

and fees of expert witnesses and the reasonable costs of any test or evaluation which is found to be necessary for the preparation of the parent or guardian's case." For years, prevailing parents were awarded expert witness fees, as Congress intended. But unfortunately, while Congress was very clear in its explanation of the bill, it did not include this provision in the legislative language. In 2006, the provision was challenged and the Supreme Court ruled that because Congress did not make its intention explicit in statute, courts could no longer award these fees.

IDEA guarantees students with disabilities a free and appropriate education. But, as a result of this decision, parents can be faced with many thousands of dollars of expert witness fees in order to ensure their child gets the education plan he needs. A single expert witness can charge anywhere from \$100–\$300 per hour. Confronted with these costs, parents are discouraged or outright barred from bringing meritorious cases to secure the rights of their children. Low-and middle-income families are particularly hard hit.

Today, I introduce a bill to clarify Congress's intent and restore the expert witness fee provisions. It will allow parents to recover the high cost of expert witnesses if, and only if, they win their dispute with the school district. I want to be very clear—this bill does not impose any additional costs on school districts that comply with IDEA. The provisions apply only when a school system has been found, after an impartial hearing, to have wrongfully denied a child an appropriate education as defined in IDEA.

Madam Speaker, we must ensure that we keep the promise of IDEA and provide every child with a free and appropriate education. This bill will level the playing field and help parents be effective advocates for their children's best interests.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN A. YARMUTH

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. YARMUTH. Mr. Speaker, I was unable to cast the recorded vote for rollcall 293, H.J. Res. 40, On Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass. Had I been present I would have voted "yes" for this measure.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE DECALOGUE SOCIETY ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Madam Speaker I rise today to thank and congratulate the Decalogue Society of Lawyers, which this year celebrates its 75th anniversary.

Founded in 1934 to fight anti-Semitism and other forms of discrimination and intolerance, the Decalogue Society has a proud record of achievement. It is the oldest Jewish Bar Association in the United States, representing the values and concerns of the Jewish community

while working to protect the rights and privileges of all Americans.

All of us are proud to be a nation of laws, and we strive to ensure that "equal justice under the law" is not just a motto but a reality. The Decalogue Society recognizes that lawyers play an essential role in maintaining a free society committed to equal justice. It works to ensure that we as a nation understand and value the role of the legal profession in reaching that goal, even as its lawyers participate in social action and cooperate in diverse movements for the public welfare.

Access to competent legal representation is an essential ingredient for making sure that the laws of the land are just and fairly enforced. The Decalogue Society extends critical educational and financial support to those lawyers who work to end discrimination and represent the rights of the most vulnerable among us. The Decalogue Foundation was created in the 1960s to provide scholarships for deserving law students. It has established nine endowment funds at the Hebrew University Law School and six Chicago-area law schools. It also provides free continuing legal education to assist members and non-members alike in becoming better informed lawyers.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in congratulating the Decalogue Society for its commitment to the ideals of religious freedom and racial tolerance and for its efforts to encourage and assist those women and men who want to pursue future legal careers in public service. Chicago, Illinois and the United States all benefit from its activities and from its commitment to the principles of law and equality.

MARISSA GARCIA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Marissa Garcia who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Marissa Garcia is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Marissa Garcia 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 Marissa Garcia 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 academic career to her future accomplishments.

IN MEMORY OF F. P. SIEDENTOPF

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I am honored to have this oppor-

tunity to recognize the life and service of Frederick Paul Siedentopf. A 31-year veteran of the United States Marine Corps, Mr. Siedentopf passed away on May 25th, Memorial Day. He served with honor and distinction as an avionics technician throughout the later part of the 20th Century including active roles during the Vietnam War and the Cold War. His service and commitment to this Nation earned him broad respect by his fellow Marines as well as the Good Conduct Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal, the Navy Commendation Medal, and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Following his retirement as a Master Gunnery Sergeant in 1990, Siedentopf was determined to continue to give back to his country. He remained active in numerous community organizations as well as being an avid contributor to local newspapers with his frequent letters to the editor. The people of Beaufort, South Carolina were honored to have had an individual of Siedentopf's character as part of their community for several years.

Our thoughts and prayers are with his wife Judy, their two daughters, Cindy and Debra, two grandchildren, and three great grandchildren. As we paused to recognize the service and sacrifice of so many brave Americans on Memorial Day, it is fitting that we remember the lifetime of service by Frederick Paul Siedentopf. Our Nation is blessed to have men and women of such commitment and love for their country.

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF THE REGIONAL WINNERS OF THE AMERICAN ADVERTISING FEDERATION'S 2009 NATIONAL STUDENT ADVERTISING COMPETITION

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the regional winners of the American Advertising Federation's 2009 National Student Advertising Competition.

Of the 142 schools that participated in this year's contest, 18 regional winners are gathering during the first week of June in our nation's capital for the final competition. The teams proudly represent the following distinguished colleges and universities: the University of California, Berkeley; Johnson & Wales University; The George Washington University; Syracuse University; University of Virginia; Florida State University; Ohio University; Columbia College Chicago; Northwood University; The University of Alabama; University of Minnesota; the University of Nebraska-Lincoln; Texas Tech University; Portland State University; Art Center Design College-Tucson; Hawai'i Pacific University; Chapman University; and Texas Christian University.

This highly respected contest is the nation's leading competitive program to showcase emerging student talent in the advertising field. Each year, student advertising clubs at colleges and universities across the nation compete to create a winning integrated advertising campaign for the competition's sponsor.

The 2009 competition challenge is particularly innovative. For the first time in the 36 year history of the competition, the students

are being asked to tackle a social issue via public service advertising. This year's contest is focused on preventing binge drinking—a dangerous activity commonplace on many college and university campuses that all too often leads to grave and tragic consequences.

To understand how serious of a problem this is, you need only look at recent statistics. According to the Monitoring The Future Study, 40 percent of college students reported binge drinking in the past year. Tragically, this alarming statistic has remained relatively unchanged since 1993. In addition, numerous studies confirm excessive drinking by college students can lead to difficulty concentrating, memory lapses, mood changes as well as other problems that impact a person's daily life. Binge drinking also carries more serious risks such as alcohol poisoning, and physical and mental health issues such as lower brain function, personality changes, depression and even alcoholism.

I commend the competition sponsor and organizers for tackling this importance issue that jeopardizes the health and safety of so many of our young people. This year's competition was made possible due to the collaborative efforts of the Century Council, the competition's sponsor, the Ad Council and the American Council on Education.

Madam Speaker, on the occasion of the competition's national finals in the Washington, D.C. area June 4–5, I ask my colleagues to please join me in recognizing these remarkable students for their contribution to attacking the critical issue of binge drinking and for their talents, creativity and hard work. Each team spent many months developing their concepts, testing their messages on campus and creating evaluation criteria. Their winning concepts will not only provide fresh and innovative ideas for a communications campaign, but will also help us to better understand how to fight this serious problem. It is also my hope that long after this year's competition ends the participants and their universities will continue their work on this topic by sharing their messages with fellow students. Together, we can save lives by reducing binge drinking on college campuses.

IN HONOR OF VENTURA COUNTY
UNDERSHERIFF CRAIG HUSBAND

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Craig Husband, Undersheriff for the Ventura County, California, Sheriff's Department, who retires Friday after more than 32 years with the department and 10 years as Undersheriff.

During his tenure, Undersheriff Husband made his mark on literally every aspect of the Sheriff's Department. His assignments have included custody, patrol, personnel, narcotics and crime prevention. He has commanded the Sheriff's Training Academy and the Major Crimes and Narcotics Bureaus.

In 1997, Husband became Chief of Police for the City of Camarillo, which contracts with the Sheriff's Department for law enforcement services. Chief Husband developed, implemented or expanded National Night Out,

Neighborhood Watch, Stranger Danger, Mobile Police Storefronts, Kidprint, Citizen Patrol, foot patrol, bike patrol, horse patrol, the Citizen Academy and tactical crime analysis, among other programs.

In June of 1999, he was appointed Undersheriff. In that post, second only to the Sheriff, Husband oversees a \$200 million budget and a 1,200-person department with 750 sworn peace officers. Undersheriff Husband's responsibilities also include the coordination of the Sheriff's Department's four divisions—Detention Services, Patrol Services, Special Services and Support Services. These four divisions include the jails, court security, five patrol contract cities, disaster preparedness, the Air Unit and Search and Rescue.

Undersheriff Husband's commitment and professionalism has not gone unnoticed. Sheriff Bob Brooks was recently quoted as calling Undersheriff Husband a "loyal and helpful partner and friend" whom he would trust with his life.

Undersheriff Husband serves as a volunteer on numerous boards, including the Camarillo Healthcare District, Camarillo Breakfast Rotary and the Camarillo Boys and Girls Club. He was selected as the 1999 Public Servant of the Year by the Camarillo Chamber of Commerce.

He was named the Tri-Counties Narcotics Officer of the Year and the State of California (region 6) Narcotics Officer of the Year. He also was awarded the Medal of Merit for bravery and is a lifetime member of the Professional Baseball Players Association. Undersheriff Husband holds a sixth-degree black belt and is considered one of the foremost authorities of that discipline in the world.

Madam Speaker, I know my colleagues will join me in thanking Undersheriff Craig Husband for his decades of dedication, professionalism and service to the Ventura County Sheriff's Department and the people it serves, and in wishing Craig and his wife, Cecilia, a long and productive retirement.

AUSTIN GALLEGOS

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Austin Gallegos who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Austin Gallegos is an 8th grader at Arvada Middle School and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Austin Gallegos 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 Austin Gallegos for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication he has shown in his academic career to his future accomplishments.

WESLEY WILSON

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Wesley Wilson of Weston, Missouri. Wesley is 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 249, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Wesley has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Wesley 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 Wesley Wilson for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING MAYOR ANDY
WAMBSGANSS

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. MARCHANT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a great friend and tremendous public servant, former Mayor Andy Wambsganss, for his years of service to the City of Southlake and the North Texas region.

Since assuming the mayor's office in 2003, Mayor Wambsganss guided Southlake with an immense degree of dedication, passion and competence. He served as mayor for nine years, from 2003 to 2009, and prior to his mayoral tenure he served on the Southlake City Council, as Mayor Pro Tem, and as a judge in the community. Andy has always strived to better his community, and his broad experience served his constituents well.

Under Andy's principled leadership and sound management, the City of Southlake experienced tremendous economic growth while at the same time maintained the city's unique small town charm. He managed the city with great efficiency and responsible fiscal discipline. Andy selflessly served the City of Southlake for many years, and his positive impact on the city will long endure in the future.

Throughout the years, Andy Wambsganss contributed his expertise to many local and regional organizations. He was President of Southlake Crime Control and Prevention; on the Southlake Teen Court Board of Directors; Director of the Airport YMCA; Director of Metroport Cities Fellowship; member of the Tarrant County Mayor's Forum; member of the Northeast Leadership Forum; and much more.

Andy Wambsganss is a longtime resident of Southlake, a kind and apt public servant, and a family man. His wife, Leigh, and their two boys, are involved in many community and philanthropic endeavors.

It is a distinct privilege to call Andy a friend of mine. He has been an outstanding public servant to the City of Southlake and his honest leadership will be sorely missed. On behalf