.

We all owe Sergeant Cornell a debt of gratitude we can never repay. His courage, love of family, and strength should set the benchmark for us all.

ANIMAL FIGHTING PROHIBITION ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 26, 2007

Mrs. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 137, the Animal Fighting Prohibition Enforcement Act of 2007. I want to thank my colleagues Representative GALLEGLY and Representative BLUMENAUER for their hard work on this issue.

This important legislation will make it illegal to transport an animal across State or international borders for the purpose of fighting, prohibits use of the mail system to promote animal fighting, and criminalizes interstate buying, selling, or transportation of knives or gaffs used for animal fighting.

Animal fighting is a deplorable activity with a purely negative impact on society. In cockfights, when two birds fight with blades or gaffs attached to their feet, at least one, and sometimes both of the birds are killed. Dogs who are made to fight often sustain severe injuries such as deep wounds and broken bones. Subsequent to fights, many dogs die of blood loss, exhaustion, or shock. Fighting animals are usually subject to inhumane living conditions intended to make them more aggressive, sometimes denied adequate nutrition, and made to exercise until they are physically exhausted.

In addition to the inexcusable harm inflicted on the animals, the fights also have negative effects on humans. Illegal gambling and drug trafficking are often closely tied to animal fighting operations. Also, animals bred to fight are abnormally aggressive, and pose a danger to the communities they live in if they were to get loose.

I applaud the passage of this bill, which will end an inhumane practice that is an embarrassment to our country. I am proud that this democratic majority has made animal welfare a priority in the 110th Congress.

ON URGING THE ESTABLISHMENT AND OBSERVATION OF A LEGAL PUBLIC HOLIDAY IN HONOR OF CÉSAR E. CHÁVEZ

HON. SILVESTRE REYES

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Mr. REYES. Madam Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 76, urging the establishment and observation of a legal public holiday in honor of César E. Chávez.

César Chávez is an iconic figure of the Civil Rights Era, a man Robert F. Kennedy noted as ''one of the heroic figures of our time.'' César Chávez was born on March 31, 1927, in Yuma, AZ. He spent most of his youth working on farms throughout the Southwest and California, and it was there that César Chávez came to understand the uniquely arduous conditions agricultural workers face in the U.S.

For more than 3 decades, César Chávez worked as a community organizer, labor leader and civil rights activist. Influenced by figures such as Mahatma Ghandi and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., he embraced strategies of nonviolence in working to improve the conditions of America's agricultural working poor. He cofounded the National Farm Workers Association (NFWA), which later became the United Farm Workers (UFW) of America. As a labor leader, César Chávez employed peaceful tactics such as fasts, boycotts, strikes, and pilgrimages toward achieving fair wages, medical coverage, pension benefits and humane living conditions for thousands of workers everywhere. These efforts resulted in the first industry-wide labor contracts in the history of American agriculture, and led to the passage of the 1975 California Agricultural Relations Act, a bill designed to serve California's farm workers.

César Chávez died on April 23, 1993, and in 1994, President Clinton posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom to him, the highest civilian honor in the U.S. Now, 5 States, including Arizona, California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Texas, celebrate César Chávez's birthday as a State holiday. I ask my colleagues in Congress to join me in supporting H. Res. 76, urging and establishing César Chávez's birthday, March 31st, as a national holiday, and commemorating the legacy of one of the most heroic figures of our time.

INTRODUCTION OF LENNOX LEGISLATION

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 27, 2007

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, today, Senator FEINSTEIN in the Senate and I are introducing legislation permitting a simple administrative fix that will improve education outcomes for thousands of students in my congressional district.

Imagine, Madam Speaker, sitting at a desk, attempting to memorize a verse or tackle a tough math problem as jet planes roar overhead every few minutes. Every hour. Every day.

That is the situation for the children of Lennox, a mostly working class community that lies just east of LAX, in the airport's flight path. Lennox was added to my district in 2000, and I have worked hard to help the children there get a quality education.

In 1980, Lennox School District and the city of Los Angeles settled a lawsuit concerning aircraft movements over Lennox schools. Lennox gave the city an easement that allowed planes carrying up to 40 million passengers per year to fly overhead, and the city paid Lennox approximately $2.5 million.

In the years since, air traffic over Lennox schools has significantly increased. As a result, many of the schools are now like bunkers, half underground with no windows. Others have all their windows boarded up.

In February of 2005, Lennox and Los Angeles World Airports, LAWA, settled a second lawsuit, to which Inglewood School District was also a party. Under this settlement, LAWA agreed to provide Lennox and Inglewood with more than $110 million in noise mitigation funds over 10 years.

However, the FAA has interpreted the 1980 agreement and Federal law to prevent payment of the funds under the 2005 agreement. A legislative solution is the only way that these funds can be released.

Our bill is narrowly tailored to allow LAWA to release the funds it promised to Lennox and Inglewood in the 2005 agreement. The bill is identical to legislation that I introduced in the last Congress, H.R. 6285, which was drafted with the assistance of the FAA, Lennox School District, and LAWA. Importantly, the funds in question are airport funds, not Federal tax dollars, and our bill would not require new Federal spending.

These children deserve a quality education, and this bill will ensure that they get one. I urge its swift passage.