

I thank and acknowledge Gerret and Tatiana Copeland for their commitment to aiding the fight against heart disease. Their gift grants Delaware residents access to the latest technology used to treat life-threatening heart problems, undeniably bettering countless lives and transforming cardiac care for the people of Delaware.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING JUSTIN MCCAULEY FOR WINNING THE OHIO DIVISION IV STATE BASKETBALL CHAMPIONSHIP

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Justin McCauley showed hard work and dedication to the sport of basketball; and

Whereas, Justin McCauley was a supportive member of the team; and

Whereas, Justin McCauley always displayed dedication to the sport of basketball and the Tuscarawas County Rockets Special Olympics basketball team; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Justin McCauley on supporting the Tuscarawas County Rockets Special Olympics basketball team during their quest to win the Ohio Division IV State Basketball Championship. We recognize the tremendous hard work and sportsmanship he has demonstrated during the 2007–2008 basketball season.

INTRODUCTION OF NCAA FOOTBALL CHAMPIONSHIP EQUITY RESOLUTION

HON. NEIL ABERCROMBIE

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. ABERCROMBIE. Madam Speaker, today I have joined with my colleagues Congressman SIMPSON of Idaho and Congressman WESTMORELAND of Georgia in introducing a resolution to end disparity in college sports that is an unintended consequence of the Bowl Championship Series (BCS). This resolution declares the BCS an illegal restraint on trade, and demands that the US Department of Justice take the proper actions to investigate and end the unfair BCS system. It also encourages the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) to establish a true football playoff system to determine the national collegiate football champion in the interest of parity and sportsmanship.

The BCS is fundamentally unfair. Non-BCS schools, those in conferences not automatically qualified for the BCS bowls, are at a disadvantage prior to the first kickoff of the season. Non-BCS schools must basically have perfect seasons, and must be the best of over 50 schools to even be considered to play in a BCS bowl, while schools that belong to conferences that are automatically-qualified for BCS bowls (BCS schools) must only be the best of 8–12 schools, depending on the con-

ference they compete in. Six of the ten schools that participate in the BCS bowls qualify by becoming the regular season champion of a BCS automatically-qualifying conference: the Atlantic Coast Conference (ACC), Big 10, Big 11, Big East, Pacific-10, and the Southeastern Conference (SEC). The four others are determined based on rankings, conference standings, and in some cases, selected by bowl officials. There is also a rule prohibiting more than one non-BCS school from competing in a single year.

These unfair eligibility requirements produce effects that go far beyond restricting access to playing for the national championship. The BCS generates hundreds of millions of dollars of revenue annually, and this money is disproportionately awarded to BCS conferences. Of the more than \$217 million generated by the 2006–2007 post-season bowls, \$185 million, or 85 percent went to the BCS schools, which represent 66, or 55 percent of Division I schools. Money generated by the post-season games help schools cover costs for their athletic departments, facilities, equipment, recruitment, and other sports programs. Non-BCS schools must use their general funds to cover costs of their athletic departments, which takes funding from academic and administrative needs.

The lopsided distribution of BCS revenue results in two tiers within the NCAA Football Bowl Subdivision (formerly Division I), those with access to the BCS, and those without. Those without are unable to change their situation as the money and prestige associated with the BCS makes it highly unlikely that a non-BCS school will be able to compete for the same recruits, coaches, sponsorships, national television exposure, and the revenue it generates. This disparity keeps them in the second-class status and must be changed.

Questions about the legality of the BCS have also arisen. Legal scholars have analyzed the anti-trust aspects of the BCS, and some have concluded that the BCS violates the Sherman Anti-Trust Act under the Rule of Reason test. This requires that the competitive benefits of the system outweigh the anti-competitive effects. However, the anti-competitive effects of the financial gain and recruiting advantage of the BCS schools can easily outweigh the pro-competitive benefits of arranging for the top two ranking BCS teams to play for the national championship.

Many have called for the end of or change to the BCS, and the current system is only the latest reincarnation. The NCAA has, on multiple occasions, studied and considered moving to a playoff to determine the national champion. Successful BCS school football coaches and presidents have called for a playoff system, as have presidents of non-BCS schools. Congress has held multiple hearings questioning the fairness of the BCS and states have introduced and passed legislation calling for changes to the system.

NCAA football is the only college team sport without a playoff determining the national champion. While the NCAA Basketball Championship's format will not transfer perfectly to college football, it is an ideal system. All Division I schools start the season with an equal chance of making it to the playoffs. The championship is decided on the court by the players and their talent, not rankings and their schedule before the tournament. The basketball championship also allows for a nearly annual

“Cinderella story,” an underrated team that defies expectations, upsets traditionally strong opponents and competes deep into the tournament. This year it was Davidson College, a member of the Southern Conference, which was seeded tenth in its region and made it to the Elite Eight, beating former champion Georgetown University, the University of Wisconsin and Gonzaga University along the way. This scenario is highly unlikely in the BCS system, as there is little chance for a non-BCS school to even be offered an invitation to play. Non-BCS schools, the University of Hawaii in 2008 and Boise State University in 2007 were undefeated going into the BCS and were not even given the opportunity to play for the national championship.

Something must be done to ensure that money and opportunity are evenly distributed among all college football programs. Congress should act in the interest of all the athletes, coaches, staff and supporters to guarantee parity and competition in college football. The current system leaves much to be desired and I urge my colleagues to join me in support of this resolution calling for the NCAA Division I national champion to be determined by a playoff.

BRITTANY PADGETT

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Brittany Padgett who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Brittany Padgett is a senior at Wheat Ridge High School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Brittany Padgett is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential that students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic that will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations once again to Brittany Padgett for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication she has shown in her high school career to her college career and future accomplishments.

RECOGNIZING FLORENCE CRITTENTON SERVICES ON THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CRITTENTON FOUNDATION

HON. NANCY E. BOYDA

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mrs. BOYDA of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I am pleased today to recognize Florence Crittenton Services in Topeka, Kansas, on the occasion of the 125th Anniversary of The National Crittenton Foundation.

Florence Crittenton Services in Topeka, one of the 22 Crittenton agencies nationwide, is

justifiably proud of their more than 100 years of service to the State of Kansas' most vulnerable girls and young women.

In 1900, this agency began in Topeka with a contribution of just \$100, which was given to provide much-needed community services and shelter to young women in the community.

It is worth our time to take a moment and realize just how much that small \$100 contribution has created.

Today, 100 years later, Florence Crittenton Services provides not just shelter, but cutting edge, comprehensive services to Kansas' most vulnerable girls and young women. Currently, Florence Crittenton is the only Psychiatric Residential Treatment Facility in Kansas that serves female clients only.

Many people who know the Crittenton name associate it with support for unwed mothers. While this is an important part of the Crittenton legacy, the program has evolved over time to meet the increasingly complex and acute needs of at-risk young women and their families all across Kansas.

Most importantly, this array of services to girls and young women in Kansas provides opportunities for growth and support that would not exist otherwise. I am proud to acknowledge Florence Crittenton Services of Kansas for their long-standing and worthwhile efforts that give girls the tools and skills to change the course of their lives.

On this historic occasion, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Florence Crittenton Services in Topeka for their ongoing commitment to at-risk girls, young women and their families.

HONORING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL CRITTENTON FOUNDATION

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 125th anniversary of the National Crittenton Foundation, a national organization dedicated to supporting and empowering young women and girls at-risk.

More than a century ago, founder Charles Crittenton and his colleague, Dr. Kate Waller Barrett, began an international movement to help homeless, pregnant women and their babies. Today, the unique partnership between The National Crittenton Foundation and the Crittenton Family of Agencies carries on this mission through a national network of affiliated independent, local organizations.

As a leading member of the Crittenton Family of Agencies, the Florence Crittenton Agency in Knoxville, Tennessee has worked tirelessly to ensure that the children, families, and pregnant young women of East Tennessee have the best possible services. I am proud to have such an upstanding organization located in my congressional district.

Founded in 1896 under the proud leadership of Mrs. Annie McGhee McClung, the Knoxville organization experienced a period of decline during wars and the Great Depression, but the challenges facing young women and girls remained. Seeing the great need that still existed, seven Knoxville community leaders signed a second Charter of Incorporation on

October 1, 1963, ushering in a new era of innovative services and support.

Through its active participation with The National Crittenton Foundation and the Crittenton Family of Agencies, the Florence Crittenton Agency in Knoxville continues to strengthen communities and have a positive impact on East Tennessee.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing the National Crittenton Foundation and Knoxville's Florence Crittenton Agency on this historic occasion and thank them for their ongoing commitment to our communities and to our country.

TRIBUTE TO SAMMY GEORGE OF CHATTANOOGA, TENNESSEE

HON. ZACH WAMP

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. WAMP. Madam Speaker, today I rise to honor Sammy George of my hometown of Chattanooga, Tennessee, as he departs the broadcasting industry at the height of his career with 35 years of service. Mr. George has been an outstanding leader at home, in the industry and within our community. Now that he will be spending more time with his family and friends, I want to take a moment to recognize his tremendous accomplishments and thank him for all he has done in Chattanooga.

After serving in the U.S. Marines in Vietnam, Sammy returned to his hometown of West Blocton, Alabama, where he worked as a disc jockey, DJ. He moved to Chattanooga in 1985 to become the general manager of the upstart radio station WUSY US-101 where he has remained for more than 22 years.

During his term, the station has won countless awards and has been recognized for its distinction and excellence. These include nine Country Music Association Station of the Year awards, four R&R Station of the Year awards, one Academy of Country Music Station award, a National Association of Business, NAB, Marconi for Personality of the Year and the NAB Crystal award.

Most importantly, Sammy has focused his talent and energy on helping those in need. He has humbly led our community in raising millions of dollars for charitable causes, including \$5 million for the St. Jude Children's Research Hospital and \$800,000 of supplies for Hurricane Katrina victims.

Sammy retires as the market manager for Clear Channel/Chattanooga where he oversaw three popular radio stations: WUSY US-101, WLND 98.1 The Legend, and WRXR Rock 105. After taking some much deserved time off, he will bring his wealth of experience to Northwest Georgia Bank where he will be vice-president for new business.

Sammy George is a man of integrity, loyalty and outstanding leadership, and I am proud to recognize him today.

THE 2008 COOPERATIVE CONSERVATION AWARD

HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate Mount Rainier National Park, the Student Conservation Association, SCA, the Washington's Trails Association, WTA, the National Parks Conservation Association, NPCA, Washington's National Park Fund, and The Mountaineers for being awarded the 2008 Cooperative Conservation Award, CCA, from the Department of the Interior. The CCA is the Department of Interior's highest award presented to private citizens and organizational partners who support the agency's mission and demonstrate significant contributions to its programs.

The award was given to the coalition for their outstanding efforts in rebuilding damaged trails, campgrounds and other facilities at Mount Rainier following the disastrous floods and windstorms during the winter of 2006. The coalition named their efforts the Mount Rainier Recovery Initiative and enlisted the help of more than 700 people from all over the country to rebuild and solidify some of the most beautiful trails, campgrounds and habitats in the country. The work they did was truly remarkable. Their dedication is appreciated by residents of the Pacific Northwest and the residents of the Eighth District, the district I represent.

The work by the coalition, along with countless volunteers, will be enjoyed for years to come by the thousands of visitors to Mount Rainier. With all the coalition has accomplished, their efforts continue by expanding their reach outside Mount Rainier to other areas in Washington State affected by extreme weather utilizing the success of their Mount Rainier Model. Again, congratulations the SCA, the WTA, the NPCA, Washington's National Park Fund and The Mountaineers for their dedication to the natural wonders of the Pacific Northwest and urge them to continue in their efforts.

THE CITY OF ROCK PORT, MISSOURI

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, April 17, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize, the City of Rock Port, Missouri, the first community in the United States of America whose energy source is totally wind powered.

Rock Port, where Lewis and Clark camped in 1804, the county seat of Atchison County—named after United States Senator David Atchison—and the home of the annual Atchison County Fair, has come a long way to be the undisputed leader of energy innovation by becoming the first community in our Nation to be totally energy independent of foreign resources.

Named for the soil that it is built on, Loess Hills Wind Farm is located on agricultural lands within the city limits of Rock Port. The