

She has published more than 150 scientific papers and continues to pursue scholarly research. Dr. Córdova was also the winner of NASA's highest honor, the Distinguished Service Medal. As an influential leader in science policy and education, she also serves on numerous state and national boards, most recently accepting an appointment to the Board of Trustees for the Mayo Clinic in May 2008 and a six-year presidential appointment to the National Science Board, effective November 2008.

Dr. Córdova's honors and awards are almost as numerous as the stars in space that she studies. Her accomplishment in the field of astrophysics and her leadership as the head of a national research university provide her with tremendous experience that will benefit the Smithsonian's board and help improve its mission for the increase and diffusion of knowledge. Her impact on education and science has been remarkable.

I will conclude in saying that Dr. France A. Córdova would be an out of this world addition to the Smithsonian Institution's governing board. It will be an honor and pleasure to have her serve on that board, and I ask my colleagues to support Senate Joint Resolution 9.

INTRODUCTION OF UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON AN OPEN SOCIETY WITH SECURITY ACT OF 2009

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2009*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today, I introduce the United States Commission on an Open Society with Security Act which expresses an idea I began working on when the first signs of the closing of parts of our open society appeared after the Oklahoma City bombing tragedy, well before 9/11. I introduce this bill on the eighth anniversary of 9/11 because this bill grows more urgent as an increasing variety of security measures proliferate throughout the country without any thought about their effect on common freedoms and ordinary access, and without any guidance from the government or elsewhere. The introduction of this bill also precedes my upcoming September 22nd hearing on federal building security, which has gotten so out of control that a tourist passing by a federal building cannot even get in to use the restroom or enjoy the many restaurant facilities located in areas otherwise bereft of such opportunities. The security in federal buildings has too long resided only in the hands of non-security experts who do not take into account actual threats, and as a result, spend lavish amounts on needless security procedures. For example, the Government Accountability Office completed sting operations this year, carrying bomb making materials into 10 high-security federal buildings and assembling them in the bathrooms. This scandal shines a light on the failure to use risk-based assessments in allocations of resources.

The bill I introduce today would begin a systematic investigation that takes full account of the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the

real and substantial threats terrorism poses. To accomplish its difficult mission, the Commission created by this bill would be composed not only of military and security experts, but for the first time, they would be at the same table with experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology, and psychology. To date, questions of security most often have been left almost exclusively to security and military experts. They are indispensable participants, but these experts cannot alone resolve all the new and unprecedented issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the balance required by our democratic traditions, a diverse group of experts needs to be working together at the same table.

For years before our eyes, parts of our open society have gradually been closed down because of terrorism and the fear of terrorism—whether checkpoints on streets near the Capitol even when there were no alerts, to applications of technology without regard to their effects on privacy. We have also seen heightened controversy, litigation, hearings, legislation and court decisions because of the use of technology that intercepts terrorist communications but also covers communications among Americans.

Following the unprecedented terrorist attack on our country on 9/11, Americans expected additional and increased security adequate to protect citizens against this frightening threat. However, in our country, people also expect government to be committed and smart enough to undertake this awesome new responsibility without depriving them of their personal liberty. These years in our history will long be remembered by the rise of terrorism in the world and in this country and the unprecedented challenges they have brought. We must provide ever-higher levels of security for our people and public spaces while maintaining a free and open democratic society. Yet, this is no ordinary war that we expect to be over in a matter of years. The end point could be generations from now. The indeterminate nature of the threat adds to the necessity of putting aside ad hoc approaches to security developed in isolation from the goal of maintaining an open society.

When we have faced unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the good sense to investigate them deeply and to move to resolve them. Examples include the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman-Robb Commission) and the Kerner Commission that investigated the riotous uprisings that swept American cities in the 1960s and 1970s. The important difference in this bill is that the Commission seeks to act before a crisis-level erosion of basic freedoms takes hold and becomes entrenched. Because global terrorism is likely to be long lasting, we cannot afford to allow the proliferation of security that neither requires nor is subject to advance civilian oversight or analysis of alternatives and repercussions on freedom and commerce.

With no vehicles for leadership on issues of security and openness, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt 19th century approaches, such as crude blockades, unsightly

barriers around beautiful monuments and other signals that the society is closing down, without appropriate exploration of possible alternatives. The threat of terrorism to an open society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and then come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society of free and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level presidential commission of experts in a broad spectrum of disciplines who can help chart the new course that will be required to protect our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

EARMARK DECLARATION

**HON. AARON SCHOCK**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2009*

Mr. SCHOCK. Madam Speaker, in accordance with the Republican adopted standards on earmarks, I submit the below detailed explanation of the Center for Health Professions Performance Improvement.

Bill Number: H.R. 3293—Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010

Provisions/Account: Health Resources and Services Administration—Health Facilities and Services Account

Name and Address of Requesting Entity: The entity to receive funding for this project is the Mid-Illinois Medical District located at 130 West Mason Street, Room 216, Springfield, Illinois 62702.

Description of Request: The funding would be used for the construction of the Center for Health Professions Performance Improvement that will provide continuing educational opportunities for individuals in the healthcare industry.

RECOGNIZING THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE SALVATION ARMY'S PRESENCE IN ALTOONA, PENNSYLVANIA

**HON. BILL SHUSTER**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2009*

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 125th Anniversary of the Salvation Army's presence in Altoona, Pennsylvania. The Salvation Army has had a long and cherished history assisting the community with essential services like utility assistance, food banking, emergency shelter, clothing, Christmas help, and many other services critical to the lives of families in need.

The exact date of the founding of the Salvation Army in Altoona remains unclear after all of these years. However, their ministry was one of action, not of chronicle. In the beginning the ministry of the Salvation Army in Altoona, like many others, was primarily a ministry of the street, a ministry that took its message and its critical services directly to the people.

Over the past 125 years, the Salvation Army in Altoona has occupied about 15 different locations. On December 5, 1976, the Salvation Army built their permanent location after a successful capital fund drive.

At different holidays the Salvation Army provides gifts to the nursing homes, VA hospitals, and anywhere individuals might not receive necessary needs at any time. The Salvation Army in Altoona does not discriminate against anyone based on their race, color, creed, or religion. The Salvation Army in Altoona maintains a presence in the community to assist and love and to meet the needs of all those who need it.

Historically, the Salvation Army has provided programs for children to help with their self esteem and caring for others, women and men programs, and older adult programs. The Salvation Army in Altoona still provides these services and will carry on its tradition of social and worship services in the community for many years to come. I congratulate them on this wonderful milestone.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. ALLEN BOYD

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2009*

Mr. BOYD. Madam Speaker, due to personal reasons, I was unable to attend to votes this week. Had I been present, my votes would have been as follows:

“Yea” on H.R. 3123;  
 “Yea” on H.R. 310;  
 “Yea” on H.R. 324;  
 “Yea” on H. Res. 447;  
 “Yea” on H. Res. 722;  
 “Yea” on H.R. 2498;  
 “Yea” on H.R. 2097, and  
 “Yea” on H.R. 965.

#### TRIBUTE TO AMERICAN LEGION DAY

### HON. MARION BERRY

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2009*

Mr. BERRY. Madam Speaker, I rise here today to pay tribute to one of our Nation's largest and most successful veterans advocacy organizations, the American Legion. Since the Congressional charter was issued on September 16th, 1919, the American Legion has worked tirelessly to serve American veterans and communities across the nation. Arkansas has the honorable distinction of becoming the first American Legion Department in the United States to be incorporated.

The American Legion was founded under four principles or pillars: The care for our veterans, the care for our children, a strong national defense, and the promotion of Americanism. Over the years, the American Legion has become a preeminent community-service organization, which includes more than 2.5 million members at over 14,000 American Legion posts worldwide.

Every year, members of the American Legion donate thousands of hours of community service in veterans' medical facilities and

homes to care for our nation's heroes. They remain committed to upholding the ideals of freedom and democracy, strive to improve the overall quality of life to our nation's servicemen and women, and tirelessly work to make a difference in the lives of fellow Americans.

Today, on American Legion Day, we now have an opportunity each year to come together and celebrate the organization's long history and distinguished service to the community, state and nation. Millions of people who have been positively affected by the American Legion, as well as the American people are grateful for their efforts in serving our country. On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, we thank you for your courage, your character, and your service to our country.

#### RECOGNIZING REVEREND WAYNE PERRYMAN

### HON. DAVID G. REICHERT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, September 10, 2009*

Mr. REICHERT. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of an individual from my district and his efforts to honor the principles of President Abraham Lincoln. Reverend Wayne Peryman from Mercer Island, Washington, and Kasandra Rae Huff, an 18-year-old student from Longview, Washington, created a piece of artwork that was recently accepted into the permanent collection of the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library and Museum.

As our Nation confronts challenging times, we must remember and treasure the life and work of President Lincoln as he led this country through an extraordinarily difficult period. I commend Reverend Peryman and Ms. Huff for their artwork and am pleased to submit the text of it on their behalf into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

This portrait of Lincoln is the fine work of Miss Kasandra Rae Huff, an eighteen year old high school student from Longview, Washington.

Kasandra sincerely admired our 16th President, who was perhaps the most lonely person that ever occupied the White House. He was a man not known for his good looks, but for his good heart.

Many scholars criticize Lincoln for his thoughts regarding what to do with the freed blacks after ending slavery, but few commend him for what he did for blacks by ending slavery. During the past thirty-plus years African Americans have occupied every major cabinet level position in the United States government; two have sat on the United States Supreme Court; several others have run our nation's largest cities, including Detroit, Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, and Atlanta; one headed the Joint Chiefs of Staff; and 145 years after Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address, this nation has elected its first black president.

History reveals that Lincoln's appreciation for blacks was an evolving process, as it was for most Americans. The more exposure he had, the more he appreciated and saw African Americans as equals. By the time he reached Gettysburg on that cold November afternoon in 1863, he was at peace with idea of blacks being equal. Using carefully selected words in a cleverly crafted speech that he had worked on all night, he told those who gathered at the cemetery in Gettysburg what he thought about equality when he spoke these words:

“Four score and seven years ago, our fathers brought forth upon this continent, a new nation, conceived in liberty and dedicated to the proposition that all men are created equal.”

Even though he wrestled with what to do with the freed slaves after the war, he had grown to appreciate African Americans through his relationship with his black advisor, Frederick Douglass, and his wife's best friend and traveling companion, Ms. Elizabeth Keckley, a black dress designer. (Keckley, a freed black woman, designed dresses for Mary Todd Lincoln and other prominent women of that time.)

Evidence of Lincoln's evolving feelings toward blacks was clear to everyone when Democrats pressured Lincoln to sit down with Jefferson Davis to negotiate peace. The president, who once thought that saving the union “without freeing any slave” was an option, took that option off the table and stated that “reunion and the emancipation” were the only grounds for peace. Democrats tried to embarrass and discredit the president by accusing him of prolonging an unnecessary and unpopular war and by placing cartoons in newspapers depicting Lincoln as a “Widow Maker” and the killer of young men. Committed to the cause, Lincoln said, “If at the end, when I come to lay down the reins of power, I have lost every friend on earth, I shall have at least one friend left, and that friend shall be down inside of me.”

His renewed commitment to the emancipation of blacks was also reflected in the portion of the Gettysburg Address where he said:

“That this nation under God, will have a new birth of freedom and that the government of the people, by the people and for the people shall not perish from this earth.”

Unfortunately, many critics are quick to quote from Lincoln's speeches prior to the Gettysburg Address, but not as quick to quote from his speeches after the Gettysburg address. Through Frederick Douglass, Elizabeth Keckley and the black soldiers who so bravely fought for the Union, Lincoln had gained a greater appreciation than most Americans for blacks. His struggle was not so much over how he would accept the new black citizens, but how his fellow white brothers and sisters who had only a stereotypical view of blacks would accept them.

With Jefferson Davis leading the nation of the Confederate States, Lincoln was the only president in our lifetime who was faced with the possibility of a future where there would be two separate nations rather than the one that our founding fathers had established. Winning the war and uniting the country was a tremendous accomplishment and that alone should make Lincoln the greatest president of all time. Had he allowed the South to exist as a separate nation, and had we remained as two smaller countries instead of one we know today, becoming a superpower would have been only a dream and never a reality. As two separate (smaller) nations, we would not have grown to be a superpower and our defense of democracies around the world would have never been a possibility. How different the world be, had he failed.

Had he lost the Civil War, what would have happened to blacks? What would have happened to the Republican Party, the Party of Lincoln? Would the defeat of the Union also have meant the destruction of this new fragile political party? Without the Party of Lincoln, would there have been the Thirteenth, Fourteenth and Fifteenth Amendments to the Constitution as well as other subsequent Civil Rights legislation to give blacks freedom, citizenship and the right to vote—all of which paved the way for America to elect its first black president?