

providing the support they need and wisely funded. We need equity in the education system, wherein resources are allocated based on need, not the current parity-based funding formula that fails to address the needs of each child.

Establishing a system that provides funding according to the needs of each child will get us closer to achieving equity. An equitable, need-based system will provide teachers with insight into the educational needs of each student in their classroom. Equitable funding will direct funds based on the needs of each student. Equitable funding will provide the resources to ensure each student will achieve individual success.

I have re-introduced the Educational Opportunity and Equity Commission Act, H.R. 1758, to begin the process of overhauling the country's education system and to finally address the disparities among America's schools. This legislation creates a national commission charged with gathering public opinions and insights about how government can improve education and eliminate disparities in the education system. Importantly, the Commission's composition would change the nature of the debate because it will be comprised of parents, teachers and experts on equity, civil rights, education policy, school finance, economics, and taxation. All users and beneficiaries of America's education system will work together from the ground up to develop a school reform road map.

As we mark the fifty-fifth anniversary of Brown v. Board of Education, we celebrate the advances we have made and re-affirm our commitment to provide a world-class education to each American child. We must ensure sufficient funding to provide a 21st century education to every child based on the child's individual needs, not categorical averages. I hope you will join me in challenging our leaders to fulfill on their obligation to advance the learning of every child.

HONORING ALAN CARTER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Alan Carter upon his retirement from the City of Modesto Police Department. Mr. Carter will be honored at his retirement party on Friday, May 15, 2009, at the Elks Lodge in Modesto, California.

Alan Carter's first assignment was as a patrol officer for the City of South San Francisco Police Department in 1978. He was there until 1983 when he was transferred to the City of Modesto Police Department. He has been with the Modesto Police Department ever since.

Over the past twenty-five years Sergeant Carter has held many positions. He began in Modesto as a patrol officer, then he was became a K-9 handler, a Heroin Impact Team Member and a Field Training Officer. In 1987, he became a detective. As a detective he worked various investigations including; Vice-Narcotics, background, internal affairs, hate crimes, officer involved shootings, complex economic crime, dignitary protection details and drug asset forfeiture cases. During his dignitary protection service he assisted the

Secret Service and the California Governor's Office. Sergeant Carter served as the Modesto Police Department's court qualified drug expert from 1987 through 1994, where he testified in a large number of possession and possession for sale and sale of drug cases.

In 1995, Sergeant Carter reached the rank of Sergeant and was assigned as a Patrol Sergeant, Operations Division. For the past fourteen years he has worked on Adult Related Establishment Investigations and assisted in clearing out adult businesses in Modesto. He has testified before the California State Assembly regarding Municipalities controlling these sorts of businesses. For a number of years Sergeant Carter served as a Detective Sergeant; working with Investigative Services Division of Crimes Against Persons and Special Investigations Detail. During this time he supervised fifty-three homicide cases and fifteen officer involved shooting investigations. He served as the S.I.D. Supervisor where he oversaw investigations that involved hate crimes, vice investigations, drug asset forfeiture, arson, bomb threats, dignitary protection identity theft and other special fraud investigations. He served as the Assistant Public Information Officer and a Tactical Flight Officer.

From 2005 through 2007, Sergeant Carter was assigned as the Academy Coordinator at the Ray Simon Regional Criminal Justice Training Center. His final position has been Unit Supervisor for the Sacramento Valley Hi-Tech Crimes Task Force; he has investigated computer crimes and forensics, including Hi-Tech, identity theft and Internet Crimes Against Children. In addition to all of the work that he has performed for the police department, Sergeant Carter has been working with the Honor and Color Guard since 1985. He has lead a team of twelve officers for police officer funerals, memorials and city functions.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Sergeant Alan Carter upon his retirement from the City of Modesto Police Department. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Sergeant Carter many years of continued success.

MEDAL OF HONOR COMMEMORATIVE COIN ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. I rise before you today in order to show my support for H.R. 1209, "Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Act of 2009." The coins minted as a result of this legislation will be in recognition and celebration of the establishment of the Medal of Honor in 1861, America's highest award for valor in action against an enemy force which can be bestowed upon an individual serving in the Armed Services of the United States, to honor the American military men and women who have been recipients of the Medal of Honor, and to promote awareness of what the Medal of Honor represents and how ordinary Americans, through courage, sacrifice, selfless service and patriotism, can challenge fate and change the course of history.

In these times of war and economic uncertainty I think it is important to honor those who

served America to their greatest capacity. Moreover, recognition of this great honor will foster patriotism and inspire and encourage the youth of America to become worthy citizens.

Only those who performed a deed of personal bravery or self-sacrifice so conspicuous as to clearly distinguish the individual above his or her comrades and must have involved risk of life can receive a Medal of Honor. Incontestable proof of the performance of the service will be exacted and each recommendation for the award of this decoration will be considered on the standard of extraordinary merit. This award is so prestigious that fewer than 3,500 Medals of Honor have been awarded to members of the United States Armed Forces.

The Medal of Honor Commemorative Coin Act of 2009 as passed would direct the Secretary of the Treasury to mint and issue \$5 gold coins and \$1 silver coins emblematic of the design selected by the Secretary, after consultation with the Boards of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society and the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation, in honor of the distinguished service of the American military men and women who have been Medal of Honor recipients.

The design for the coins minted under this Act will contain motifs that represent the 3 Medal of Honor designs (Army, Navy, and Air Force) and specifically honor the Medal of Honor recipients of both today and yesterday, such designs that are consistent with the traditions and heritage of the United States Armed Services, the mission and goals of the Congressional Medal of Honor Society, and the mission and goals of the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation.

The coins will only be available for a limited time. The period for coin issuance will be for the calendar year 2011. The coins minted under this Act shall be legal tender, however coins minted under this Act shall be issued in uncirculated and proof qualities.

The treasury will only be producing no more than 100,000 \$5 gold coins and no more than 500,000 \$1 coins. I think it is wonderful that the surcharges imposed for the purchase of these coins will be distributed to the Congressional Medal of Honor Foundation to help finance educational, scholarship, and outreach programs of the Foundation.

SUPPORT FOR DESIGNATING FEDERAL BUILDING AFTER RONALD H. BROWN

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to express my appreciation and excitement that the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works has passed my bill, H.R. 837, which would designate a new State Department building in New York City as the Ronald H. Brown United States Mission to the United Nations Building in honor of the late Commerce Secretary. The 26-story building, located at 799 United Nations Plaza, across the street from the United Nations (U.N.) General Assembly, will house the United States Delegation to the U.N., which carries out the

Nation's participating activities in the world body. The building is expected to be completed this fall.

This legislation, which I have introduced in the past three Congresses, is long overdue. Thanks to the leadership of Chairman BARBARA BOXER of the Senate Committee on Environment and Public Works, and the support of my New York colleague, Senator KIRSTEN GILLIBRAND, who serves on the Committee, the bill now awaits passage by the full Senate. If successful, it would go to the President to be signed into law. I feel very hopeful that Congress will finally and rightfully recognize this great public servant as one of the greatest international salesmen of the United States in our history.

As Secretary of Commerce under President Bill Clinton's cabinet, Ron Brown became one of the greatest ambassadors that the American government ever had abroad. He did more than just extend trade and get people to buy our goods and services. He extended love, attention and sensitivity, especially in the developing countries where our government had not spent the time that we should have. Secretary Brown not only sold our wares, but he was able to sell our reputation as a country that wanted to help other countries.

I went with him to South Africa and saw how he negotiated with political leaders there. He did more than talk about which South African party was right or wrong or how to bring about solidarity. He asked how we could help the people get clean water, medicine, and food. Secretary Brown let them know that our multinational companies were there not just for their shareholders, but for the shareholders of the world.

Secretary Brown, a native of Washington, D.C., grew up in Harlem where his father once worked as manager of the community's famous Theresa Hotel. I was proud to be a desk clerk at the time that Ron and his family were living there. So I know that Ron never forgot Harlem. Throughout his life, Ron Brown broke many barriers. He was the first African-American to serve as Secretary of Commerce and the first African-American Chairman of a national political party.

In addition, he advanced civil rights as Deputy Executive Director at the National Urban League, served four years in the U.S. military, and, as Democratic Party Chairman, played an instrumental role in the revival of the Democratic Party and the 1992 election of Bill Clinton as President of the United States. Secretary Brown died in a plane crash in 1996 on a trade mission requested by the State Department to boost economic reconstruction of the war torn region of former Yugoslavia.

It would be fitting that when people come to New York, they would see diverse peoples of different colors, languages, and cultures, and the U.S. Mission to the United Nations Building bearing Ron Brown's name. There could not be a sight that would be more reminiscent of the man and the contributions he made to my community, this country, and the world.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE WALTER HIERSTEINER

HON. DENNIS MOORE

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 14, 2009

Mr. MOORE of Kansas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to my longtime, good friend, Walter Hiersteiner. He was an outstanding community leader in the Kansas City metropolitan area. A resident of Prairie Village, Kansas, Walt died on May 2nd at the age of 90, having lived a rich, full life that made a positive difference in the lives of his many friends and neighbors.

Walt was born in Des Moines, Iowa, and attended the University of Iowa and Harvard Law School, where he was a member of the law review. After serving in the Navy in World War II, he moved to Kansas City to practice law and later joined Tension Envelope, where he became vice chairman of the board of directors. Walt's first love was his family, especially his wife, Jean, and his grandchildren, to whom he was unconditionally devoted.

Walt was also devoted to his community. He was elected to the City Council of Fairway, Kansas. He served over 40 years on the Menorah Medical Center Board of Directors and was a member of the Executive Committee of the Truman Medical Center and the Truman Medical Center Foundation. He was active in the Kansas City Chamber of Commerce and the Overland Park Chamber of Commerce and was a member of the Board of Directors of Move-Up, which was formerly the Kansas City Ad Hoc Group Against Crime. He was a founding member of the Main Street Coalition. His passions, after family and golf, were enhancing public school education for the children of Shawnee Mission and the State of Kansas. He was elected to the Shawnee Mission School District Board of Education. He was appointed by Governor Robert Docking to serve on the Kansas Board of Regents and became chairman of that board. In addition he was co-chairman of the Committee for Excellence of the Shawnee Mission Schools and served on the Board of Governors of Kansas University Law School and the Kansas Higher Education Loan Program. These activities earned him the Kansas City Spirit Award and the Shawnee Mission Education Foundation Patron Award for service and support of Johnson County Schools. He was named Johnson County of the Year. Walt and Jean established the Walter and Jean Hiersteiner Early Childhood Development Center at the Johnson County Community College.

Walt is survived by Jean, his wife of 65 years; four children, Dick and Erica Hiersteiner of Boston, Massachusetts, Mary and David Ruedig of Concord, New Hampshire, Joe and Cathy Hiersteiner of Kansas City, and Dottie and Peter Oatman of Boulder, Colorado; nine grandchildren and his brother, Stanley of Des Moines, Iowa; his sister Shirley Feldman of Sleepy Hollow, New York, and several nieces and nephews.

Madam Speaker, Walt Hiersteiner was a vitally important community leader and activist in the Third Congressional District of Kansas, as well as my personal friend for many years. I include with this tribute two press articles that detail some of his many accomplishments for our community; a 2002 column in the Kan-

sas City Business Journal by former Kansas City Board of Trade President/CEO Michael Braude, and an article that the Kansas City Star carried upon Walt's death. Both detail the impact that Walt Hiersteiner had upon the Kansas City community, and explain why he will be sorely missed by all of us.

[From the Kansas City Business Journal, Sept. 27, 2002]

LOCAL EXECUTIVE LEAVES HIS MARK ON HEALTH CARE, EDUCATION (By Michael Braude)

I am not bad at hyperbole—but hyperbole is impossible when it comes to the subject of today's column.

"Role model," "pillar of our community," "business leader with a true social conscience" all fail to do justice to Walter Hiersteiner. His considerable accomplishments in the business world as a top executive at Tension Envelope Corp. are eclipsed only by his pivotal role in making our community a better place. His imprint on health and education in the heartland is indelible.

John W. Bluford, CEO at Truman Medical Centers, said:

"Walter Hiersteiner has been a tremendous asset to Truman Medical Centers for a number of years and in a number of ways. In addition to his financial support, which has provided, among other gifts, scholarships for nurses, he has given moral support and advice to TMC through his formal roles as member of the TMC board of directors and TMC Charitable Foundation. But most of all, Walt has acted as conscience, sage, statesman and mentor. He is our 'go to' man, and when we go to him, he always delivers."

At all levels of education, Walter has left his positive imprint. Marjorie Kaplan, superintendent of the Shawnee Mission School District, told me recently:

"Walt is a truly fine person with many talents. He has a passion for learning and is an articulate spokesperson for providing a quality education for all children. He understands the connection between public schooling and quality of life. Ever interested and ever active, Walt has never lost his enthusiasm for supporting just causes and improving our community."

"A longtime supporter of our school district, Walt has served on the Shawnee Mission Board of Education and as chairperson and member of numerous committees. With his sharp mind, his ability to analyze situations and solve problems, Walt has been an asset to Shawnee Mission for over 30 years."

It was on school issues that I first met Walter, and I now have been privileged to call him friend for more than 30 years. Before unification, when I ran for the old Westwood View School Board, it was his sage counsel that enabled me to win the election. Now, more than three decades later, when I want to know what is really going on at any level of education in our area, I call Walt. Walt also calls me. Since I've been writing for The Business Journal, he never hesitates to call when he either agrees or disagrees with my point of view. Frankly, when the latter is the case, I always pause and ask myself: "Was I wrong?" This is simply because I have so much respect for his judgment and opinions. Walt's position on issues or candidates is never based on ideology or party affiliation but rather on what he believes is best for the people of Kansas City. That is precisely how it should be.

Walter's longtime friend Paul Uhlmann Jr. captured the essence of the man when he said:

"Walter has had a major effect on life in greater Kansas City. His high offices held, in many diverse organizations, are proof of his ability and of his stature. However, his real