

Japan formally acknowledges, apologizes and accepts full historical responsibility for this crime. To date, they have still not received such a formal apology. That is why I introduced House Resolution 121, which calls on Japan to do so.

I believe the U.S. must have a strong foundation in historical reconciliation. For example, in 1988, Congress passed, and President Ronald Reagan signed into law, H.R. 442, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, which was a formal apology to United States citizens of Japanese ancestry who were unjustly put into internment camps during World War II.

As someone who was put into an internment camp as an infant, I know firsthand that we must not be ignorant of the past, and that reconciliation through government actions to admit error are the only ones likely to be long lasting.

Our government made a mistake, but they apologized for it, and healed many wounds as a result. Today, fewer than 300 comfort women are alive and the number is dwindling as they pass away. They want, and deserve, an official apology.

I cannot put into words how grateful I was when H. Res. 121 received overwhelming support in the 110th Congress—first during its markup held under Chairman Tom Lantos' leadership, and then during its debate and final passage before the House on July 30, 2007.

The fact that H. Res. 121 received no opposition during its consideration and passed unanimously attests to its importance and relevance today. By doing so, the House sent a profound message to the government of Japan that the United States takes the issue of the comfort women very seriously.

Immediately after its passage, I rushed to the House gallery, where Yong Soo Lee, a surviving comfort woman, was watching floor proceedings. We shared a tearful embrace, one I will never forget. She repeated "Thank you. . . thank you. . ." and I could see in her face that she felt, maybe for the first time in her life, some sense of relief.

Despite the struggles I may have faced in pushing forward this resolution, and the criticism I received from the government of Japan, seeing Yong Soo Lee immediately reminded me again why I chose to tackle this issue.

While the resolution was successful, unfortunately it has not forced the government of Japan to act. The comfort women deserve to have their dignity and honor restored to them. It is not too late for Japan to issue a sincere and official apology, while these women are still alive.

I am hopeful that an international awareness has spread about comfort women, particularly in Australia, the Philippines, and Canada, where comfort women resolutions similar to H. Res. 121 have been introduced and some passed. We must continue to advocate for a formal apology for the comfort women as a matter of fundamental justice. It is an honor to be here in Korea to continue educating about this chapter in history, and to educate others about the importance of an apology for the women.

Moral justice and education have been the two guiding principles I have followed during my fight for the comfort women.

I believe education is a tool that can also be used to fight another battle: global warming. Climate change is the most significant threat

to our environment today and is one of the greatest challenges that humans face. The overwhelming scientific evidence makes clear that global warming is a real phenomenon, and that human activities play a significant role.

Twenty of the hottest years in recorded history occurred since the 1980s. Glaciers and permafrost are vanishing. Weather patterns are shifting. Migration patterns are being disrupted.

Global warming presents mankind with a new kind of problem. To fight global warming, dramatic changes will be needed in transportation, energy production, public policy, and human behavior world wide.

As a former teacher, I feel education will be essential to allowing those changes to happen, which is why I introduced the Global Warming Education Act, H.R. 1926. The bill will broaden America's understanding of human-induced global warming, short and long term consequences, and potential solutions.

Widespread understanding of this phenomenon will play a significant role in our ability to address a crisis that tangibly and immediately impacts every single human being. It is vital that people of all walks of life possess sufficient understanding of the issue so that each and every one of us may play a role in defending the health of our planet.

I learned that Korea is becoming a world example and leader of using "green" technology to also address these threats. The U.S. is also an active leader in this effort, and this is just one example of many of the common values that our two countries share. I commend you for leading on the green technology front, and encourage you to educate your peers about the threats that we as humans face.

In closing, Korea holds a very special place in my heart. The relationship our two countries share is vitally important and continues to grow. I have many close friends here in Korea, and I appreciate the welcoming spirit of the Korean people each time I visit. Receiving this honorary doctorate is a lifelong dream of mine, and I am grateful for the opportunity to be presented with such an honor.

Again, I would like to thank the President, faculty, and the students of Kangwon National University for bestowing this honor upon me.

KOREA'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT FROM MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND TRADE YU, MYUNG-HWAN TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade Yu, Myung-hwan of the Republic of Korea in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

EMBASSY OF THE
REPUBLIC OF KOREA,

Washington, DC, October 5, 2009.

Hon. ENI FALEOMAVEAGA,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific, and the Global Environment, U.S. House Committee on Foreign Affairs.

DEAR MR. CHAIRMAN: It was with deep grief that I learned of the heavy loss of life and the disastrous property damages caused by the tsunami that swept your hometown, and would like to express my most profound sympathy and condolences to you and the people in the American Samoa, particularly to those who have lost their loved ones.

I earnestly hope for speedy relief and rehabilitation under your leadership.

Sincerely yours,

YU, MYUNG-HWAN,
Minister of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

JAPAN'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Ambassador Ichiro Fujisaki of Japan in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

EMBASSY OF JAPAN,

Washington, DC, September 30, 2009.

Hon. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA,
House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVE FALEOMAVEAGA: It is with great sadness that I learned of the tragic loss of life in American Samoa due to yesterday's earthquake and tsunami. My condolences go out to the families and friends who have lost loved ones, and I pray for the speedy recovery of those who were injured as well as the communities that have suffered much damage.

The people of American Samoa have our heartfelt sympathies as they rebuild their homes and communities.

Sincerely,

ICHIRO FUJISAKI,
Ambassador of Japan.

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE NANCY PELOSI'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVEAGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVEAGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Speaker of the House NANCY PELOSI in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009.

The thoughts of the entire Congress are with the people of American Samoa as they grapple with the terrible loss of life as a result of today's tsunami. As the island works to rebuild, all levels of the government, including Congress, will move quickly to address the needs of American Samoa and the Americans who live there.

HOUSE MAJORITY LEADER STENY H. HOYER'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from House Majority Leader STENY H. HOYER in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009:

I want to offer my deepest sympathy to all those in American Samoa and Samoa who lost loved ones in this terrible tragedy. We are all saddened by the loss of life and the scope of damage done. Our thoughts are with Eni Faleomavaega, American Samoa's delegate to the House of Representatives, and we will keep him and everyone affected in our prayers.

CHAIRMAN HOWARD L. BERMAN'S MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO THE PEOPLE OF AMERICAN SAMOA IN AFTERMATH OF DEVASTATING TSUNAMI

HON. ENI F.H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I submit the following message of support from Chairman HOWARD L. BERMAN of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs in response to the massive tsunami that struck American Samoa on Tuesday, September 29, 2009:

I want to express my deepest condolences to the people of American Samoa and Samoa who have suffered great losses from the tsunami that swept the islands. The losses are staggering. The sympathy of the Foreign Affairs Committee is with our good friend and the chairman of the Subcommittee on Asia, the Pacific and the Global Environment, Eni Faleomavaega, the delegate from American Samoa. We commend him for his efforts and extend our fullest support during this trying time.

RECOGNIZING SUSAN ANN (LISTON) SKERBISH FOR HER SERVICE TO THE FIRST DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN

HON. PAUL RYAN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. RYAN of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor Mrs. Susan Ann (Liston) Skerbish, Wisconsin's First Congressional District Constituent Services Representative.

I have been fortunate to work with staff whose attitude and outlook are positive. But Susie's sweet nature stands out. She joined my office fresh out of college as an idealistic young woman dedicated to the cause of freedom and the desire to help make our society a better place. Susie's winsome smile has al-

ways brought sunshine to our office, uplifting morale on the busiest and most difficult days.

By now she has assisted hundreds of religious and nonprofit organizations to secure the grants to help fulfill their social mission, as well as local governments to receive the share of federal resources to which they are entitled. Her contribution to the well-being of Wisconsinites has been tremendous.

In the time since she came to my office, Susie became a loving wife and has recently become a new mom. With her sweet nature and great attitude, all of us in the First District offices feel like part of her family.

I am pleased to recognize Susie's 10 years of service to Wisconsinites in the First District.

TRIBUTE TO NEW A.M.E. ZION CHURCH

HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. PASCRELL. Madam Speaker, I would like to call to your attention the work of an outstanding religious institution, New A.M.E. Zion Church in Paterson, New Jersey, which is celebrating its 60th Anniversary of dedicated service to its parishioners, and by extension, the greater community.

It is only fitting that New A.M.E. Zion Church be honored in this, the permanent record of the greatest democracy ever known, for the spiritual home it has provided to American families, and its dedication to the entire community that helps keep this deeply rooted congregation growing towards the future.

The New A.M.E. Zion Church was organized at the home of Mrs. Augusta McCormick, on Fair Street in Paterson in May 1949. The first service as a Church was held on the first Sunday of June 1949 with 69 members. The Rev. Frank Thomas Roberts was founder of the Church, and he inspired the members to make it into a thriving faith community. With the financial support of Mr. John Spencer, Mrs. Florence Spencer, Mr. Robert Robertson, and Mrs. Elnora Tourse, a building located at 140 Lawrence Place was purchased to serve as a place of worship.

Rev. Roberts served as pastor until he was reassigned, and Rev. M.R. Cuthbertson was the second pastor. He brought many young people into the Church. He was followed by Rev. J.O. Fountain, and the Rev. Wesley Brown, who began in 1957. Numerous new programs were started and the first organ was purchased in addition to the first parsonage. Rev. Brown organized a building fund, but instead of building a church they purchased the former Holy Cross Polish National Church, at 153 Lawrence Place. This has been the home of New A.M.E. Zion since 1965. The first service was held there in May and Presiding Bishop William H. Smith formally dedicated it in December of that year. Rev. Brown served until his health declined and Rev. Wallace Lee was assigned. The Church continued to prosper under his leadership. The next pastor was Rev. Dr. Albert J. White, who was assigned in 1976. During his 24 years as pastor, membership grew and many capital improvements were made. A food pantry was started, as well as a summer free lunch program for children in the community and outreach programs for

the youth and their families. When Dr. White retired, Rev. Wayne Harris was assigned for a few months, until Rev. Robert C. Russell, who currently still serves as pastor, was assigned.

The New A.M.E. Zion Church currently has many ministries, including Music, Prayer Band, Youth, Health Awareness, Food Pantry, and Van Transportation. Scholarship Fund Committee, Summer Reading, Sunday School, Prayer Meeting, Bible Study and Christian Development are all offered.

Each of the pastors, with the assistance of the other ministers, bishops, and presiding elders as well as the membership, has helped to keep the Church growing and strengthening throughout the last six decades. I am certain that New A.M.E. Zion Church will continue to thrive and to help to better the surrounding community as it moves into the next chapter in its history.

The job of a United States Congressman involves much that is rewarding, yet nothing compares to learning about and recognizing the efforts of wonderful, thriving faith communities like New A.M.E. Zion Church.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join all of the members and clergy of New A.M.E. Zion Church, all those whose faith has been enriched throughout the years, and me in recognizing the outstanding contributions of New A.M.E. Zion Church to the community and beyond.

RECOGNIZING SHOWROOM SHINE ON THEIR 2009 HOODIE AWARD

HON. WM. LACY CLAY

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 13, 2009

Mr. CLAY. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to rise before you today to recognize a star in St. Louis County's active small business community, Showroom Shine, for their 2009 Hoodie Award. The Hoodie Awards aim to recognize excellence in the lives of everyday Americans who contribute their leadership to urban communities. The 7th annual award ceremony honored co-owners Sylvester Chisom and Arthur Shivers with the award for Best Detail Shop. We in the Show Me State are proud that Showroom Shine, a standout in the field of auto detailing and vehicle restoration, is one of our very own.

Sylvester Chisom and Arthur Shivers truly exemplify the entrepreneurial spirit that continues to be the backbone of the American economy. Outfitted only with a water hose, bucket, and drain, Chisom and Shivers started Showroom Shine in 1999 as high school seniors. Showroom Shine has grown into a highly successful detailing company, winning their second Hoodie Award this year. Showroom Shine is known city-wide for their professionalism and personalized service, and hold contracts with numerous corporate and government entities, including the U.S. Postal Service, Enterprise Rental & Leasing, Clear Channel Radio, and Live Nation.

They take seriously their duty to pass along their success to the community and to future business leaders. The two pioneers have penned a book, "The Young Entrepreneur's Guide to Success," aimed at spreading the message of entrepreneurship to young people seeking advice and mentorship for their business ventures. Showroom Shine is a bright