

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF
MAJOR KEVIN M. JENRETTE

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to recognize the life of a heroic American citizen, Major Kevin M. Jenrette.

Major Jenrette, of Lula, Georgia, died in Afghanistan on June 4, 2009, of injuries sustained when an IED detonated near his military vehicle followed by small arms fire. He is survived by his wife and children in Lula and his parents in Auburn, Alabama.

Like all those who have paid the ultimate sacrifice in this conflict, words cannot express the sense of sadness we have for his family, and the gratitude our country feels for his service. Major Jenrette died serving the United States and the entire cause of liberty, on a mission to bring stability to a troubled region and liberty to a formerly oppressed people. He was a true patriot indeed.

We will forever hold him closely in our hearts, and remember his sacrifice and that of his family as a remembrance of his bravery and willingness to serve. Thank you, Madam Speaker, for the House's remembrance on this mournful day.

INTRODUCTION OF THE VETERANS
HOME LOAN REFINANCE OPPOR-
TUNITY ACT OF 2009

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act of 2009. This bipartisan legislation improves the federal Qualified Veterans Mortgage Bonds (QVMB) program to allow eligible states to use tax-free bond proceeds to refinance the home mortgages of our military veterans.

This legislation is necessary during our troubled economic times. QVMB home loan financing was not available to newly discharged veterans returning home from Iraq and Afghanistan until passage of the Heroes Earning Assistance Relief Tax Act of 2008 (H.R. 6081) in the 110th Congress.

Prior to 2008, some veterans may have taken out adjustable-rate mortgages (ARM) to

purchase a home during the real estate boom earlier in the decade. It is only fair to them that they have the same opportunity as newly discharged veterans to take advantage of the low-interest, fixed rate mortgages available through QVMB financing.

For some veterans with a costly ARM or interest-only mortgage, this legislation could prevent a foreclosure.

Finally, Madam Speaker, this legislation includes an inflation index to ensure the QVMB veterans home loan program remains viable in the future.

I urge passage of the Veterans Home Loan Refinance Opportunity Act.

RECOGNIZING MEMORIAL DAY

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2009

Mr. LANGEVIN. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to add my voice to the millions across the nation to honor Memorial Day and the bravery and sacrifices of our troops and veterans—especially the men and women who have paid the ultimate price for defending our freedom. Since the founding of our nation, the members of our armed forces have been charged with defending liberty, a job that they carry out with honor and distinction every day.

Without concern for their own safety, they have stormed the beaches of Normandy and Okinawa. They have protected the people of Seoul and held Saigon against the Tet offensive. And today, they valiantly serve in Iraq and Afghanistan. I know firsthand of these ongoing sacrifices. As a member of the Armed Services and Intelligence Committees, I participate daily in meetings and hearings where I am reminded of their tireless efforts, devotion and dedication to our nation. I was fortunate to witness their professionalism and extraordinary service on the front lines during a recent visit to Iraq and Afghanistan over the Memorial Day recess. Talking with soldiers from my home district was especially moving as it served to remind me of the uncommon courage and dedication that can come from small towns and local communities all across America. I want to say a special thank you to those soldiers I met with in Iraq and Afghanistan for their tireless service.

On Memorial Day, we pause to remember those who have made the ultimate sacrifice for the good of their country. We remember the courage and dedication of soldiers who served on a distant battlefield knowing that they may not make it back home. For this reason, I sup-

port several legislative proposals to honor our men and women in uniform, such as measures to establish a Select Committee on POW and MIA affairs, recognize the hard work of our NCOs and support the families of U.S. servicemembers.

Setting aside Memorial Day as a time for the nation to remember our fallen service members is crucial, but we must remember and honor our troops who put their lives on the line not once a year, but every single day, so that we may continue to enjoy the freedom and liberty that make our country great. For that, we are eternally indebted to them.

INTRODUCTION OF THE HIGH
QUALITY TEACHERS ACT OF 2009

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2009

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce legislation encouraging teacher development in the schools that are in need of quality instructors.

Several years ago, we passed the No Child Left Behind Act, NCLB, with the goals of closing the achievement gap and improving academic performance overall. Schools have since found some success, but I believe we need to make a number of changes to NCLB to make it more supportive for educators.

Madam Speaker, our teachers are crucial to our educational system. It is teachers who connect with our children and inspire them to achieve.

I am introducing the High Quality Teaching Act of 2009 to provide professional development opportunities for our teachers in struggling or at-risk schools.

Specifically, this legislation authorizes federal grant funding for schools to invite the National Board for Professional Teaching Standards, NBPTS, to implement its Targeted High Need Initiative, THNI. The NBPTS trains teachers to become professionally certified.

This legislation targets funding to the schools the most in need of quality teaching, such as those falling into Program Improvement under No Child Left Behind or those with high student populations from disadvantaged backgrounds.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support professional teacher development in the schools that could benefit from the best possible instruction.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Tuesday, June 9, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JUNE 10

Time to be announced

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

Business meeting to consider any pending nominations.

Room to be announced

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Department of Veterans Affairs' construction process.

SR-418

9:45 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Kurt M. Campbell, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary of State for East Asian and Pacific Affairs.

SD-419

10 a.m.

Environment and Public Works

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Peter Silva Silva, of California, to be Assistant Administrator for Water, and Stephen Alan Owens, of Arizona, to be Assistant Administrator for Prevention, Pesticides, and Toxic Substances, both of the Environmental Protection Agency, and Victor M. Mendez, of Arizona, to be Administrator of the Federal Highway Administration, Department of Transportation.

SD-406

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Tara Jeanne O'Toole, of Maryland, to be Under Secretary for Science and Technology, Department of Homeland Security, and Jeffrey D. Zients, of the District of Columbia, to be Deputy Director for Management, Office of Management and Budget.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine the continued importance of the Violence Against Women Act.

SD-226

11 a.m.

Armed Services

Business meeting to consider certain pending civilian nominations.

SR-222

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Contracting Oversight Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine allegations of waste, fraud, and abuse in security contracts at the United States Embassy in Kabul, Afghanistan.

SD-342

Commerce, Science, and Transportation
Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine aviation safety, focusing on the Federal Aviation Administration's role in the oversight of air carriers.

SR-253

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

Business meeting to consider the nominations of Mercedes Marquez, of California, to be Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development for Community Planning and Development, and Herbert M. Allison, Jr., of Connecticut, to be Assistant Secretary of the Treasury for Financial Stability; to be followed by a hearing to examine the state of the domestic automobile industry, focusing on the impact of federal assistance.

SD-538

Rules and Administration

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of John J. Sullivan, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

SR-301

3 p.m.

Rules and Administration

Business meeting to consider the nomination of John J. Sullivan, of Maryland, to be a Member of the Federal Election Commission.

SR-301

JUNE 11

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Gordon S. Heddell, of the District of Columbia, to be Inspector General, J. Michael Gilmore, of Virginia, to be Director of Operational Test and Evaluation, Zachary J. Lemnios, of Massachusetts, to be Director of Defense Research and Engineering, Dennis M. McCarthy, of Ohio, to be Assistant Secretary for Reserve Affairs, and Jamie Michael Morin, of Michigan, to be Assistant Secretary for Financial Management and Comptroller, and Daniel Ginsberg, of the District of Columbia, to be Assistant Secretary for Manpower and Reserve Affairs, both of the Air Force, all of the Department of Defense.

SD-106

Appropriations

Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-138

10 a.m.

Judiciary

Business meeting to consider S. 417, to enact a safe, fair, and responsible state secrets privilege Act, S. 257, to amend

title 11, United States Code, to disallow certain claims resulting from high cost credit debts, S. 448 and H.R. 985, bills to maintain the free flow of information to the public by providing conditions for the federally compelled disclosure of information by certain persons connected with the news media, S. 369, to prohibit brand name drug companies from compensating generic drug companies to delay the entry of a generic drug into the market, S. 1107, to amend title 28, United States Code, to provide for a limited 6-month period for Federal judges to opt into the Judicial Survivors' Annuities System and begin contributing toward an annuity for their spouse and dependent children upon their death, and the nominations of Gerard E. Lynch, of New York, to be United States Circuit Judge for the Second Circuit, and Mary L. Smith, of Illinois, to be Assistant Attorney General, Tax Division, Department of Justice.

SD-226

11 a.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Oceans, Atmosphere, Fisheries, and Coast Guard Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2010 for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA).

SR-253

2 p.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine certain North Korea issues.

SD-419

Appropriations

Military Construction and Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2010 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SD-124

2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine reforming the Indian health care system.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine S. 372, to amend chapter 23 of title 5, United States Code, to clarify the disclosures of information protected from prohibited personnel practices, require a statement in nondisclosure policies, forms, and agreements that such policies, forms, and agreements conform with certain disclosure protections, provide certain authority for the Special Counsel.

SD-342

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SVC-217

3 p.m.

Judiciary

Crime and Drugs Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the National Criminal Justice Act of 2009.

SD-226

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine health care.
Room to be announced