

Committee on Women Offenders in the Correctional System. Using these avenues, Young was able to enact meaningful solutions to a range of issues facing the people of her district and the State of Wisconsin as a whole. Becky Young gave a voice to those women and children who were not being heard in the halls of the State Capitol at the time.

I was honored to serve in the Assembly with Becky from 1993 until 1999. I witnessed firsthand her passion for helping others and improving the lives of those she could reach. It was a privilege to work with as passionate a woman as Becky and her presence will be forever missed at the Capitol in Madison.

Becky's love for helping people has been evident throughout her career as she has always maintained strong ties to the community. The YWCA recognized Becky as a Woman of Distinction for her tireless efforts to improve the quality of life for all women, and the Wisconsin Women's Network named her the 1992 Stateswoman of the Year. She has also been recognized by a variety of other organizations that have benefited from her diligence and volunteerism. Undoubtedly, Becky remains dedicated to the people of Wisconsin.

For her hard work, pioneering leadership, and service to our communities, I join the entire State of Wisconsin in saluting and thanking Becky Young. She is an inspiration to all women and I carry her legacy and mission with me as I fight for all families in our Nation's capital.

INTRODUCTION OF THE DOMESTIC VIOLENCE VOLUNTEER ATTORNEY NETWORK ACT

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. CONYERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing the "Domestic Violence Volunteer Attorney Network Act," legislation that addresses the need to increase legal services for victims of domestic violence by creating a coordinated, nationwide system of attorney referrals to assist domestic violence victims. I am joined in this effort by Representative POE.

Domestic violence continues to be a problem in our country. Nearly one in four women will be a victim of domestic violence in her lifetime, and between three and ten million children witness acts of domestic violence each year. Domestic violence is not just physical but affects every aspect of a woman's life, including her mental and emotional well-being.

In 2005, Congress reauthorized the Violence Against Women Act, continuing programs such as STOP and Legal Assistance for Victims, as well as adding new programs that focus on prevention and services for youth and children.

But there is still a huge gap in services and resources for victims who need help navigating the legal system. Obtaining effective protection orders, initiating divorce proceedings or designing safe child custody arrangements are all key components to stopping the violence, because these are often the first real steps that battered women can take to leave an abusive home.

The problem is not that the resources do not exist; in fact, many lawyers want to volun-

teer their time to provide legal assistance to victims of domestic violence. The problem is in bridging the gap between these willing and able advocates and the victims seeking access to the justice system.

Our bill, the Domestic Violence Volunteer Attorney Network Act, has several components:

Creates an electronic network of volunteer attorneys. The network will be managed by the American Bar Association Commission on Domestic Violence, which will solicit and mentor the lawyers and conduct training and provide other technical assistance.

Authorizes new funds to the National Domestic Violence Hotline to update the system and train advocates on how to provide referrals for voluntary attorneys.

Creates a pilot program to implement the volunteer attorney network in five states. The program will be administered by the Office of Violence Against Women in DOJ. After these five years, if successful, the program will be rolled out nationally.

Establishes a Domestic Violence Legal Advisory Task Force, which will monitor the program and make recommendations.

Mandates a study by the National Institute of Justice to assess the scope and quality of legal services available to battered women in each state. The GAO will report to Congress within one year.

The legislation is supported by a broad range of interests and experts, including the National Network to End Domestic Violence, the Legal Resource Center for Violence Against Women, the National Coalition Against Domestic Violence, the National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges, the ABA, National Legal Aid and Defenders Association, the National Association for Attorneys General, and the National Center for the Victims of Crime.

This legislation is an important next step in our fight to defeat domestic violence and assist victims. A companion bill has been introduced in the Senate by Senators BIDEN and SPECTER. I am hopeful that Congress can move quickly to enact this worthwhile and timely legislation.

HONORING PRESIDENT CHEN SHUI-BIAN

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Ms. FOXX. Madam Speaker, on March 22, 2008, Taiwan elected a new president, Dr. Ma Ying-jeou of the Nationalist Party, effectively ending the era of government rule by the Democratic Progressive Party (DPP). The DPP first came into power with the inauguration of President Chen Shui-bian on May 20, 2000.

During the last 8 years, Chen championed human rights and established the Human Rights Consultation Task Force in the Taiwan Presidential Office in October 2000. The purpose of the task force was to lay the groundwork for the establishment of a national Human Rights Commission. Because of this process, a number of seminars on human rights have been held in Taipei over the last 8 years. Today, Taiwan's 23 million citizens

enjoy human rights protection, a necessary component of any successful democracy.

In addition to the promotion of human rights, Chen was equally committed to using Taiwan's resources to bring aid to less-developed countries in Africa and other parts of the world. Unfortunately, without United Nations membership, Taiwan was denied access to many international organizations which would help coordinate more effective delivery of this aid. During his presidency, Chen continually argued his country's case before the world—that Taiwan's exclusion from the United Nations was a direct violation of the U.N. Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and other international human rights provisions. In the same spirit, Chen never gave up in his efforts to secure observer status for Taiwan in the World Health Assembly. In 2004, the 108th Congress passed a bill, later signed into law, that requires the administration to make it a long-term policy to support Taiwan's participation in the World Health Organization as an observer.

In terms of Taiwan's relations with the People's Republic of China (PRC), Chen has always expressed his willingness to talk to PRC leaders, despite the PRC's passage of the Anti-Secession Law in 2005 and its current deployment of thousands of missiles aimed at Taiwan. Chen sought peace and tranquility across the Taiwan Strait without sacrificing the permanent interests of the Taiwanese people.

Chen also worked closely with the United States Government throughout his administration. He helped reduce the trade imbalance between Taiwan and the United States and cooperated fully with the United States after 9/11 by supporting U.S. antiterrorism efforts in Afghanistan and Iraq and implementing Container Security Initiatives (CSI) in two major ports in Taiwan to enhance the level of security cooperation between Taiwan and the United States. President Chen has always expressed his admiration for American democracy and fondness for the American people.

Chen's accomplishments are many and it is difficult to enumerate them all here. Chen is a patriot who has shown the world that democracy is deeply rooted in Taiwan. This is most evident in the election of Mr. Chen and the DPP in 2000 and the upcoming peaceful, democratic transfer of power to President Ma and his new government this May.

Mr. Chen, you have served your people well and we will miss you.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING ROBERT'S MEN'S SHOP FOR CELEBRATING THEIR 35TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker:

Whereas, Robert's Men's Shop has been providing excellent service to the people of New Philadelphia, Ohio for 35 years; and

Whereas, Robert's Men's Shop has grown and prospered since 1973 through hard work and determination; and

Whereas, Robert's Men's Shop was named 2005 Small Business of the Year by the Tuscarawas County Chamber of Commerce; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Robert's Men's Shop for its contributions to its community and country.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE OF BICYCLING IN TRANSPORTATION AND RECREATION

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 19, 2008

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am pleased to rise in strong support of H. Con. Res. 305, the National Bike Bill. This resolution recognizes the bicycle as an important part of our transportation system. Investing in infrastructure that allows for bicycling produces enriched health, reduced traffic congestion and air pollution, greenhouse gas emission reductions, economic vitality, and an overall improved quality of life.

As the earth continues to warm and gas prices hover around \$4 per gallon, more and more Americans are discovering that bicycling is a smart, healthy, and environmentally sound transportation option. Across the globe—from D.C. to Portland to Paris and beyond—bicycles are being used as a means for people to reduce congestion and pollution and improve both health and quality of life. Locally, communities are seeing that investment in bike lanes and bike boulevards, as well as education on how to ride, are resulting in dramatic increases in ridership. It's time that the Federal Government steps up and becomes a better partner to the States and local governments, giving them the tools and incentives they need to create of complete and healthy communities.

The Federal Government can assist in those efforts by promoting increased bicycle safety, supporting policies that establish national target levels for bicycle use, supporting increased intermodal travel, providing incentives to State and local government, providing flexibility in Federal transportation laws, and encouraging partnerships with employers and executive agencies.

I am pleased that this legislation has over 30 cosponsors from both sides of the aisle. Increased transportation options and a higher quality of life are ideas that everyone can agree on. I strongly urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Con. Res. 305.

HONORING WORLD WAR II STAFF SERGEANT EDDIE JOHNSON

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Staff Sergeant Eddie Johnson of my hometown, Flint Michigan. Eddie Johnson is a World War II veteran and is part of the Honor Flight Network contingent of veterans traveling to Washington DC to visit the National World War II Memorial.

Eddie Johnson joined the United States Army at the age of 18 on May 21, 1941. He

served until January 6, 1946. During his service he taught himself to read and write. He was promoted and became one of the first Black Staff Sergeants in World War II. He was in charge of an Engineering Platoon in the 93rd Division; Company A 318th Engineer Combat Battalion. He served through the Bismarck-Archipelago, New Guinea, and Northern Solomon Campaigns.

He is a Veterans of Foreign Wars—Lifetime Member of the Dr. George Washington Carver Post 3791, Past Post Commander and Member of the American Legion Dorie Miller Post 306. He is honored to have his own display at the Military and Space Museum in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

After his discharge from the Army, Eddie utilized the GI Bill to study tailoring and TV and radio repair. He moved to Flint in 1953 with the intention of starting his own business. Instead, he hired into General Motors V-8 Plant and worked there for 23 years. He went on to become head of security for Genesee County Community Mental Health, worked with the MTA-Your Ride program, and is head of security at Southeast Christian Church. Married to Betty, Eddie has 8 children and 5 step-children. He is the patriarch of a 5 generation family.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in thanking Eddie Johnson for his service to our country and his continuing devotion to the memory of his fellow patriots. May we always treasure men and women like Staff Sergeant Eddie Johnson for their sacrifice and fidelity to our Nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE RETIREMENT OF JANICE KILGORE, DIRECTOR OF THE DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY IN ESCAMBIA COUNTY, FLORIDA

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it is an honor for me to rise today in recognition of Janice Kilgore upon her retirement as the Director of the Department of Public Safety in Escambia County, Florida.

For almost 30 years, Janice Kilgore has altruistically served the civic realm. As Director of the Department of Public Safety, Ms. Kilgore dutifully fills a crucial position that greatly affects the citizens of the area. Her service spans several decades and encompasses a wide range of civic commitment.

In addition to her current position, Ms. Kilgore has dedicated most of her life to serving the interests of the public. Beginning in 1968, Ms. Kilgore worked as a student for the Escambia County Sheriff's Office. Twenty years later she was named the Emergency Management Director for Escambia County. For an area prone to hurricanes and advanced emergency escape routes, Ms. Kilgore's position was no small task. Yet, she maintained a bold persistence and remained in the position for almost 10 years. Now, as director of the Department of Public Safety, Ms. Kilgore continues to protect the living conditions and lives of those in Escambia County. The First District of Florida is incredibly fortunate to have re-

ceived the services provided by Ms. Kilgore. She will be greatly missed upon her retirement.

Madam Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress. I am proud to honor Janice Kilgore for her enduring allegiance to the First District of Florida. I would like to congratulate Ms. Kilgore on her retirement and wish her many more years of success and happiness.

TRIBUTE TO SHIRLEY KISS

HON. JERRY WELLER

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. WELLER of Illinois. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Shirley Kiss, on the occasion of her 80th Birthday. With Shirley's help and leadership, We Care of Grundy County has evolved into an organization that has helped thousands of residents in Grundy County, Illinois. We Care helps residents by giving them rides to medical appointments, help with their bills or by providing emergency babysitting services to residents in need.

Shirley Kiss began her career with We Care as a phone volunteer 2 years after We Care began providing services in 1971. Shirley's talents became quickly evident and she became Secretary of We Care's Steering Committee in 1975. In 1977, Shirley assumed greater responsibilities when she became Chairman of the Steering Committee. As Chairman, Shirley worked to increase We Care's community presence by giving interviews to WCSJ, the local radio station in Morris. Shirley also worked with community organizations and churches in order to find volunteers and build a network of relationships.

Two years after she became Chairman, Shirley was instrumental in helping We Care become incorporated. Because of Shirley's hard work, We Care became "We Care of Grundy County, Inc." on June 12, 1979. For 21 years, until her retirement, Shirley worked as the first full-time paid Administrator of We Care of Grundy County. Shirley continued her involvement with We Care by returning to a volunteer position on the Board of Directors after her 2000 retirement.

As a longtime resident of Morris, I have seen We Care grow and provide needed services to many members of the community. I congratulate Mrs. Shirley Kiss on the occasion of her 80th Birthday and thank her for all of her hard work with We Care of Grundy County.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FOUNDING OF THE CONGRESSIONAL CLUB

HON. DAVID SCOTT

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 20, 2008

Mr. SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express support for House Resolution 1026. For over one hundred years, the Congressional Club has been a place to cultivate friendships among the spouses of sitting or former Members of Congress, Supreme Court