

moved with her four children to Chicago's Hyde Park neighborhood. In Chicago, Lee became active in neighborhood associations, such as the Hyde Park-Kenwood Community Conference, and became active in the preservation of the Great Lakes. In 1966, Lee participated in the campaign to acknowledge the Indiana Dunes as a National Lakeshore. While Lee was active in the protection of the lakeshore, she was also a columnist for the Hyde Park Herald, a weekly community publication of which she later became the editor. As well as being active in community press, Lee also established the Hyde Park Garden Fair, which is still held on an annual basis. In the late 1960s, Lee also became a staff member of the Openlands Project in Chicago, an organization dedicated to preserving and enhancing public open space around Chicago and northern Illinois.

In 1971, Lee founded the Lake Michigan Federation, known today as the Alliance for the Great Lakes. The Federation was the first independent citizen organization dedicated to the preservation of a specific Great Lake. As the leader of the Federation, Lee became dedicated to protecting the lakeshore and actively lobbied Congress to tackle issues of environmental protection, focusing on the first federal Clean Water Act. Because of her dedication to the environment, Lee served on the staff of the Environmental Protection Agency for several years when the agency was in its infancy, and in 1977 was appointed by President Carter as the head of the Great Lakes Basin Commission, headquartered in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Following this position, Lee worked with Mayor Harold Washington and the city of Chicago as a staff member and consultant for the city's newly developed Department of the Environment.

Lee also founded the Indiana Dunes Environmental Learning Center, a summer camp offering children of U.S. Steel employees an opportunity to learn about the environment and the necessity of its preservation. In addition to the numerous organizations Lee founded, she also made time to serve in various capacities at several other organizations, such as the Save the Dunes Council, the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council, Great Lakes United, the State of Illinois' Task Force of Global Climate Change, the State of Indiana Water Pollution Control Board, Chicago Wilderness, and the Northwest Indiana Regional Planning Commission.

Madam Speaker, Lee Botts has given her time and efforts selflessly to the protection of our environment and lakeshore throughout her many years of service. At this time, I ask that you and all of my distinguished colleagues join me in commending her for her lifetime of service and dedication to her community. I also ask that you join me in wishing her a very happy 80th birthday.

SUNSET MEMORIAL

HON. TRENT FRANKS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. FRANKS of Arizona. Madam Speaker, I stand once again before this body with another Sunset Memorial.

It is February 13, 2008, in the land of the free and the home of the brave, and before

the sun set today in America, almost 4,000 more defenseless unborn children were killed by abortion on demand—just today. That is more than the number of innocent American lives that we lost on September 11th, only it happens every day.

It has now been exactly 12,805 days since the tragic judicial fiat called *Roe v. Wade* was handed down. Since then, the very foundation of this Nation has been stained by the blood of almost 50 million of our own children.

Some of them, Madam Speaker, cried and screamed as they died, but because it was amniotic fluid passing over their vocal cords instead of air, we couldn't hear them. And all of them had at least four things in common.

They were each just little babies who had done nothing wrong to anyone. Each one of them died a nameless and lonely death. And each of their mothers, whether she realizes it immediately or not, will never be the same. And all the gifts that these children might have brought to humanity are now lost forever.

Yet even in the full glare of such tragedy, this generation clings to blindness and invincible ignorance while history repeats itself and our own silent genocide mercilessly annihilates the most helpless of all victims to date, those yet unborn.

Madam Speaker, perhaps it is important for those of us in this Chamber to remind ourselves again of why we are really all here.

Thomas Jefferson said, "The care of human life and its happiness and not its destruction is the chief and only object of good government."

Madam Speaker, protecting the lives of our innocent citizens and their constitutional rights is why we are all here. It is our sworn oath. The phrase in the 14th amendment capsulizes our entire Constitution. It says: "No state shall deprive any person of life, liberty or property without due process of law."

The bedrock foundation of this Republic is the Declaration, not the casual notion, but the Declaration of the self-evident truth that all human beings are created equal and endowed by their creator with the unalienable rights of life, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Every conflict and battle our Nation has ever faced can be traced to our commitment to this core self-evident truth. It has made us the beacon of hope for the entire world. It is who we are.

And yet Madam Speaker, another day has passed, and we in this body have failed again to honor that commitment. We failed our sworn oath and our God-given responsibility as we broke faith with nearly 4,000 more innocent American babies who died without the protection we should have been given them.

But perhaps tonight, Madam Speaker, maybe someone new who heard this sunset memorial will finally realize that abortion really does kill a baby, that it hurts mothers in ways that we can never express, and that 12,805 days spent killing nearly 50 million unborn children in America is enough; and that this Nation is great enough to find a better way than abortion on demand.

So tonight, Madam Speaker, may we each remind ourselves that our own days in this sunshine of life are numbered and that all too soon each of us will walk from these Chambers for the very last time.

And if it should be that this Congress is allowed to convene on yet another day to come, may that be the day when we hear the cries of the unborn at last. May that be the day we

find the humanity, the courage, and the will to embrace together our human and our constitutional duty to protect the least of these, our tiny American brothers and sisters, from this murderous scourge upon our Nation called abortion on demand.

It is February 13, 2008—12,805 days since *Roe v. Wade* first stained the foundation of this Nation with the blood of its own children—this, in the land of free and the home of the brave.

RECOVERY REBATES AND ECONOMIC STIMULUS FOR THE AMERICAN PEOPLE ACT OF 2008

SPEECH OF

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Ms. DELAURO. Madam Speaker, from negative economic data on wages and consumer prices to a falling stock market, there is almost no margin for error in today's tight economy. We face an urgency and a mutual obligation to get it right and ensure no American is forced to live in those margins.

Today's economy weighs very heavily on America's families—and lately, things have gone from bad to worse. In December, the unemployment rate shot up to a 2-year high of 5 percent. December's sales and consumer confidence were at a 5-year low. Oil prices topped \$100 a barrel, and home foreclosures are at an alltime high. And growth last quarter slowed to a glacial .6 percent.

This legislation represents a strong bipartisan agreement on an economic stimulus package that will begin to provide financial relief and income security to the middle class working Americans most at risk in a prospective recession. The Senate voted 18–16 in favor of the package to jumpstart our slowing economy and create jobs here at home, and I am proud of our quick action in both houses to get this done.

Last week, the House approved strong stimulus legislation, and this version continues in that spirit with two additions expanding recovery rebates to an additional 20 million seniors and 250,000 disabled veterans. Our men and women in uniform fought for our Nation, and they deserve all the respect, care and support we can provide.

Building on our work to extend the Child Tax Credit—and my belief that all hard-working low- and middle-income families should receive at least a partial credit—this package will ensure that any family that pays taxes and earned at least \$3000 last year, will get a \$300 rebate per child.

The bill provides refundable child tax credit rebates to approximately 34.2 million children. Families with children will receive a total of \$21.8 billion in refundable rebates, including \$9.8 billion specifically in refundable child tax credits.

It is long past time we finally recognize that the child tax credit should be available to all families, including those who serve in the military.

With the economy in so much difficulty, this is the right approach—immediate, focused on those who need resources and who will spend it. Unlike previous efforts to stimulate the economy, this package is focused on the

middle class and provides real, not token relief. That includes \$28 billion in tax relief for 35 million families who work but make too little to pay income taxes—families who otherwise would not have been included in this recovery effort, more than 19 million of them with children.

To meet our obligation, to boost our struggling economy, and provide real assistance for working and middle-class Americans, I urge a “yes” vote.

COLLEGE OPPORTUNITY AND
AFFORDABILITY ACT OF 2007

SPEECH OF

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 7, 2008

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Chairman, I'm pleased that today the House passed H.R. 4137, the College Opportunity and Affordability Act. This bill makes great strides towards helping our Nation's students and families afford college.

The rising cost of college is making the opportunity of a quality education further and further out of reach for far too many of our students. In March, the University of California and California State system raised their tuition for the fifth time in 6 years. This year, students at a school like Sonoma State, in my district, will be required to pay nearly 10 percent more for tuition. With recent budget shortfalls in many States, including California, more increases in tuition appear to be on the horizon. The Federal Government, States, and universities need to work together to both control costs and provide better access to financial aid to ensure that everyone has the chance for a college education.

This bill will help with both college costs and financial aid for our neediest students, and that's why it's such an important bill. Through this bill, States will be encouraged to do their part in keeping college costs down, and universities will be encouraged to be more transparent with important information like projected tuition and fees and average financial aid. This will help ensure that students and their families are not caught unaware by college costs. This bill also assists our Nation's neediest students by increasing the maximum Pell Grant that can be awarded and giving more non-traditional students access to this important source of aid. In addition, this bill encourages more students to go into important fields that serve the public interest, such as teaching, nursing, and firefighting, by offering loan forgiveness in exchange for their invaluable service.

Particularly pleasing is the inclusion of three programs that I championed and which should make a real difference in the lives of our Nation's students. The first is the Patsy T. Mink Fellowships, which will provide fellowships to women and minorities to help them attain graduate degrees in underrepresented fields. This program will encourage more women and minorities to go into underrepresented fields, and at the same time, will increase the amount of women and minorities who become professors in these fields. Congresswoman Patsy Mink was my mentor and friend and was a leader on women's equality and opportunity. This program is in honor of her work on

the inclusion of Title IX in the Higher Education Act and will further ensure equality in higher education.

As a former human resources manager, I know that it can be difficult to find workers to fill all the empty positions. Often, applicants don't have the necessary skills or background to fill available positions. It's critical that we find a way to provide our workforce with the skills and education to fill the gaps. That's why programs like Bridges from Jobs to Careers and Business Workforce Partnerships, which I also championed, are so important.

The Bridges from Jobs to Careers grant program will provide competitive grants to community colleges to improve remedial education by customizing programs to the career and academic goals of students and making it possible for students to move more quickly through remedial classes and to courses related to their degree, certificate program, or career. We need to help students realize the end goal of their education program. Helping schools improve remedial education will help many students get in and out of school with the skills and education they need to succeed.

The Business Workforce Partnerships grant program will encourage the development of partnerships between colleges and businesses to work together to provide workers with for-credit worksite learning opportunities and more flexible schedules. By allowing workers to work and attend school, more of them will have access to the certificates and degrees that will lead to better jobs and higher salaries. These workers will also be able to better fit the needs of our changing workforce.

Thank you, Chairmen MILLER and HINOJOSA, for your leadership on the Higher Education Reauthorization Act. I look forward to working with you and our colleagues to continue to make college more affordable for our Nation's students.

HONORING RETIRING MARILLA
TOWN SUPERVISOR JOHN FOSS

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor and celebrate the years of faithful public service of John Foss, retiring Supervisor of the Town of Marilla.

Madam Speaker, John Foss is a lot of things, and a lot of adjectives describe him well. Intelligent, committed and focused on the continued growth and improvement of his hometown, John Foss labored hard on behalf of his constituents, and he has the results to show for it.

I have had the pleasure of knowing John way back to the mid-1990s, when as a candidate for the New York State Assembly, John welcomed me to Marilla and introduced me to dozens of his neighbors—local residents and farmers with concerns about the agricultural industry in Erie County and New York State. John's friendship was critical to me in those days and his steadfast support for our efforts to revitalize the economy of Erie County and Western New York remain important to this very day.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join me in honoring the public service career of retiring

Marilla Town Supervisor John Foss, and join me in wishing John and his entire family the very best of good luck and Godspeed as they embark upon this new chapter of their lives, active in the public affairs of the town of Marilla, but outside the formal role of Supervisor. Congratulations, John, on a job very well done.

CONGRATULATING ROCK THE
BOAT ON HIS SUCCESS AT THE
WESTMINSTER KENNEL CLUB
DOG SHOW

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Mr. BURGESS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of Ch. Pinecrest Orchard Hill Rock the Boat at the Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show. Rock the Boat, better known as Rocky, earned the “Best-in-Breed” title among the Cavalier King Charles Spaniels on Tuesday, February 12, 2008, for the second consecutive year.

Cavalier King Charles Spaniels are a part of the toy group, which encompasses twenty-three breeds. The Westminster Kennel Club Dog Show, America's oldest organization dedicated to the sport of purebred dogs, limits entry to 2,500 dogs. Rocky won best-in-breed in his category after going up against a field of thirty-five entrants, and was one of only 169 dogs to receive this honor for 2008.

This triumph is the most recent in a string of successes for Rocky and his owners. In his brief show career, Rocky has accumulated six all-breed Best in Show wins, over thirty Toy Group wins, seven Specialty Best of Breed wins and eight Best in Show wins at the Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club, USA Specialties, making him the American Kennel Club's #1 Cavalier. His list of achievements is only made more impressive by the fact that he is not yet three years old.

I extend my sincere congratulations to Rocky, as well as his breeder, owners, and trainer, for his many impressive accomplishments. It is an honor to have such a celebrated canine reside in the 26th District of Texas. I look forward to seeing what the future brings for the talented Rocky.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 13, 2008

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, on Wednesday, January 23, 2008, I was unavoidably detained due to a prior obligation. I would like to make a correction to my earlier explanation of my missed votes on January 23, 2008.

Had I been present and voting, I would have voted as follows:

(1) Rollcall No. 21: “yes.” On Ordering the Previous Question.

(2) Rollcall No. 22: “yes.” On Motion to Pass H.R. 3963, the objections of the President to the contrary notwithstanding.