

years now. Under Republican control there were no hearings on this important topic. Within one year of Democrats taking control of the House this bill was passed, and is now on its way to the President's desk.

This bill is the right thing to do to protect access to health care and against genetic discrimination in the workplace. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

HONORING LOUIS M. THOMSON

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Louis M. Thomson, Jr. of Toledo, Ohio.

Louis M. Thomson, Jr., blessed Toledo, OH with his many talents, always giving an enthusiastic word about his native city. Louis passed from this life April 18, 2008, but will always be remembered by his family and friends for his warm smile, quick wit and uncompromising passion to better his community. Louis served as a longtime labor arbitrator, fact-finder, and mediator. Mr. Thomson, a Toledo native, graduated from Scott High School in 1945. Afterwards he served in the U.S. Army from 1945 to 1947, later graduating from the University of Toledo in 1950. Louis started his career with the city of Toledo in 1960 as director of public information and industrial relations, a position he held until 1968.

Following his position with the city of Toledo, he served as the director of the Toledo Labor-Management-Citizens Committee from 1968 until 1991. He worked as an independent arbitrator, fact-finder, and mediator. During his years on the job, he was known for working behind the scenes to improve the local labor climate. His family and colleagues remembered how he enjoyed helping to resolve labor disputes. His wife, Rose Thomson, recalled that the career called on him to be neutral and exercise good judgment. She said, "He liked listening to all the different things and trying to decide if people had been treated properly".

He retired from the job two weeks before his death and only because of his failing health. In addition to his work, Mr. Thomson was involved with a number of local community groups, including the University of Toledo Alumni Association, which he had served as president; the Scott Alumni Association; the City of Toledo Credit Union, of which he was also a past president; the Toledo Museum of Art; the Maumee Valley Historical Society; the Committee on Relations with Toledo, Spain, and numerous other organizations.

Louis simply desired to help people and do things for other, and in the meantime improve the city of Toledo as well. However, the organization closest to his heart was the Toledo Zoo, family members recalled. They estimated he had been involved with the Toledo Zoo for nearly 50 years because it was a landmark for the people of Toledo and surrounding areas. His love for the Toledo Zoo mimicked his love for the Toledo community. Louis always promoted the city of Toledo from an industrial, business and cultural perspective, never ceasing in the opinion that Toledo was a great place to live.

Toledo will miss one of its dearest sons. May his positive spirit and love of community be remembered in word and deed by all Toledo residents.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MOSES WEINSTEIN

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor the passing of a man who I deeply admired and knew for many years; Mr. Moses Weinstein. Mr. Weinstein, or Moe as his friends called him, passed away at the age of 95. He was loved and respected, and served New York and our country honorably throughout his long life.

Mr. Weinstein was a true patriot. He was a World War II veteran, and served our country in Europe. After graduating from Brooklyn Law School and he began working his way up the political ladder. In 1959, he started what would be an 11 year career in the New York State Assembly. During his tenure in the Assembly, he served as Chairman of the Queens Democratic Party; held the prestigious title of majority leader for the 1967 convention, where the New York State Constitution was redrafted; and was elected to the post of Majority Leader from 1965 through 1968 and Speaker of the Assembly in 1968. Much of his work as a legislator focused on the importance of promoting minorities and women to hold judicial positions.

After leaving the Assembly, Moe became a Justice of the Supreme Court of New York in 1970, and held the post for 14 years.

Moe was so accomplished. Yet, he always claimed that he was not anyone's boss, especially in his own home. He claimed that Muriel Marshall, his wife, was the true boss of the household.

I want to extend my deepest sympathies to Moe's family. Jonathan, Peter and Jeremy, your father was an extraordinary man and I feel blessed to have known him.

CONGRATULATING COASTAL BEND COLLEGE ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. RUBEN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. HINOJOSA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coastal Bend College, in Beeville, Texas on its 40th Anniversary. Bee County Junior College District was created by election on November 2, 1965. The election resulted from several years of work to establish a community college for Bee County. Support was shown by residents in an overwhelming five-to-one majority for the creation of the district. The desire for a community college was again demonstrated on December 7, 1965, when district citizens approved a tax to support BCC, and bond issues to build the college. Bee County College opened in September 1967 with 790 students, 24 full-time instructors and 11 part-time teachers. Its first class graduated in May of 1968.

In 1998 Bee County College changed its name to Coastal Bend College to reflect its expanding role in the region. Today, the Coastal Bend College service area includes Karnes, McMullen, Live Oak, Bee, Duval, Jim Wells and Brooks Counties, and parts of Atascosa and Kleberg Counties with campuses in Alice, Beeville, Kingsville and Pleasanton. Enrollment in academic, workforce education and continuing education classes during the spring of 2006 was 3,534. More than 100,000 students have passed through at least one of the four campuses over the past 40 years.

Coastal Bend College's current president, Dr. Thomas B. Baynum, came to the college in 2007. Under his leadership, the Texas Coordinating Board recently approved the opening of a full nursing program at Coastal Bend College. This new nursing program will help the school provide training that will not only offer graduates good paying jobs, but will also help alleviate the severe nursing shortage which this rural region faces as well as our State of Texas.

As a Hispanic Serving Institution, Coastal Bend College plays a critical role in graduating Hispanic students who will make up a large portion of our future workforce. The Higher Education Reauthorization Act, which is currently being negotiated in Congress, will help colleges like Coastal Bend increase their recruitment of minority students.

This weekend, Coastal Bend College will be celebrating this important 40th anniversary with a variety of events, including musical performances, art exhibits and most importantly, the graduation of students in its 40th graduating class. I want to again congratulate Coastal Bend College for reaching this important milestone and wish every graduating student success in their future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO THE SCOTTSBLUFF DECA

HON. ADRIAN SMITH

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. SMITH of Nebraska. Madam Speaker, since 1946, DECA has been the premier student organization preparing high school and college students for careers in marketing, management and entrepreneurship. Students are able to develop academic, leadership, communication, and civic responsibility skills.

Through the efforts of this organization, thousands of students have become leaders and have improved their communities in countless ways.

Today, I want to congratulate the thirty-nine students from the Scottsbluff DECA Chapter who qualified for and attended the International DECA Career Development Conference in Atlanta, Georgia. I also want to congratulate their advisor, Mr. Derek Deaver.

Over 14,000 DECA members from all fifty states as well as Canada, Guam, Puerto Rico and Mexico attended the conference, held late last month.

In this international competition, the Scottsbluff DECA Chapter made Nebraska proud. Many members received awards of excellence with one project—whose members include Brittany Shaneman, Jordyn Gray and

Breanna Elley—placed in the top twenty, and Seth Wallace finishing in the top ten, placing third in the nation.

The continued success of Mr. Deaver and his DECA students is a testament to the fact young Nebraskans represent a truly valuable resource. I applaud their achievements and wish them the best next year.

PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION
TO STATES INCARCERATING UN-
DOCUMENTED ALIENS

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 6, 2008

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1512, to amend the Immigration and Nationality Act to provide for compensation to States incarcerating undocumented aliens charged with a felony or two or more misdemeanors, introduced by my distinguished colleague from California, Representative LINDA SÁNCHEZ, of which I am a proud cosponsor.

Mr. Speaker, for over a decade, the States have gone through difficult budgetary times and sometimes the federal government has not done enough to pay its fair share when the States have partnered with it. I am glad H.R. 1512 is a step in the right direction.

The State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP) was created in 1994 to reimburse States and localities for the arrest, incarceration, and transportation costs associated with criminal aliens. Currently States and localities are only able to be reimbursed for incarcerating criminal aliens who are “convicted of a felony or two or more misdemeanors” and be incarcerated for at least four consecutive days.

In 2003, the Department of Justice (DOJ) reinterpreted the SCAAP statute in a way that caused a drastic drop in every State’s reimbursement. Now States no longer receive reimbursement unless (1) the criminal alien is convicted of a felony or two misdemeanors; and (2) the arrest and conviction occurred in the same fiscal year.

I commend Congresswoman SÁNCHEZ for introducing H.R. 1512, a bipartisan bill which exemplifies the spirit in which we should approach many challenges in the immigration field. H.R. 1512 would amend the Immigration and Nationality Act so that States and localities can be reimbursed for the cost of incarcerating aliens who are either “charged with or convicted” of a felony or two misdemeanors regardless of the fiscal year of the incarceration and conviction.

Mr. Speaker, it is important that H.R. 1512 has been endorsed by the National Sheriffs’ Association and the U.S./Mexico Coalition of Border Counties.

The SCAAP program is administered by the Bureau of Justice Assistance (BJA), which is part of DOJ’s Office of Justice Programs (OJP). The Department of Homeland Security (DHS) aids BJA in administering the program.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 1512 is an important step toward fulfilling our federal government’s obli-

gations to States, many experiencing budgetary pressures, including when partnering with the Federal Government in the immigration field. I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this important legislation.

COMMEMORATING THE RENOVATION
OF THE MONCLOVA, OHIO
POST OFFICE BUILDING

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Ms. KAPTUR. Madam Speaker, this month marks a celebration in the community of Monclova, Ohio. After four years, hundreds of volunteer hours given by dozens of volunteers, and many donations and financial contributions from generous sponsors, the citizens of Monclova will dedicate a reconstructed and renovated historical Post Office. Bill Strayer and Mary Kay and Connie Nuhfer of the Monclova Historical Society prepared a wonderfully descriptive history of the building and the effort to restore it, which I am pleased to submit for the RECORD.

A BRIEF HISTORY OF THE MONCLOVA OLD POST
OFFICE

By the late 1800s and early 1900s, Monclova Township boasted a variety store, a mercantile, a drugstore and a barbershop, as well as wagon makers, blacksmiths, and a lyceum. Home mail delivery was also provided to area residents following the Rural Free Delivery legislation enacted by Congress. Ira Hinkle became the first mail carrier in the Township, using a horse and covered wagon on good weather days and riding the horse in snowy weather. Claire Metzger became the first Postmistress of Monclova Township on March 19, 1915; she served for 41 years before retiring on October 31, 1956. Prior to Miss Metzger becoming Postmistress, the Trapp Mercantile Store housed the Monclova Post Office. Claire, however, had a cement block building erected on property owned by her father, John Metzger, creating the first stand-alone post office in the Township. This one room building was unique in that it was the only post office in the country to have a piano; Claire would often entertain her customers by playing songs on it. The post office continued to operate until December of 1961, when the current Monclova Post Office opened on the corner of Monclova and Waterville-Monclova Roads.

Within a few years after its creation, the Monclova Historical Foundation was approached by the Kerscher family to see if its members would like to have the old Post Office building that now sat empty. The Kerschers, who owned the land where the old post office was located, requested that the building be moved from its current site and relocated on the Community Center property. At that time, the Foundation did not have the resources to take on the property and so the project was put on hold.

In 2004, however, the Foundation was approached by retired Master Carpenter and builder Ray Parker. He and friend Peggy Brown were willing to take on the project of saving and restoring the old building. In June 2004, a letter was signed granting the Foundation ownership of the old Monclova Post Office with the condition that it be removed from the Kerscher property. In early fall 2004, a meeting with Ray Parker, Peggy

Brown, Bill Strayer, then president of the Foundation, and Tom Meyer, architect and friend of Bill’s, met to discuss what had to be done to move the building. Ray made detailed drawings of the building including noting where each block was located. There were four different style blocks used in the Post Office and Ray wanted to be sure it would be reconstructed exactly as it was before it was taken down.

A few weeks later a group of volunteers took apart the building block by block. The blocks themselves were the only part of the building that were salvageable, but small pieces of trim were saved to be used as a pattern for creating new trim work. The blocks were stored behind the Community Center until plans, prints, permits and funds were ready. In late summer 2005, reconstruction of the old Post Office began and the building was under roof by winter. In early 2006, Ray Parker died of cancer. Peggy, along with Bill and many other volunteers, have worked to complete the building the way Ray would have wanted. Over seventy volunteers have put in hundred of hours of work on the project and contributors have given both large and small donations in order to make this restoration possible. On May 24, 2008, the building will be officially dedicated; it will then be used as a museum for area schoolchildren and visitors to explore and to learn about the history of this great community.

CONGRATULATING FORT A.P. HILL

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 7, 2008

Mr. WITTMAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize Fort A.P. Hill as the winner of the 2008 Commander in Chief’s Annual Award for Installation Excellence and am honored to represent the men and women of Fort A.P. Hill. The Commander in Chief’s Annual Award for Installation Excellence recognizes outstanding and innovative efforts of those who operate and maintain U.S. military installations, and A.P. Hill was selected based on their exemplary support of Department of Defense missions.

Excellent military installations enable better mission performance and enhance the quality of life for military men, women and families. Each winning installation succeeded in providing excellent working, housing and recreational conditions.

To compete for the award, installations completed detailed organizational self-assessment packages answering questions posed in the Army Performance Improvement Criteria. Top installations received a week-long site visit by a team of evaluators, and a final, detailed scoring assessment by a senior panel of judges determined the top three installations.

The assessment was a thorough study of how business processes are designed and deployed, and how the installation fares in its business results across a variety of performance areas. I am honored to recognize the accomplishments of Fort A.P. Hill as the installation continues to sharpen the combat edge of America’s Defense Forces, and I am proud A.P. Hill calls the First Congressional District home.