

Parks' research and monitoring programs as well as their education and outreach activities, and it authorizes a small amount of core funding needed to support their important work. I look forward to working with my colleagues in both parties and both Chambers of Congress to bring this bill to the President's desk as soon as possible.

HONORING ANNUAL SUSAN G.
KOMEN RACE FOR THE CURE

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 3, 2009

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Con. Res. 109, honoring the 20th Anniversary of the Susan G. Komen Race for the Cure in the Nation's Capital and its transition to the Susan G. Komen Global Race for the Cure on June 6, 2009. I'd like to thank Chairman WAXMAN and the gentleman from Virginia, Representative CONNOLLY, for bringing this resolution to the Floor today. It is my strong hope that twenty years from today we will be celebrating the cure and marveling at all the lives that have been saved.

Breast cancer is the most frequently diagnosed cancer in women worldwide, with more than 1.3 million diagnosed each year. It is also the leading cause of death among women, 465,000 die each year worldwide. Breast cancer is a disease that knows no boundaries based on age, ethnicity, geographic location or socio-economic status. Fortunately, the United States has 2.5 million breast cancer survivors and we need to work together to educate our community and encourage participation in screenings and mammograms.

Madam Speaker, Nancy Brinker promised her dying sister, Susan G. Komen, that she would do everything possible to eradicate breast cancer. By launching Susan G. Komen for the Cure in 1982, a movement began and more than \$1.3 billion in breast cancer research, education, and community health services has been invested by this organization. Today, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the largest grassroots network fighting breast cancer and is led by thousands of survivors. Local activists are present in 125 communities and have mobilized one million friends for events such as the Komen Race for the Cure. Komen is a unique organization where 75 percent of the net proceeds stay in the communities where they were raised. The remaining 25 percent of the funds are given to Komen's National Grant Program, an innovative leader in breast cancer research. Because of publicly and privately funded research, the five-year survival rate for women with localized breast cancer has increased. In the 1950s, the survival rate was 80 percent and last year the survival rate grew to 98 percent. Last year, the Komen Race for the Cure raised an unprecedented \$3.7 million in the National Capital area. As the National Race for the Cure becomes the Global Race for the Cure, we will work with our partners around the world to eradicate breast cancer, a disease that affects everyone in some way.

As we celebrate the 20th Anniversary of the Race for the Cure in the Nation's Capital, we

will not rest until a cure is found. I urge all Members to join me in supporting H. Con. Res. 109 and honor the women and men who have lost their lives to breast cancer, and celebrate the survivors and friends who are participating in the Global Race for the Cure. I yield the remainder of my time.

SAMANTHA GREEN

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 Samantha Green who has received the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Samantha Green is an 8th grader at Moore Middle School and received this award because her determination and hard work have allowed her to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Samantha Green 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 Samantha Green 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.

MINNESOTA INDEPENDENT
SCHOOL DISTRICT 197 150TH AN-
NIVERSARY

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Minnesota Independent School District 197 (ISD197) on the occasion of its 150th Anniversary. For nearly as long as Minnesota has been a state, the school district has provided high quality public education to generations of students in what are now the communities of West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Lilydale, Mendota, Sunfish Lake, Eagan and Inver Grove Heights.

In 1852, pioneers began to settle in the area now known as the city of West St. Paul. In 1856, the township of West St. Paul and the village of Mendota Heights were formed. As families grew, the need for schools to provide public education for their children became clear. Early on, twelve students were taught by Miss Margaret Brown in the first single-room schoolhouse built in 1859 near what is now the border of West St. Paul and Mendota Heights. The school was relocated in 1863 to the current site of Somerset Elementary School on land donated by Minnesota's first Governor, Henry Sibley. By 1957, schools had grown so large in West St. Paul, Mendota Heights and Eagan, that they were consolidated into Independent School District 197.

For 150 years, the public schools serving West St. Paul, Mendota Heights, Lilydale,

Mendota, Sunfish Lake, Eagan, and Inver Grove Heights have given our children the ability to learn, grow, and follow the American dream. Today, the school district operates five elementary schools, two middle schools and one high school, serving approximately 4,500 students in the surrounding communities. In keeping with the spirit of the early pioneers who traveled the world to settle in this part of Minnesota, students in the district come from all over the world, speaking more than a dozen languages. Faculty, staff, and the community are all working hard to prepare students to compete globally in the 21st Century.

This past April, I had the opportunity to tour several schools in the district with Superintendent Jay Haugen. I visited classes with teachers and students ready and eager to learn and also saw inventive programs such as a lunchroom reuse and recycling project at Heritage Middle School that won a national Energy Star Award.

Public education in our schools is an integral part of our community and our nation, providing a world class opportunity for young people to become engaged citizens who will support a strong democracy and compete in an international economy.

Today in honor of the students, parents, families, community members, teachers and staff in ISD197 public schools, I submit this statement for the official CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. I would like to personally congratulate the school district for 150 years of providing high quality public education in our community, and look forward to celebrating milestones in public education in the years to come.

FILM AND TELEVISION
EXPENSING LEGISLATION

HON. JOSEPH CROWLEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. CROWLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague from California, Congressman DAVID DREIER, to introduce legislation to amend Federal tax law to allow for the immediate tax write-off of the first \$15 million (or \$20 million in those select cases where the production is made in a distressed community) of production expenditures for qualifying domestic film and television productions.

This provision, Section 181 of the Internal Revenue Code, was first enacted in the American Jobs Creation Act of 2004 and extended in 2008. It was added to protect the U.S. television and film industry that is increasingly filming in foreign locations, such as Canada.

In so doing, Congress recognized the important contribution our television and film production industries make to sustaining jobs in communities across the country. These productions provide good jobs not just for actors, writers and directors, but also for the local carpenters and electricians, the drivers and equipment operators, the caterers and hotel keepers who provide services to these productions.

Adoption of Section 181 also represented Congressional recognition of the fact that this vital sector faces increasing competition from foreign production companies whose governments subsidize television and film production.

In 2001, the Commerce Department's International Trade Administration reported that made-for-television production of "movies of the week" in the U.S. had declined by 33 percent since 1995 and that production at foreign locations increased by 55 percent.

The Directors Guild of America noted at the time that "globalization, rising costs, foreign wage, tax and financing incentives, and technological advances, combined are causing a substantial transformation of what used to be a quintessentially American industry into an increasingly dispersed global industry."

Section 181 of the Internal Revenue Code allows production companies to deduct the cost of qualified U.S. productions immediately rather than capitalizing the costs and deducting them slowly over time.

The incentive accelerates the timing of deduction but it does not change the amount of the deduction. In order to qualify, at least 75 percent of the total compensation paid for the production must be for services performed in the U.S. by actors, directors, producers and other production staff personnel. The deduction applies to the first \$15 million (\$20 million for productions in low income communities or distressed area or isolated area of distress) of a qualified film or television production. The cost of the production above the dollar limitation is capitalized and recovered under the taxpayer's method of accounting.

I believe that this was an appropriately targeted provision, designed to encourage television and film producers to stay here in the United States and keep those jobs in our communities. In the last decades, New York City and in particular my home borough of Queens has seen a resurgent television and film production sector bring new jobs and revenue into the community. This bill will help to ensure that those jobs stay here in the U.S.

The Center for Entertainment Industry Data and Research's Year 2005 Production Report concluded that Section 181 "is having a positive effect on television production in the U.S." Since 2004, it reported that made-for-television movie production in the U.S. increased by 42 percent, while it fell in Canada by 15 percent.

Along with my Republican sponsor, Congressman DAVID DREIER of California and myself who hails from Queens, New York, the television and film industries are both major employers and major tax providers to our local, state and national economies. This legislation works to protect these industries and stem the flood of production to non-U.S. locations.

Section 181 will expire in 2009. It ought to be made a permanent provision of our tax code in order to keep television and film production jobs in the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE BUDDY CAMP
OF ALEXANDRIA, LA

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Buddy Camp of Alexandria, La., for enhancing the quality of life for many of this community's youth. I am privileged to have such a dedicated and compassionate group of individuals in my district.

Buddy Camp was founded by Stacey Debevic for her own son, Kyle Debevic, who is bound to a wheelchair. Working as a pediatric occupational therapist and as the mother of a physically limited child, Stacey noticed there was little to no opportunity for children with disabilities to enjoy the experience of attending summer camp.

After many years of planning, Buddy Camp was officially launched in the summer of 1999. Today, Buddy Camp is a community-wide project that allows children ages 5–12, both with and without developmental challenges, to participate in a week-long summer day camp. Held at the United Methodist Church of Alexandria, the camp places participants into buddy pairs to foster and develop friendships, as well as build confidence.

As Buddy Camp looks forward to celebrating its 10th anniversary, the number of young people that have truly benefitted from the unique opportunities this program provides continues to grow.

I hope my colleagues will join me in recognizing the outstanding achievements of the Buddy Camp.

HONORING ARON MICHAEL WALLIS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Aron Michael Wallis 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 145, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

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

A TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN HOPE
FRANKLIN

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a truly outstanding North Carolinian, Dr. John Hope Franklin. As we grieve his loss, we also celebrate his life and commitment to bettering his world as a distinguished scholar, historian, author, professor, and man of rare and outstanding character.

Madam Speaker, during his 94 remarkable years, John Hope Franklin worked for equality and understanding, and his immeasurable contributions to the world in these capacities shall never fade. We will not forget the goodness, humility, and passionate giving that defined the life of John Hope Franklin. As we

mourn his loss, may God continue to bless all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
IMMACULATE CONCEPTION CA-
THEDRAL IN BROWNSVILLE,
TEXAS

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2009

Mr. ORTIZ. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of the Immaculate Conception Cathedral with a celebration scheduled on June 8 in Brownsville, Texas.

The Immaculate Conception Cathedral, the Diocese of Brownsville's most historical church, traces its roots to a small wooden church that served as the first church in Brownsville.

In 1850, Father Adrien Pierre Telmon, one of the first Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate to come to Brownsville, built a small wooden church between Adams and Jefferson streets that accommodated about 300 people. The first mass was celebrated on June 29, 1850, and three years later Father Jean Marie Casimir Verdet started the design and construction of a larger church to replace the temporary wooden structure.

The cornerstone to the cathedral was laid on July 6, 1856, and over 250,000 clay bricks were made for the church in the village of Santa Rosalia, about three miles east of the old town site of Brownsville.

The church was completed in 1859 and blessed by Father Augustin Gaudet on June 12, 1859; 10 years after the Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate first arrived in the Valley. The church was credited with being the largest in Texas at the time. The rectory behind the church was the site of the first Texas Oblate seminary and served as a haven for priests fleeing revolutions in Mexico.

The historical church was elevated to a cathedral in 1874 when the large Texas diocese was divided and the Vicariate Apostolic of Brownsville was established. It remained as such until 1912 when the Vicariate Apostolic of Brownsville was converted into the Dioceses of Corpus Christi.

The Immaculate Conception church was designated a Cathedral again in 1965 by Bishop Adolph Marx upon the creation of the Diocese of Brownsville. The church, built in a Gothic Revival style, became a reality through the generous contributions of its parishioners throughout the years. The utmost care and detail went into the construction of the church. The ceiling is of specially prepared canvas painted blue, and at one time it was covered with gold stars. The pulpit was built in native Mesquite by a local cabinetmaker and a concealed spiral stair provided access to the pulpit.

In 1970, the original altar, rail and two chan-deliers were removed from the cathedral in an effort to modernize the church when the present altar was built. Time has taken its toll on this historic church. However, just as early Catholics came to its aid in its early days, they are doing the same in the twenty-first century.