

and drill floor. The facility is a concrete masonry structure constructed on a single floor. As a result of Force Structure Transformation, the current unit occupying this facility is the 260th Engineer Company, for which the facility is improperly designed and grossly undersized.

This request is consistent with the intended and authorized purpose of the MILCON, Army National Guard account. Matching funds are not required as the Montana Army National Guard is a unit of the Government of the State of Montana.

HONORING DENNIS AND MEGAN DOYLE, FOUNDERS OF THE HOPE FOR THE CITY RELIEF ORGANIZATION

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dennis and Megan Doyle, founders of the Hope for the City relief organization, and recent recipients of an honorary Doctorate of Humanities from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota.

Based in Edina, Minnesota, Dennis and Megan started Hope for the City in 2000 as a means to fight poverty, hunger, and disease by utilizing America's corporate surplus. Since its humble beginnings, Hope for the City has donated approximately \$400 million in the wholesale value of goods, including products from top retailers, medical companies, and food distributors. Their impact not only touches those locally, but stretches across the Nation and around the world.

The Doyles' service and sacrifice to their fellow man exemplifies the finest of American character and provides inspiration to us all. Not only is their founding of Hope for the City a triumph in itself, but the tidal wave effect their efforts have had on increased charity and service throughout the Nation is also to be commended. Hope for the City has developed an extensive national network of partner agencies that provide services to those who need it the most in their local communities.

Madam Speaker, it is a privilege to honor the selfless service of Dennis and Megan Doyle to the most vulnerable among us. Their efforts will continue to inspire others locally and throughout the world to do their best to assist their fellow man.

CONGRATULATING THE ROCHESTER DRUG COURT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Rochester Drug Court for 14 years of service to the community and to drug courts around the country during National Drug Court Month. Over 2,100 drug courts in the United States provide an alternative to incarceration for non-violent, drug-addicted offenders by combining intense judicial supervision, comprehensive substance abuse

and mental health treatment, random and frequent drug testing, incentives and sanctions, clinical case management and ancillary life skills services. The tireless efforts of the judges, prosecutors, defense attorneys, treatment providers, rehabilitation experts, child advocates, researchers, educators, law enforcement representatives, correctional representatives, pre-trial officers and probation officers that are involved in drug courts provide substance abuse offenders with the much-needed chance at long-term recovery and productive lifestyles.

I have seen firsthand the impact of drug courts in my state, where drug court programs have enhanced public safety, saved taxpayer dollars and, most importantly, saved lives.

The first drug court in New York State was founded in my congressional district in Rochester, New York in 1995 and I have been a supporter ever since. In 1997, I was honored to be one of the drug court's first graduation speakers.

To date, New York State has opened an additional 200 drug courts. Rochester alone has had over 1500 graduates from its court and over 100 babies have been born drug free.

As we face a growing population of drug-addicted offenders in the American justice system, we must expand our efforts to bring treatment to a larger number of those in need. According to a recent study by the Urban Research Institute's Justice Policy Center, approximately 1.5 million drug-involved offenders should be diverted to drug court, which would generate \$46 billion in savings to American taxpayers. Armed with this study as well as our existing research that drug courts work, reduce recidivism, and save lives, we must work on taking drug courts to scale.

If society is truly going to save the lives of the addicted, break the familial cycle of addiction for future generations, have a substantial impact on associated crime, child abuse and neglect, reduce poverty, alleviate the over-reliance on incarceration for the addicted, and reduce many of the public health consequences in the United States, drug courts must be taken to scale. There is no greater opportunity for systemic social change in the American justice system. There is no greater opportunity to heal families and communities.

Again, congratulations to the dedicated drug court professionals and graduates in Rochester and across the country on a job well done.

IN HONOR OF GOPAL RAJU

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. PALLONE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Gopal Raju, a visionary who bridged the American and Indian communities through journalism and activism.

Mr. Raju arrived in America from India in 1950. He sought to connect the Indian-American community with India. Mr. Raju launched the news weekly, India Abroad in 1970. He served as publisher for 31 years. Mr. Raju's journalistic reach spread to other media endeavors including Desi Talk, Gujarat Times, and News India-Times.

Mr. Raju was active in philanthropic work for his home country. He started the Indian Amer-

ican Foundation to accelerate social and economic change in India. The foundation works to increase access to education, health care, and employment opportunities for Indians in India.

Throughout Mr. Raju's life he sought to empower the Indian-American community. He founded the Indian American Center for Political Awareness (IACPA) in 1993. Mr. Raju built this organization to encourage participation in the political process. The IACPA developed the Washington Leadership Program, which gave university students the opportunity to intern on Capitol Hill and develop a broader understanding of public policy.

Madam Speaker, I sincerely hope that my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of Gopal Raju. His legacy will continue to enrich the lives of many.

IN RECOGNITION OF SACRAMENTO POLICE OFFICER DARIN MILLER

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to one of the Sacramento Police Department's finest and bravest officers. Sacramento Police Officer Darin Miller is being awarded the Silver Medal of Valor for his heroic actions during a robbery at a Rite Aid pharmacy in Sacramento. As his law enforcement colleagues, friends and family gather to honor Officer Miller's bravery, I ask all my colleagues in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing this outstanding individual.

On Halloween evening last year, Officer Miller was dispatched to what was described as a robbery in progress at a local pharmacy. While enroute, Officer Miller was informed that the suspect had stabbed one store employee and taken another one hostage. As the first on the scene, he knew that he must take quick action to ensure the safety of all involved. What followed was a display of courage and heroism in the face of adversity.

Upon his arrival at the store, Officer Miller was confronted with a chaotic scene. Store personnel directed him to the pharmacy, where the robbery was unfolding. As he arrived in the pharmacy, Officer Miller saw a victim who was bleeding from his head. Knowing the severity of the situation, he quickly found the suspect who was holding a large knife to a woman's throat.

Having already seen a previous victim, Officer Miller knew that this woman's life was in imminent danger. He carefully maneuvered himself into the tight quarters of the pharmacy, within a few feet of the suspect. At this time, the suspect was using the woman as a shield, and did not respond when Officer Miller commanded that he drop the knife. Carefully waiting until the suspect moved his head slightly, which provided a clear sight, Officer Miller then fired a single round at the suspect who fell to the ground. He then provided immediate medical attention until medics arrived on the scene.

Officer Miller's sound judgment and quick actions helped bring an end to an extremely dangerous situation and likely saved the life of an innocent woman. As a 4-year veteran of

the Sacramento Police Department, Officer Miller leveraged his previous experience and training to resolve the situation, and as a result of his actions lives were saved and further injuries averted.

Madam Speaker, I am honored to recognize Sacramento Police Officer Darin Miller who is most deserving of the Silver Medal of Valor Award. His swift actions embody the courage and bravery we entrust in our law enforcement. On behalf of the people of Sacramento and the Fifth Congressional District of California, I ask all my colleagues to join me in acknowledging the lifesaving efforts of Sacramento Police Officer Darin Miller.

CONGRATULATING GIRL SCOUTS
OF VERNON AND ROCKVILLE,
CONNECTICUT

HON. JOE COURTNEY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. COURTNEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Girl Scouts of the towns of Vernon and Rockville, Connecticut. After years of hard work and dedication, young leaders from Troop 10141 and Troop 10735 have achieved the honor of the Bronze and Silver Girl Scout Awards. These young women have not only identified and investigated issues in their own communities, but they have taken the time to create, develop, and implement projects that address these areas of concern. These young women have selflessly given their time, knowledge and resources to their communities, and their work is truly deserving of this wonderful recognition.

These young women are truly the emerging community leaders of tomorrow. Andrea Notman, a Bronze Award recipient, orchestrated a winter clothing drive, while another recipient of the Bronze Award, Larissa Flynn, distributed paper grocery bags that were decorated in honor of Earth Day. Amy Eitelman and Jackie Ose, both Bronze Award recipients, collected recyclable materials and used the proceeds to purchase a willow tree to be planted in their community. Kathleen Hills, a Silver Award recipient, organized and ran a town wide Girl Scout fair while Emily Piro, another Silver Award recipient, helped to organize and manage a camping weekend for local Brownie Girl Scouts.

Jillian Eitelman, another Silver Award recipient, created the "Green Angel Fund" in memory of Diane Lloyd, a former troop leader. The fund offers support to leaders who wish to further their scouting knowledge. An additional Silver Award winner, Sarah Nolan, created a presentation about the history of Girl Scouting and delivered the presentation at several area meetings. Amiee Roberge, another Silver Award recipient, created care boxes of toiletries and toys and donated them to the residents at a local battered women and children's center. Alexandra Banks, another Silver Award winner, helped to transform an old music room into a computer lab at the Saint Bernard School in Connecticut. Alexandra also coordinated the creation of a preschool from a former house at this same school.

Cheyenne Sweeney, Shannon Lipe, Mary Leigh Enders, and Elizabeth Courtney, recipients of the Silver Award, researched, created,

and distributed 1,200 brochures regarding breast cancer awareness. They also made and distributed 1,200 key rings with informational cards describing the sizes of tumors. Each of these diverse projects helped to address a specific need that these young women discovered within their own communities. These awards are a tribute to their hard work and perseverance, and I am honored to recognize them today.

The Girl Scouts and leaders of Troops 10141 and 10735 deserve the highest accolades for all of their enthusiasm and commitment to enriching the lives of those in their surrounding communities. Their display of social consciousness, personal conviction, and strong leadership is a tribute to the Girl Scout mission and the ideals that the organization encourages and promotes. It is a privilege to stand here today and applaud all of their hard work. I ask all my colleagues to join with me and the people of Connecticut in congratulating them for this honor.

REAFFIRMING SUPPORT FOR THE
GOVERNMENT OF LEBANON
UNDER PRIME MINISTER FOUAD
SINIORA

SPEECH OF

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of this resolution, and yield myself as much time as I may consume.

With this resolution, we affirm our support for the legitimate government of Prime Minister Fouad Siniora and condemn the actions of Hizballah that recently provoked the most severe sectarian conflict in Lebanon since the miserable 15-year civil war that ended in 1990.

As we meet this morning, the fate of Lebanon hangs in the balance. Will Lebanon belong to its secular, pro-Western majority—or will it fall to Iran and its proxies? Terrorist Hizballah, showing contempt for legitimate authority and employing violence against Lebanon's most progressive forces, has made a strong bid to prove that the answer to that question is that pro-Iranian forces will dominate Lebanon. That is why it is important for this body to go on record—forcefully—as backing the Prime Minister Fouad Siniora's democratically-elected government. We cannot win the battle for the Lebanese—they must do that themselves—but we can at least demonstrate our solidarity.

When the government sought to assert its sovereignty by taking on Hizballah's illegal, private intelligence network, Hizballah responded by taking over parts of Beirut by force, shutting the major roads to the airport and initiating sectarian violence throughout Lebanon.

Hizballah fighters also shut down Saad Hariri's pro-government television station and torched the building housing Hariri's newspaper. They besieged the homes of Hariri and Druze leader Walid Jumblatt, another pillar of the legitimate governing coalition under Prime Minister Fouad Siniora.

These actions were intended to deepen Hizballah's control of its state-within-a-state, to

intimidate Lebanon's rulers and thereby increase Hizballah's influence throughout the nation, and, most worrisome, to push Lebanon deeper into an Iranian-Syrian sphere of influence.

Unfortunately, Hizballah's violence worked, and the government backed down rather than risk civil war. At least for now, the government has abandoned its plans to close Hizballah's private communications network and remove a pro-Hizballah general who presides over security at Beirut International Airport. Perhaps the government will re-coup some of its losses during negotiations with Hizballah now taking place in Qatar—but it will not be easy.

Let me make two points. First, it is time to go beyond words. It is time for the United Nations Security Council to take specific actions in response to Syria's and Iran's flouting of Lebanese sovereignty in direct contravention of UN Security Council resolutions. Resolution 1701 forbids the transfer of arms into Lebanon without the consent of the Lebanese government. Resolution 1747, passed under Chapter VII, forbids Iran from transferring arms to any entity.

Iran provides training, equipment, and arms for Hizballah. Syria, at the least, facilitates the transfer of these arms. The resolution before us urges the Security Council to ban all air traffic between Iran and Lebanon and between Iran and Syria. It calls on all states on transit routes between Iran and Lebanon to implement strict controls. A total ban on commercial flights to and from Iran and Syria—such as that which brought Libya to its knees—also should not be ruled out.

Second, it is long past time for the European Union to designate Hizballah as a terrorist group and treat it accordingly. The European insistence that Hizballah should be seen as a legitimate political party is now transparently undermined by facts on ground, including the more than 80 Lebanese who have needlessly perished in the fighting of the past week.

Legitimate political parties do not have an independent military capability. They do not initiate wars with neighboring states. And they do not engage in international terrorism.

Last week The New York Times quoted Israeli journalist Ehud Yaari as labeling Iran's growing regional influence as "a pax Iranica." Fortunately, there are brave men and women in Lebanon who want to resist this pax Iranica, and at their head, I believe, is Prime Minister Siniora and his government, even if their most recent effort to assert their sovereignty over the Hizballah terrorists has fallen short. Now is the time for us to affirm our support for him and his legitimate, democratically-elected government and to urge the international community to do likewise.

That is why I support this resolution, and ask my colleagues to support it as well.

RECOGNIZING MR. JOSEPH E.
HICSWA

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2008

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of a man I am proud to represent in Congress, Mr. Joseph E. Hicswa. Mr. Hicswa is being recognized, with pride and gratitude, on Monday, on