

of the economy, public health, and our communities.

The drastic acceleration of greenhouse gas emissions has often been concentrated in low-income and minority communities, putting these vulnerable populations on the “front lines” of the fight against environmental degradation and global climate change.

Simply put, climate change has, and will continue to exacerbate the problem of poverty and inequality, and none of us can afford to take this lightly.

The health of our community and our neighbors affects all of us.

Let me take a moment to reflect upon the urgent need to finally put a price on carbon emissions and make polluters pay for the pollution they produce.

As a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, I look forward to working with my colleagues here in Congress to pass responsible and comprehensive climate legislation that will establish a price for carbon emissions and spur the development of clean, renewable energy and the deployment of much-needed energy efficient technologies.

Legislation which sets us on the path toward energy independence and a new, low-carbon economy will help to maintain the United States position as a leader in innovation while at the same time creating hundreds of thousands of good paying green jobs.

The biggest misconception out there today regarding our environment is that the public isn't engaged, or willing to transition to a sustainable, environmentally-friendly economy.

In reality, the shift to a low-carbon economy represents an economic opportunity for individuals across this country.

One of the most exciting and inclusive solutions to the many issues facing environmental health is the possibility afforded to us by promoting Green Jobs Training and the growth of the Green Economy in America.

To that end, I have reintroduced legislation entitled the Metro Economies Green Act, or MEGA, H.R. 330, which establishes grant programs to encourage energy-efficient economic development and green job training and creation.

This legislation would also create a national institute to serve as a clearinghouse for best practices information in order to facilitate the successful expansion of the green jobs movement on a national scale.

As the Representative of California's 9th Congressional District, I would also like to take a moment to recognize the role that California's East Bay is playing at the forefront of the Green Jobs and Green Industry movement.

We have a number of innovative initiatives in my district in particular, including the East Bay Green Corridor Initiative, the Oakland Green Jobs Corps, the Joint Bio Energy Institute, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and the Energy Biosciences Institute at Berkeley.

I recently visited the site of the Oakland Green Jobs Corps with Special Advisor to President Obama on Energy and Climate Change, Carol Browner, in order to show her a truly groundbreaking example of green-collar workforce development already up and running in Oakland, CA.

The Oakland Green Job Corps is a partnership of community organizations, trade unions, private companies, and the City of Oakland. It provides Oakland residents with the necessary

training, support, and work experience to independently pursue careers in the new energy economy.

The fact is, “Green” has already become the fifth largest industry in the nation—80 percent of venture capital investments in 2008 were in the clean energy and energy efficiency sector.

Between 1998 and 2007, job growth in the clean-energy economy outperformed total job growth in 38 states and the District of Columbia, and we are just beginning to tap into our nation's clean energy potential.

Passing comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation, especially one which includes a robust Renewable Energy Standard, is essential to delivering cleaner energy and good-paying jobs to communities across the nation.

A strong Renewable Energy Standard will spur innovation and the expansion of economic opportunities surrounding the green movement.

The current draft of the American Clean Energy and Security Act sets America on a path to meet 20 percent of our electricity demand through renewable energy sources and energy efficiency by 2020.

This is an important start, but I am also confident we can do more.

It is the time to think big, not small, and I urge my colleagues to consider strengthening this standard so that we might take full advantage of the enormous renewable energy potential across this country.

This is only one of many important priorities we must address in order to ensure no communities are left behind in the transition to a low-carbon economy.

There is no doubt in my mind that a greener future will lead to a more prosperous future for our communities, the Nation, and the world.

I urge my colleagues to act swiftly to move America beyond its dependency on oil, address the climate crisis, and help protect America's natural resources for our children's future.

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE TO RECYCLE AND SAVE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the CARS Act for the fleetwide fuel efficiency gains it will create, the energy security it will enhance, the air quality it will improve and the boost it will give our flagging economy.

Under this “Cash for Clunkers” legislation, consumers with vehicles getting less than 18 MPG can get vouchers for \$3500 towards the purchase of a new vehicle that gets at least 4 MPG better than the vehicle they are retiring—and \$4500 towards the purchase of a new vehicle that gets at least 10 MPG better than the vehicle they are retiring.

While I am among those who would favor even stronger standards, this legislation nevertheless points American drivers in the right direction and will stimulate new car sales during a period of time when the auto industry and their dealer networks can use that business the most. I urge my colleagues' support.

CONDEMNING SHOOTING AT U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, as Ranking Member of the Africa Subcommittee, I joined several colleagues at an important Foreign Affairs Committee meeting with Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai of Zimbabwe.

It was an extraordinary opportunity to discuss Zimbabwe's progress towards democracy and away from dictatorship, hyperinflation, and multiple health crises, including cholera—and obtain a fuller understanding of what additional steps the U.S. can take to help.

That meeting, however, occurred at precisely the same time the House considered H. Res. 529, a resolution condemning the June 10th violent attack on the Holocaust Memorial Museum—a despicable anti-Semitic act that killed Officer Stephen Tyrone Johns. As so eloquently articulated by many colleagues yesterday, I—we—salute officer Johns for his bravery and courage and extend our deepest condolences to his family.

I rise today to not only express my support for H. Res 529 but also to thank my friend and colleague Mr. Klein for introducing it and for including me as a co-sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, the Holocaust Memorial Museum is a noble and vitally necessary attempt to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust. The memorial itself is a witness to truth and promotion of human dignity and tolerance.

Wednesday's attack on that museum by a crazed, hate-filled gunman is yet another chilling reminder that our society still harbors a dangerous collection of bigots and racists who hate Jews.

Unparalleled since the dark days of the Second World War, Jewish communities around the world are facing violent attacks against synagogues, Jewish cultural sites, cemeteries and individuals. Anti-Semitism is an ugly reality that won't go away by ignoring or wishing it away. It must be combated with resolve and tenacity.

The sad deeply troubling reality is that James von Brunn cannot be dismissed as an aberration, but is connected to a whole hate-promoting movement that results in violence against Jews in America and around the world on practically a daily basis.

The Anti-Defamation League recently issued its annual Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents. While the ADL is to be congratulated for its careful research on an unpleasant but absolutely necessary subject, the ugly facts that the report documents make for painful reading.

In 2008, the ADL noted 1,352 reported incidents of vandalism, harassment, and physical assaults on Jewish people or Jewish-owned property nationwide.

Sadly and shamefully, my own state of New Jersey had more reported anti-Semitic incidents—238—than any other state.

But the attack on the Holocaust Memorial Museum, Mr. Speaker, is the most ominous aspect of this wave of evil. The Holocaust Memorial Museum is a unique institution. It is a

memorial, a museum, a center of Holocaust scholarship, and a promoter of tolerance and preventer of genocide. It is a very powerful symbol of the solidarity of America with those murdered in the Holocaust, and with the Jewish people.

Mr. Speaker, at this critical moment we need government officials at all levels to denounce, without hesitation or delay, every anti-Semitic act wherever and whenever it occurs. No exceptions. At this moment, not to speak out enables the purveyors of hate. They never take a holiday or grow weary, nor should we.

Just as Mr. Brunn attacked the Holocaust Memorial Museum and murdered a courageous security officer tasked with its protection, Holocaust remembrance and tolerance education must dramatically expand, and we need to ensure that our respective laws punish those who hate and incite violence against Jews.

Finally, if we are to protect our children from the evil of anti-Semitism, we must reeducate ourselves and systematically educate our children. While that starts in our homes, the classroom must be the incubator of tolerance. It seems to me that only the most hardened racist can remain unmoved by Holocaust education and remembrance. Only the most crass, evil, and prejudiced among us can study the horrors of the Holocaust and not cry out: Never again!

RECOGNIZING MORGAN ARANDA

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Morgan Aranda, a student of Newberry Academy in Chicago. She has come to Washington, D.C. this week to compete in the 2009 National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland.

National History Day was started in 1974 with the intent of improving the historical literacy and research skills of junior high and high school aged children. Despite its name, National History Day has a variety of programs year-round, including its week-long national contest in which Morgan is a chosen participant. With the guidance and support of countless parents, teachers and friends, 500,000 students are able to participate in National History Day events annually. As Morgan and her fellow young historians would likely agree, the National History Day's motto, "it's not just a day, it's an experience," rings true.

Morgan has been selected to represent Illinois for her junior individual performance entitled "Alexander Polikoff and the Fight for Fair Housing." Her work is the culmination of many hours of research and multiple public performances. Morgan's dedication, discipline and talent are undeniable.

I'm honored to recognize Morgan and her achievements as a young historian. What she has accomplished already in her life are the beginnings of a bright and successful future and I wish her the best of luck at the competition and onward.

WOUNDED VETERAN JOB SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of our brave men and women in the Armed Forces who are returning to our nation in increased numbers to find that their employment prospects are limited because they have chosen to fight for our great nation. The detrimental effect of multiple deployments upon our soldiers has been increasingly seen and documented in an effort to ameliorate the situation. Yet those soldiers who have chosen the route towards getting help whatever their ailment may be, from physical wounds to psychological are now being ostracized.

It is our duty as a nation and government to protect those who have so valiantly fought for our freedoms. Our objectives should be to make sure that they are included in the process of reestablishing our economy in the most vital way possible—employment. Not only should we fight for their inclusion, but we should also help them in providing the tools necessary for them to fairly compete in the job market whether it is psychological counseling for trauma experienced while in combat or job training to bolster the unique skill sets they have acquired during their time in the service.

Our fellow soldiers are part of the fabric that weaves the story of our great nation. They are the seams of the garment that bring us all together despite our backgrounds or cultures. Without them we as a nation will fall apart. It is up to us to reinforce the stitching that keeps us together—we need to do whatever it takes to keep them strong and viable.

This is why I am in support of H.R. 466 which advocates for the end of discrimination towards our soldiers who have left the service with more than they enlisted. Many return to us suffering from the trauma of the wars and others with wounds that only time may be able to heal. I call upon the Members of Congress and the nation to support our men and women in uniform.

HONORING FRED CORUM

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a gentleman who has left an impact on every county in Congressional District and touched the lives of everyone in East Tennessee, whether they may know it or not.

Fred Corum exemplifies the concept of government and community service. As the Director of the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Region One, Fred has devoted a long career to the safety and quality-of-life of east Tennesseans.

Fred is celebrating his much earned retirement today with a gift back to the people he served: the completion of SmartFix40. This project is the most expensive in state history, reconfiguring Interstate 40 as it crosses through downtown Knoxville. SmartFix40 is not a venture he took lightly.

This massive project required the closure of Interstate 40—a main east to west coast corridor—for fourteen months. The night before the closure, Fred says he could not sleep, and there were plenty more sleepless nights to come. We can only hope that all government servants devote such care and commitment to their work.

Every project Fred has overseen is a true testament to his character, and there was no one more qualified than him to lead the SmartFix40 project. Fred has been on the job with the Tennessee Department of Transportation since 1954, a career that has spanned 53 years and 10 Governors.

As an entry-level worker in 1954, Fred planted stakes in the ground to mark the route of future roads for \$150 a month. Eventually, he was promoted to maintenance supervisor for a large portion of my Congressional District, back in a time when there was a lot more snow to deal with. As his career spanned the 1980s, Fred witnessed the advent of the age of conservation, navigating water pollution issues, wildlife preservation, and erosion.

Governor Lamar Alexander appointed Fred the Director of Region One in 1985, and although he thought his job would be up at the end of the Governor's term, he was kept in the position through three more administrations.

Today, decades after he drove his first stake into the ground, Fred is on hand for the reopening of Interstate 40 and the completion of SmartFix40. He goes out at the top of his game, leaving for all East Tennesseans a reconfigured, aesthetically pleasing, and modern stretch of highway.

Fred's ascent through the ranks of the Tennessee Department of Transportation to Director of Region One is an example to all who enter government service. His wife, Loretta, their two sons, four grandchildren, and great-grandson have reason to be very proud.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to call the remarkable service of Fred Corum to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD, and wish Fred a very happy retirement.

CONDEMNING THE MURDER OF DR. GEORGE TILLER

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 505, condemning the murder of Dr. George Tiller. Dr. Tiller was shot to death at his church on May 31, 2009. It is with great sorrow and a heavy heart that I extend my condolences to his friends and family.

A sixty-seven-year-old physician, a husband, a father of four, and a grandfather of ten, Dr. Tiller dedicated his life to providing family and community health care services in Wichita, Kansas. Dr. Tiller's murder leaves in its wake an unsettling sense of grief and sadness that continues to ripple its way through countless communities of patients, colleagues, friends and family members. To the legions of admirers who view the care that he provided as an essential option for the women most in need, he will be sorely missed.

Dr. Tiller was beloved for his professionalism, his compassion and sensitivity. He