

"Yes" on rollcall vote 386, on Passage of H.R. 5540, the Chesapeake Bay Gateways and Watertrails Network Continuing Authorization Act;

"Yes" on rollcall vote 387, on Motion To Suspend the Rules and Pass, as amended, the Public Land Communities Transition Act of 2007, H.R. 3058.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF CALN
TOWNSHIP CHIEF OF POLICE
JOHN BENNETT

HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated public servant from Chester County, Pennsylvania, who is leaving after a nearly six-year career with the Caln Township Police Department to accept the position of Chief of Police with Paradise Valley, Arizona.

Chief of Police John Bennett joined the Caln Township Police Department as Chief of Police in June 30, 2002, replacing the retiring Chief James Franciscus. Prior to his time as Chief of Police in Caln Township, Chief Bennett served as Deputy Chief of Police of Marple Township in Delaware County, Pennsylvania, and has served in law enforcement for over 36 years in Delaware and Chester Counties.

As Chief of Police, John oversaw a department of 20 officers, with a lieutenant, four sergeants, and two investigators. John's leadership has helped make the Caln Township Police Department a first class law enforcement agency. During his six-year tenure as Chief of Police, Chief Bennett was instrumental in establishing an investigative division, creating a bicycle patrol unit and the Youth Aid Panel. Also during this time, John was responsible for sending two officers to the FBI National Academy.

In addition to his duties as Chief of Police, Chief Bennett also served on several executive boards and committees, notably on the Executive Board of the Chester County Chiefs of Police, the Civil Rights Committee for the International Chiefs of Police, the Legislative Committee for the Pennsylvania Chiefs of Police, and as Committee Chair of the Chester County Major Incident Response Team. Chief Bennett's service and accomplishments will be celebrated on Thursday, June 12, 2008 at the Caln Township Municipal Building.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in praising the outstanding service of Chief of Police John Bennett, and all those who take an oath to serve and protect their communities.

HONORING DEBORAH A. YOW

HON. STENY H. HOYER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the University of Maryland's Deborah A. Yow on her selection as the next President of the Division 1A Athletic Directors'

Association. Ms. Yow is the first woman to fill this national leadership role, responsible for coordinating the efforts of collegiate athletic directors at 1,600 colleges and universities across the United States and Canada.

The Association's Executive Director, Dutch Baughman, praised Ms. Yow as "an extremely capable and effective leader." He added that "She has not only influenced the lives of over 450 athletics administrators over the past seven years, but she has been evaluated by those [fellow administrators] as the best."

After 14 years of success at the University of Maryland, her national role is well-earned. Overseeing 27 sports and more than 700 student-athletes, Debbie Yow has built a reputation as one of America's most accomplished athletic leaders. Under her leadership, Maryland teams have won 17 national championships, while maintaining balanced budgets and a high graduation rate of 85 percent. In fact, last year's graduation rate was the highest in the history of Maryland athletics and the best of any public institution in the Atlantic Coast Conference. Ms. Yow has excelled as an educator, an administrator, and a fundraiser, and has repeatedly been ranked among the 20 most influential people in collegiate athletics. At the same time, she has served in public life as an advocate for women's sports and the protection of Title IX.

Her new position is the capstone on a career dedicated to the highest purposes of college athletics: Debbie Yow's work shows that "student-athlete" is far from an empty expression. I thank her for all that she has done for our State, its flagship university, and its students. And I wish her the best of luck, both in her continuing duties as University of Maryland Athletic Director and as a voice for athletic directors throughout North America.

IN HONOR OF REVEREND DR. OTIS
MOSS JR.

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr. A profoundly respected and influential member of the Greater Cleveland community and a leader of greater Cleveland's civic culture, Dr. Otis Moss Jr. is this year's recipient of Cleveland's NAACP's Freedom Award.

The Freedom Award is the highest form of recognition awarded by Cleveland's NAACP and is awarded to members of the community who have dedicated their lives to fostering social change and building a society based on the ideals of equality and justice. Dr. Otis Moss Jr., a resident of the Cleveland area for over thirty years, carries with him a rich history of public service and advocacy, especially in the African-American community. Born in rural Georgia and a graduate of Morehouse College in Atlanta, he worked along side Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., leading sit-ins and advocating for desegregation during the civil rights era.

He became a pastor in 1954, serving in various Baptist Churches throughout Georgia until 1961, when he moved to Mount Zion Baptist Church in Cincinnati. In this capacity, he continued fighting for equality locally by challenging discrimination in the workplace. Dr.

Otis Moss Jr. left his position at Mount Zion Baptist Church to march once again alongside Martin Luther King Jr. in Alabama and Washington and to serve as Co-Pastor with Martin Luther King Sr. at Alabama's Ebenezer Baptist Church. He later returned to Ohio in 1974, to lead one of Cleveland's largest and most prominent churches, Olivet Institutional Baptist Church. He has served as Senior Pastor of Olivet Institutional Baptist Church for over thirty years, working closely with the greater Cleveland community in continuing the fight for civil rights and access to quality medical care. In the late 1990's, he worked with University Hospitals to create the Otis Moss Jr. Medical Center in the Fairfax neighborhood of Cleveland, bringing desperately needed resources and access to quality health care to its residents.

Dr. Otis Moss Jr.'s ability to mobilize the community and to advocate for the social welfare of others has been manifested in the various leadership roles he has played. His leadership has served as an undeniable source of inspiration to many who want social justice.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of Reverend Dr. Otis Moss Jr., who has dedicated his life to serving his Church and the Greater Cleveland community. Let his advocacy on behalf of the welfare of others serve as inspiration for all those in pursuit of social justice.

TRIBUTE TO BILL KIBBY

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Bill Kibby and to congratulate him on being inducted into the Iowa Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

Bill Kibby has been a teacher and coach for 44 years, 40 of which he has been an athletic director. His educational career began as a teacher at Bayard Consolidated School. At Bayard he was involved in coaching football, basketball, cross country, and track. He then began his tenure at Johnston High School where, in 1967, he became the school's athletic director. After his service in Johnston, Mr. Kibby moved to Fort Dodge where he was St. Edmond Catholic High School's football coach and athletic director for 21 years. For 16 of those years he also helped coach track, but resigned when he accepted the position of principal at Sacred Heart Junior High School. During his time at St. Edmond and Sacred Heart he also made time to coach basketball and softball.

In 1988, Mr. Kibby took his final position in his stellar educational career at Jefferson-Scranton. Upon his retirement in 2006, Mr. Kibby continued to coach football at Jefferson-Scranton.

In his long and illustrious career Mr. Kibby can boast of many exemplary achievements. During his time as a coach, his football teams combined have claimed over 200 victories, including more than 100 wins at two different schools, and 11 state football play-off contests.

Mr. Kibby has also been bestowed with many noteworthy individual awards. In 2006 he was named IFCA Coach of the Year and

was a finalist in 2004 for Iowa High School Athletic Association Athletic Director of the Year. In 2001 Mr. Kibby received the IHSAA Bernie Saggau Award of Merit.

I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Kibby for his steadfast dedication to education and congratulate him on the honor of being inducted into the Iowa Athletic Directors Hall of Fame.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
JAMES P. HAYES, JR.

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, the state of Alabama recently lost a dear friend, and I rise today to honor the memory of Mr. James P. Hayes, Jr.

Jim was born in Brewton, Alabama, and graduated from T.R. Miller High School. He then received both his bachelor's and master's degrees in Industrial Engineering from the University of Alabama. While at the university, he was a member of the Tau Beta Pi honor fraternity and the Delta Kappa Epsilon social fraternity.

Jim's many years of public service began when he joined former Alabama Governor Don Siegelman's administration in 1999 and served as revenue commissioner. He later served as director of the Alabama Development Office, executive secretary, land commissioner, and senior advisor to Governor Siegelman. Jim also served as director of planning and acquisitions for the Louisiana Land and Exploration Company, and he was director of First Commercial Bank in Birmingham and BancTrust Financial in Mobile.

Not only was he a dedicated public servant, but Jim was also an active civic leader. He was a past president of the Supporters Board of the UAB Comprehensive Cancer Center. He was a supporter of the Lakeshore Foundation, the Crippled Children's Foundation, the Greater Birmingham Humane Society, and numerous other charitable foundations.

In 2002, Jim became president of the Economic Development Partnership of Alabama and restructured the group. Jim led the EDPA out of debt, while working tirelessly to improve the lives of all Alabama citizens.

The work of Jim Hayes did not go unnoticed. In 1994, the University of Alabama named him its Alumnus of the Year. And, he was recently honored when the University of Alabama's James P. Hayes Moral Forum was endowed in his name. In 2004, the University of Alabama bestowed Jim an honorary doctorate and named him a Distinguished Engineering Fellow. In recognition of all his wonderful work, Jim received the Outstanding Civic Leader Award on National Philanthropy Day in 2007.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated businessman, public servant, husband, and friend to all. Jim Hayes will be deeply missed by his wife, Ann Beauchamp Hayes; his sisters, Margaret Hayes Brunstad and Susan Hayes Curry; his five nieces, and his nephew—as well as the many countless friends he leaves behind.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them all at this difficult time.

MERIDA INITIATIVE TO COMBAT
ILLICIT NARCOTICS AND REDUCE
ORGANIZED CRIME AUTHORIZA-
TION ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 10, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, as Chair of the Workforce Protections Subcommittee, I join U.S. and international labor organizations in their strong concern about this bill.

As introduced, the bill goes a long way to improve upon the President's request. The human rights protections have been strengthened, but must be further improved.

We must ensure that before any agreement is authorized and funded, the most basic human and labor rights have been guaranteed.

I have strong concerns about abuses committed by Mexican and some of the Central American law enforcement agencies.

Labor activists and community leaders have been harassed, arrested, and physically assaulted. Many live in fear for themselves and for their families.

I am concerned that these same law enforcement officials will be receiving military-style training, transportation, and weapons. Do we want to be putting military helicopters and weaponry in their hands?

We must proceed with extreme caution on this proposal. I will have to oppose the legislation in its current form. I hope that we will be able to address the concerns of human and labor rights leaders here at home and in the Merida nations when the bill is in conference with the Senate version.

CLIMATE CHANGE LEGISLATION
AND COMMUNITIES OF COLOR

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of passing meaningful climate change legislation that includes programs to reduce emissions of greenhouse gases. Climate change is one of the most urgent issues of our time and will affect the whole world, but the brunt of the climate burden will undoubtedly be taken by the poorest populations.

Low-lying coastal areas and urban inner cities are particularly vulnerable to the effects of climate change. The construction of interstate highways has concentrated greenhouse gases in urban communities and increased the prevalence of asthma in those areas. 70 percent of African-American people live near environmentally unfriendly industries like coal fired plants. These plants emit greenhouse gases and other pollutants that adversely affect the air quality in the communities around them.

The issue of climate change is not only about African-Americans, but a much broader Black community. The Black Diaspora and Africans are particularly vulnerable to the adverse effects of environmental inaction. It is estimated that 75–250 million Africans can be affected by the stresses that climate change

has on water supply and a rapidly changing ecosystem.

The ingenuity of the people of the United States will allow our country to become a leader in curbing global warming by paving the way with well-planned legislation and creating jobs that will boost the economy. Prompt, decisive action is critical, since global warming pollutants can persist in the atmosphere for more than a century.

The most important thing to remember is that the most expensive policy is that of doing nothing. We cannot afford not to take action. The impact that climate change has on our ecosystems, health, and food and energy costs is irreversible. By taking aggressive action on this urgent issue, we are showing our constituents and the world that climate change is highly prioritized by the United States and furthermore, it determines the decisiveness and speed with which we as a country will confront this issue in the future.

IN HONOR OF SAMEER MISHRA,
SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING
BEE CHAMPION

HON. STEVE BUYER

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 11, 2008

Mr. BUYER. Madam Speaker, on May 30, 2008, Sameer Mishra, an eighth grader at West Lafayette Junior/Senior High School in West Lafayette, Indiana, made his family, school, city and State proud when he won the 2008 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. Sameer outlasted 287 other competitors to become this year's champion.

In order to become the National Spelling Bee Champion, Sameer had to spell many complex words. The final word that stood between him and his victory was "guerdon"—meaning a reward. After 3 years of hard work, he finally received his ultimate "guerdon".

Before Sameer's spelling bee days, he watched his big sister, Shruti, compete in the National Spelling Bee, and he told his family that one day he would win the Scripps National Spelling Bee. True to his promise, he won the title on the very last opportunity that he was eligible.

This was Sameer's fourth and last year in the competition. In 2005 he tied for 98th place. He made a huge jump in 2006 when he received 14th place, and last year he placed a well respected 16th.

When he is not out-spelling middle school students from across the Nation, Sameer loves to read and participates in his school's book club. He enjoys playing computer and video games, as well as board games. Sameer has played the violin for 4 years in his school orchestra. He also likes to ride his bike and hang out with his friends. His favorite subjects are science and math.

Sameer is a competitive student. He participates in contests such as Spell Bowl, Academic Super Bowl and Indiana State School Music Association. With his spelling bee days behind him, Sameer looks forward to high school and lofty goals that include a career as a neurosurgeon.

Sameer Mishra is a remarkable young man. His competitive spirit and drive will take him far in life. His ability to set goals and work