

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO BRIGADIER GENERAL
DOUGLAS M. PIERCE

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the retirement of Brigadier General Douglas M. Pierce, Deputy Adjutant General of the Iowa Air National Guard, and to express my appreciation for his dedication and commitment to his state and country.

After graduating from Westview High School in Lake City, Iowa, General Douglas Pierce earned a bachelor of science degree in animal science from Iowa State University in 1968, followed later by a master of science degree in personnel management and counseling from Troy State University in 1981.

In 1969, General Pierce's long and distinguished career in America's Armed Forces began when he was commissioned in the United States Air Force. He was an Honor Graduate and awarded the aeronautical rating of pilot during Undergraduate Pilot Training in 1970. He was a T-37 Instructor Pilot until April 1974 when he joined the Iowa Air National Guard, 132d Fighter Wing as a combat-ready pilot. General Pierce served as Flight Commander and Chief, Standardization and Evaluation until 1983 when he transferred to Headquarters Iowa National Guard as Executive Support Officer to the adjutant general. In 1985, General Pierce returned to the 132d Fighter Wing as the 124th Fighter Squadron Operations Officer until 1990 when he was selected as the Operations Group commander. He became the vice commander for the 132d Fighter Wing in 1999 until he transferred to Headquarters Iowa Air National Guard as the vice commander in 2002. In 2004, General Pierce assumed the duties as Assistant Adjutant General, Air.

For the past 39 years, General Pierce has served faithfully and honorably, earning a long list of military awards and decorations. He has accumulated over 5,800 flying hours and flown many different military aircrafts. General Pierce's long-standing commitment to the Iowa Air National Guard and his country has earned him the respect, honor and dignity of all who have served with him. For this I offer him my utmost congratulations and thanks.

I commend Brigadier General Douglas M. Pierce for his many years of loyalty and service to our great nation. It is an immense honor to represent General Pierce in the United States Congress, and I wish him a happy retirement from the Iowa Air National Guard and all the best in his future endeavors.

CONGRATULATING SYNGENTA OF
LOUISIANA FOR RECEIVING THE
PACE AWARD

HON. DONALD J. CAZAYOUX, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. CAZAYOUX. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the hard work and dedication of a local Louisiana manufacturer. The manufacturer that I am recognizing has demonstrated innovation in manufacturing operations and a commitment to community involvement.

Syngenta, a global agribusiness with operations in my district in Louisiana, manufactures the active ingredients atrazine and benoxacor, and formulates Touchdown®, Karate®, and Halex™ GT brands, among other products, for the agricultural sector. The economic impact that Syngenta brings to St. Gabriel, Louisiana, is significant. The chemical facility employs more than 700 company and contract employees with an annual payroll of \$58 million. This local manufacturer has made noteworthy advances in productivity through the implementation of lean manufacturing methods and processes that transform and streamline operations through the company. Because of these accomplishments, Syngenta will be honored by the Manufacturing Extension Partnership of Louisiana (MEPOL), with the fourth annual Platinum Award for Continuous Excellence (PACE) Award.

MEPOL, a non-profit business resource based at the University of Louisiana at Lafayette, serves to provide business and technical assistance to emerging and established manufacturing firms throughout the State of Louisiana. Since 1997, MEPOL, based on a philosophy of education, encouragement, and empowerment, has worked with manufacturers such as Syngenta to increase their productivity and profitability.

Working with MEPOL, Syngenta developed a steering committee to assist in developing the ideal state with benchmarks to identify quantifiable impact. In less than 6 months, more than 150 ideas were generated, and within 1 year, \$1.7 million cost savings were validated. The problem solving process included visible metrics and methods to assure continuous improvement projects are a daily focus during each shift.

Syngenta also participates in numerous community outreach programs and charities. Each year, the company educates more than 5,000 public and private school students and contributes over 1,200 to promote the field of science. Syngenta has also made substantial financial contributions to the local United Way campaign. I congratulate Syngenta on being a respected leader in manufacturing whose commitment to advancement and continued success has led to this outstanding achievement.

IN MEMORY OF MAYOR WILLIAM
C. JENKINS

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mayor William C. "Bill" Jenkins, an exemplary public servant and my good friend. Early on Wednesday, July 2, 2008, Bill lost a hard-fought battle with cancer, and Scottsdale lost one of its finest citizens. Bill was 79 years old.

After earning two degrees from Arizona State University, Bill gave back to Arizona's public education system by teaching American government and economics in the Scottsdale Unified School District for 29 years. From 1966 to 1974, he took his lessons from the classroom and applied them to the city as a member of the Scottsdale City Council. Then, in 1974, the good people of Scottsdale elected Bill as their mayor. Every afternoon he rode his bike from Scottsdale High School across the street to City Hall to assume his job as mayor.

Despite the demands of his position, his dedication to his students never wavered. He set a great example as he originated the monthly "Mayor's Breakfast," founded the Scottsdale Historical Society, established Youth-in-Government Day, and laid the groundwork for the city's Environmentally Sensitive Land Ordinance.

Under his leadership, Scottsdale underwent one of its greatest periods of economic growth. Among many other projects, Bill oversaw the construction and dedication of Scottsdale's first senior center, the completion of City Hall, and the construction of Scottsdale's Maricopa County court building.

As testimony to his impact on the city, Bill has been inducted into the Scottsdale History Hall of Fame, received Scottsdale Leadership's Wells Fargo Herbert R. Drinkwater Leadership Award, and recently won the title of Arizona Culturekeeper for his efforts to preserve the city's historic landmarks.

It would take much more time to list all of Bill Jenkins' accomplishments, but the ultimate record of his work lies in the positive and lasting impact he has made upon the hearts and minds of the people he served.

Madam Speaker, please join me and Bill's wife and children in mourning the loss and honoring the legacy of Bill Jenkins.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF CHARLES
SEBES

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and honor of Charles

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

Sebes, a beloved figure in Cleveland area politics and a loving husband, father, and grandfather. This past June we gathered to celebrate Chuck's retirement after 20 years of service as the Parma Democratic City Ward Leader.

Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Charles Sebes, upon the occasion of his retirement after 20 years of service as the Parma Democratic City Ward Leader. His unwavering dedication to the Party, to his community, and to the rights of working men and women is framed by honor and integrity.

Chuck has spent hundreds of hours volunteering on numerous political campaigns and causes throughout his life. During the past 30 years, Chuck has taken an active role in organizing the Northern Ohio Labor Day Parade. As Secretary of Parma Southwest Cope, Chuck has chaired the reverse raffle committee for the past 25 years. He has also been the Chairman of Parma's Democratic Steak Roast for 20 years. Chuck's devotion and enthusiasm consistently inspire those around him and has made all of these events successful.

During his 22 years of employment with the National Tool Company, Chuck served as President of the United Steel Workers of America, Local 4827. Governor Richard Celeste appointed Chuck to the Ohio Regional Board of Review for Worker's Compensation. In 1991, Martin Vittardi, Clerk of Parma Municipal Court, appointed Chuck to be the Chief Deputy Clerk of Court. His friendship is coveted not only by myself and Marty, but by numerous individuals whose lives have been touched by his energetic spirit, kindness and loyalty.

As Chief Deputy and Supervisor, his colleagues and staff know him to be a man who is passionate about all aspects of his life. They respect Chuck for his fairness and for being a man of his word. He believes that patience is a virtue and was reassuring that a task would get done, never hesitating to become part of the solution. They appreciate Chuck for always looking out for their best interest, fighting for what they deserve and for being valued by him. His reputation for being a prankster and for his colorful way of telling a joke is legendary. Chuck is a wise and generous man and he is a true friend to the people in his life.

Evelyn, his wife of 52 years, and their wonderful family have sustained Chuck with a lifetime of support. Joe, Jim, Janet and Joyce, have blessed them with seven grandchildren. Chuck and Evelyn's children and grandchildren continue to be their pride and joy.

CARIBBEAN LEADERS READY TO NEGOTIATE AT CARICOM

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to enter into the RECORD a July 1, 2008 New York Carib News article entitled: "Saint Vincent and the Grenadines PM wants LIAT, Caribbean Airlines Collaboration." The article attests to the combined Caribbean effort to forge business ties with partners in the U.S. financial community.

There is a new way of thinking about air service to the Caribbean. "We have to think

large and we have to think in a strategic sense with these matters," said Prime Minister Ralph Gonsalves. He has suggested that the Antigua based airline LIAT become a subsidiary of Caribbean Airlines and essentially create a "nexus." In the future he believes that Air Jamaica and Bahamas Air will join the collaboration to create a regional airline service.

These plans were largely facilitated at the New York CARICOM Conference. The conference provided a medium through which Caribbean leaders could propose their vision for the economic reshaping of the Caribbean.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Ms. LINDA T. SÁNCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I was delayed by traffic on Tuesday, July 8, 2008, and I missed two votes on the House floor.

However, had I been present I would have voted "yea" on H.R. 3981—To authorize the Preserve America Program and Save America's Treasures Program, and for other purposes; and "yea" on H.R. 1423—To authorize the Secretary of the Interior to lease a portion of a visitor center to be constructed outside the boundary of the Indiana Dunes National Lakeshore in Porter County, Indiana, and for other purposes.

ADA AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL HARE

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Mr. HARE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3195, the ADA Amendments Act of 2008. I am very pleased that the House is considering this important legislation, and I urge our friends in the Senate to swiftly take action on it as well.

As it stands now, the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) leaves too many Americans at an unfair disadvantage. Many workers who suffer from debilitating diseases such as epilepsy or cancer are being discriminated against in the workplace but are denied redress by the courts. No one should be denied employment or be fired from his or her job because of a disability, but the Supreme Court has on multiple occasions interpreted the law in a way that opens the door to this possibility. In fact, plaintiffs lost 97 percent of ADA employment discrimination claims in 2004 alone, often due to the interpretation of the definition of "disability."

The starkest demonstration of this problem is found in *Toyota Motor Manufacturing v. Williams*, which the Supreme Court considered in 2002. The majority decision in this case held that the ADA's language regarding the extent of disability must be strictly interpreted so that legal protections from discrimination would apply only to those whose disabilities are long-term or permanent, and substantially limit their ability to perform routine tasks.

This was not the intent of the ADA. Congress passed the Americans with Disabilities Act in 1990 to clearly and comprehensively eliminate discrimination against all individuals with disabilities. Since that time, the ADA has transformed our Nation, helping millions of Americans with disabilities succeed in the workplace, and making transportation, housing, buildings, and services more accessible to individuals with disabilities.

The bill we are considering today restores the original intent of Congress by rejecting the Supreme Court decisions that have reduced protections for people with disabilities. Additionally, the legislation clarifies the definition of "disability" to include what it means to be "substantially limited in a major life activity." The legislation also prohibits the consideration of mitigating measures such as medication, prosthetics, and assistive technology in determining whether an individual has a disability, and provides coverage to people who experience discrimination based on a perception of impairment regardless of whether the individual does in fact have a disability.

The most important factor for a court to weigh in on a discrimination case should be the allegation itself—not the extent or nature of a worker's disability. This is not what every day Americans stand for, and this is not what Congress meant when the law was originally enacted.

By more clearly defining the term "disabled," we will be able to free up the courts in the future to focus on alleged acts of discrimination and better protect the American workers for whom this law was enacted.

I urge my colleagues to join the broad coalition of civil rights groups, disability advocates, and employer trade organizations who support this bill and vote with me to stop discrimination against individuals with disabilities by restoring the original intent of the Americans with Disabilities Act.

INTRODUCTION OF CLEAN CRUISE SHIP ACT OF 2008

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 9, 2008

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, many Americans enjoy taking cruises, in large part because they get to see some of the Nation's most beautiful marine ecosystems. Cruise ships have the potential to bring these beautiful locations to many people, but these people also have an expectation that the ship that transports them will not damage the environments that they are visiting. Because I want to see these beautiful marine ecosystems protected for future generations to enjoy, I am introducing the Clean Cruise Ship Act of 2008.

The Cruise Ship Industry has experienced much success over the past 18 years and has been growing at a rate of 5 percent per year. U.S. ports handled 8.6 million cruise embarkations which accounted for 75 percent of global passengers. Unfortunately, as it grows, its potential to negatively affect the marine environment grows as well.

Cruise ships are floating cities, with large cruise ships routinely carrying more than 3,000 passengers and crew. Right now a new 225,000 gross-ton cruise ship is being built