

Section Three—directs the Small Business Administration (SBA) to carry out a program to raise awareness of telework among small businesses and to encourage them to offer telework options to their employees. This program is to include special outreach to businesses owned by or employing people with disabilities, including disabled veterans.

RECOGNIZING JOSHUA AARON DICK FOR ACHIEVING THE RANK OF EAGLE SCOUT

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Joshua Aaron Dick, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 374, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Joshua has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Joshua Aaron Dick for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

EXPLANATION OF DUTY SUSPENSION PROCESS

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, the government often negotiates agreements or promulgates regulations that may produce unintended consequences for certain individuals. In such instances, Congress will review the implementation of the law and try to rectify those unintended problems even if the general requirements should remain. For example, exemptions are made in transportation regulations, Government land use, and trade legislation. Such is the case with the Harmonized Tariff Schedule, which was enacted in 1989. Since then Congress has acted occasionally to reduce, suspend, or repeal duties on certain imports as a matter of economic fairness and competitiveness.

Tariffs serve not only to raise revenue for the Government, but also to benefit American business and industry and holdings. Tariffs are notoriously complicated in their effects, and the policies are very difficult to get right.

Each of the nine bills I prepared recently would either suspend or reduce the import duty on a specific chemical compound. Each bill and the chemical compound in question is publicly available and open for all to see and comment on. I believe such openness is an important part of effective Government.

By suspending the import duty on products not made domestically in the United States, Congress can remove an economic barrier

that might send production abroad—taking with it good-paying jobs—and also can help lower costs to consumers for the final products. These bills were all submitted to comply with procedures and criteria set by the House Ways and Means Subcommittee on Trade. None of the chemical compounds is manufactured in the U.S., the value of each of the requested duty suspensions is no more than \$500,000, and their suspensions can be enforced by U.S. Customs officials. The products produced using the imported feedstocks are deemed to be desirable to produce and use in the U.S.

Introduction of the bills is just the beginning of a long process of scrutiny by the U.S. Trade Representative, U.S. International Trade Commission, and the Department of Commerce. Each one will seek information about potential domestic production, present and future imports, and will research the revenue loss associated with the suspension. Additionally, the Subcommittee on Trade will solicit public comment from all interested parties. An objection at any point throughout this process can disqualify the product for further consideration. At the end of this process, the Committee on Ways and Means will put together a miscellaneous tariff bill that includes hundreds of items that have met these rigorous criteria. I expect that temporarily suspending the duty on the nine products I have requested will help our local economy by making American manufacturers more competitive in the global marketplace.

HONORING DR. VERNON SINGLETON OF DAVIS, CALIFORNIA

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Vernon Singleton on the occasion of a symposium of Wine Phenolic Research being held in his honor by the American Society of Enology and Viticulture.

Dr. Singleton was born in Mill City, Oregon on June 28, 1923. In 1951 he earned a PhD in Protein Biochemistry from Purdue University, where he had also received his bachelor and masters of sciences degrees. He moved to the University of California, Davis in 1958 where he would begin a long and distinguished career as one of the foremost enologists in the world.

He is perhaps best known for his groundbreaking work on wine phenolics and antioxidants. This research has opened the door for an ever expanding scope of knowledge concerning wine and its potential health benefits. He is also the author of more than 220 academic papers and many books that have become classics in the field of enology. For these contributions he has received numerous honors including twice winning the Outstanding Paper of the Year Award from the American Society for Enology and Viticulture in 1986 and 1992, the Office Internationale de la Vigne et du Vin Prize in Enology in 1998 for the best contribution to wine literature in any language for 1997–98, as well as being a life fellow of the American Institute of Chemists and a Charter member of the Phytochemical

Society of North America. He retired in 1991, but remained a professor emeritus and continued publishing for another ten very productive years.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting at this time that we honor the long career and great achievements of Dr. Vernon Singleton. His dedication as a teacher and mentor has allowed him to touch the lives of his students and peers alike, and his research continues to guide and inspire the next generation of chemists and enologists around the world to explore the truly limitless possibilities in their fields.

THE BIPARTISAN FORMER SOVIET UNION MINORITY RELIEF ACT OF 2008

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, today, along with my colleague RON KLEIN (D-FL), I am introducing bipartisan legislation to curb the rise of hate crime violence in Russia, Ukraine and Belarus.

Acts of violence against Jews and other minorities are on the rise in the former Soviet Union. In Russia, xenophobic candidates are sweeping to power as state-sponsored hate speech incites anti-Semitism and violence. Widespread discrimination persists against religious and ethnic minorities, including Central Asians, Armenians, Roman Catholics and Evangelical Christians.

In Ukraine, neo-Nazi crimes against Jews are on the rise. Just last night, a rabbi was severely beaten on a main street in the eastern Ukrainian city of Dnepropetrovsk. The assailants have not been identified and no arrests have been reported. The key test of a democracy is tolerance for minorities—and this fledgling democracy is struggling.

In Belarus, human rights conditions continue to deteriorate. The dictator himself spouts anti-Semitic slurs through government media. The need for emergency resettlement of vulnerable communities may soon emerge.

The Former Soviet Union Minority Relief Act of 2008 would strengthen rule of law and democracy initiatives in Ukraine, undermine hate speech in Russia and Belarus through international broadcasting, and allow for emergency evacuations from Belarus or Russia if the need emerges.

When the Soviet Union fell, we thought the fight for persecuted minorities ended. Unfortunately, widespread discrimination persists against religious and ethnic minorities. The international community needs a wake up call that Jews and other minorities are under attack in the Former Soviet Union.

HONORING HRANT DINK

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, a little over a year ago, on January 19, 2007, Turkish-Armenian journalist Hrant Dink was murdered for reporting on the Armenian Genocide. The first anniversary of his

death should serve as a reminder of the ongoing need for improvement in Turkish-Armenian relations.

Hrant Dink worked as the editor of "Agos", a bilingual paper designed to reach both Turks and Armenians. He was an outspoken advocate of democratic change and freedom of speech.

While Turkish officials rightly condemned the political killing, Turkey has not yet repealed Article 301 of the Turkish Penal code, which makes it illegal to discuss the Armenian Genocide. This law, which criminalizes free speech, hampers Turkey's efforts to restore their relationship with Armenia, a goal the Turkish government claims to desire.

Hrant Dink's death was more than an assassination; it was an attack on the principle of free speech. Turkish officials should use the anniversary of his death as an opportunity to restore open communication between the citizens of both countries. Lasting reconciliation must be built on uninhibited dialogue and Turkey can begin building the road to restoration by recognizing the Armenian Genocide.

We remember the legacy of Hrant Dink by encouraging Turkey to tolerate democratic freedoms and rebuild their relationship with Armenia.

HONORING PASTER LLOYD
MADDOUX AND HIS WIFE PAT

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor of great community and spiritual leaders, Paster Lloyd Maddoux and his wife Pat for their 25 years of service to the ministry at the First Assembly of God in Conroe, Texas. Pastor Maddoux is a true servant to society and has left a lasting impression on numerous lives.

Pastor Maddoux has touched countless lives—when people are in every season of life. Pastor Maddoux has celebrated with families when he's officiated at their weddings and offered blessing over the birth of a new baby. He's helped new Christian believers grow closer in their walks with their Savior through Bible teachings and baptism. He has helped honor the lives of men and women who have passed away with funerals that celebrated their lives and offered hope of eternity through Jesus Christ.

A Pastor is a servant to his congregation and community. Pastor Maddoux has opened up his home church as a shelter for Hurricane Rita victims, where over 300 people and pets took shelter. He and Pat have opened their home many times to help strangers, neighbors and friends.

Not only has he touched lives in our community, but he has reached out to do missions all over this country, as well as abroad in Mexico, the Philippines, Seoul, Korea, West Africa and Turkey. Pastor Maddoux has also touched lives through participating in prison ministries.

He has served in numerous positions such as the board of Greater Houston Teen Challenge and mission boards for the South Texas District-North Houston Section. Pastor Maddoux was a National Finals Chairman for the Oral Roberts University Educational Fel-

lowship. He is the current Presbyterian of the North Houston Section of the Assemblies of God Ministers and also served as a committee member. He has helped with Lifestyle Ministries Radio and Lifestyle Christian School, which began in 1985. He is the originator of many traditions in our community, such as the National Day of Prayer in Conroe and the Men's Day of Prayer. He was also a manager at the Kids Camp Victory.

Madam Speaker, Pastor Maddoux and his wife Pat are rare individuals whom I respect greatly. Our nation joins me in honoring both of them today for their 25 years of service to our community and First Assembly of God in Conroe, Texas.

IN HONOR OF ROBERT HUBER

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise in tribute to my longtime friend and one-time colleague Robert Huber in recognition of being awarded the Strathearn Lifetime Achievement Award by the Simi Valley Community Foundation.

Bob Huber has been involved in my hometown of Simi Valley, California, for more than 40 years, and I have known him for more than 30 of those years. We worked together on many community projects over the years and served together some decades ago on the Simi Valley City Council.

In addition to his service on the City Council, Bob is past chairman of the Simi Valley Chamber of Commerce, an active member of Rotary Noon Time, and an elected member of the Ventura County Community College District Board of Trustees.

He is also a charter Board Member of the Simi Valley Community Foundation.

It's his passion for the community, and the Community Foundation in particular, for which he is being honored with the Strathearn Lifetime Achievement Award.

Several years ago the Community Foundation nearly closed due to a lack of community identity. Bob is credited with turning that around. His ideas, passion, and drive helped refocus the foundation. Today, it is again growing and thriving. One of Bob's inspirations was the foundation's successful Mayor's Dinner, which he has chaired for the past 3 years. This and other successful events have enabled the foundation to raise and grant monies to other charities annually.

Bob is also a trial lawyer, but nobody's perfect.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking my friend Bob Huber for his decades of service to the community and join the Simi Valley Community Foundation in tribute to a job well done.

HONORING THE LIFE OF U.S.
ARMY SPC JON MICHAEL "MIKE"
SCHOOLCRAFT III

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, on January 19, 2008, the great states of Indiana and Ohio lost a brave son. Army SPC Jon Michael "Mike" Schoolcraft III was killed in Iraq from injuries sustained when his vehicle was struck by an improvised explosive device. A native of Wapakoneta, OH, several members of Specialist Schoolcraft's family currently live in Madison, IN, in Jefferson County.

Mike, as he was known, enlisted in the Army with a friend after graduating from Wapakoneta High School in northwest Ohio in 2001. At Wapakoneta High he excelled at wrestling and baseball, and enjoyed spending time outdoors.

Before embarking on his second 15-month deployment, Schoolcraft promised his mother that this would be his last deployment. He looked forward to finding a stateside military contracting job and living with his new wife.

Specialist Schoolcraft's father, Mike, Jr., described him as a "typical All-American boy." He was a hero to his father. He further described his son as "very respectful" and that the Army took this wonderful young man and made him better.

Before deploying, Schoolcraft told his mother that he was going to Iraq for a reason: to keep his loved ones safe.

SPC Jon Michael Schoolcraft III is a true American hero. His sacrifice for our Nation deserves our most heartfelt thanks. I, along with Specialist Schoolcraft's family, and the towns of Madison, IN, and Wapakoneta, OH, will mourn Mike's premature death. His friends and family are in my prayers.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS TO
REDUCE RISKS OF WILDFIRES TO
FOREST-AREA COMMUNITIES

HON. MARK UDALL

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, January 29, 2008

Mr. UDALL of Colorado. Madam Speaker, Colorado and other Rocky Mountain States face a very real risk of severe wildfires in our forest lands, which directly threaten many communities and critical resources, including water supplies.

There are several reasons. One is drought. Another is past management that over-emphasized fire suppression, even though fire is an inescapable part of the ecology of our western forests, with the result that in many parts of the forests there is an accumulation of underbrush and small-diameter trees greater than would be present if there had been more, smaller fires over the years. They provide the extra fuel that can turn a small fire into an intense inferno.

The problem has been made worse by our growing population and increasing development in the places where communities meet the forests—the "wildland-urban interface." And when you add the effects of widespread