

A PROCLAMATION HONORING THE CUMBERLAND UNITED METHODIST CHURCH FOR ITS 200TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker, Whereas, while remaining a pillar of faith in its community, Cumberland United Methodist has grown significantly from its initial parish; and

Whereas, Cumberland United Methodist has consistently and generously served those in need; and

Whereas, we acknowledge the varied community service projects and activities the Church sponsors throughout the year; now, therefore, be it

Resolved, that along with the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I congratulate Cumberland United Methodist for its 200 years of service to the community of Cumberland.

CALLING ON VIETNAM TO RELEASE IMPRISONED BLOGGERS AND RESPECT INTERNET FREEDOM

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I extend my strong support to H. Res. 672, which calls on the Socialist Republic of Vietnam to release imprisoned bloggers and respect Internet freedom.

Since 2002, the Socialist Republic of Vietnam has enforced heavy surveillance of the internet activity of Vietnamese citizens. The U.S. Congress is aware that a number of internet bloggers and cyber activists have recently been arrested and imprisoned for exercising their inherent human right of freedom of expression. This matter, among others, is of grave concern to me, and more importantly, to the thousands of Vietnamese Americans that I represent.

Reporters Without Borders considers Vietnam one of 15 "internet enemies" and the OpenNet Initiative, a project of academic institutions including the University of Toronto, Oxford, Cambridge, and Harvard Universities, classifies Vietnam's online political censorship to be "pervasive." In fact, an electronic communications decree issued by the Vietnamese government, that came into force in September 2008, states "opposition to the Republic of Vietnam is forbidden."

The freedom of expression, including the freedom to express one's views on the internet, is a necessary prerequisite for a healthy and vigorous democracy. Without free and open debate where citizens need not fear retaliation by government for the opinions they hold, a country foregoes the opportunity to harness the full capability of its citizens to advance social and economic development.

Along with my friend from California, Ms. SANCHEZ, I call on Vietnam to respect Internet freedom and allow the people of Vietnam to

freely express their views. Moreover, I call upon Vietnam to immediately release imprisoned bloggers and political prisoners. To the Vietnamese government, the message we send today is that the United States will embrace you, but only when you embrace the inherent rights and freedoms of your people.

RYAN WHITE HIV/AIDS TREATMENT EXTENSION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, October 21, 2009

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 3792, the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Treatment Extension Act of 2009. Our state receives \$75 million in federal Ryan White assistance which provides care to an estimated 10,000 people in the state.

People in Illinois depend on Ryan White Care programs for help with expensive anti-retroviral drugs, to aid them in getting to and from the medical appointments, to prevent transmission from mother to child, and for continued access to dental services through the University of Illinois at Chicago. Throughout the year, I meet with Illinoisans whose lives have been changed because of these services and whose futures would be jeopardized without them. So I am pleased to see that the bill will result in a 4 year reauthorization that will allow states to continue their current programs without disruption to programs currently in operation. I am also glad that the draft continues the extension period for names-based reporting. Illinois is one of the states still transitioning from collecting surveillance data under a code-based system to a names-based system, and the state is grateful for the extended time.

I would also like to acknowledge the AIDS Foundation of Chicago and the many others in the Illinois HIV/AIDS community for being tireless advocates and unwavering resources for me and the 44,000 people living with HIV/AIDS in the state. We could not have accomplished this bill and other important pieces of legislation, like comprehensive health reform without their activism and community organizing.

We have come a long way since the start of the HIV/AIDS epidemic. Twenty years ago, someone was diagnosed as being HIV positive and people assumed it was a death sentence. The public was often misinformed about modes of transmission, and the science behind treatment was far more limited than it is today.

Unfortunately, a recent survey by the Kaiser Family Foundation found that the level of attention paid to HIV/AIDS awareness has declined rapidly. The percentage of the American people who say that they have seen or heard or read a lot about HIV/AIDS in the U.S. has fallen from 34% five years ago to just 14% today. The percentage of African Americans reporting has fallen from 62% to 33%.

The public's sense of urgency is down. And yet we learned earlier this year that 3% of the residents in the District are infected with HIV or AIDS, making D.C.'s rates higher than those in West Africa.

Our need to increase prevention efforts and raise awareness about the disease is no less important or any less urgent today than it was when the first cases were diagnosed in 1981. The Ryan White Care Act enables us to continue moving forward with prevention and treatment. I urge my colleagues to support this critical legislation.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF MR. CLIFFORD "PETE" TOMLIN

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I respectfully request the attention of the House to pay recognition to the memory of much-loved "Bulldog," Mr. Clifford "Pete" Tomlin.

Mr. Tomlin died in September 2006 at the age of 42. He suffered from rheumatoid arthritis, but his ailment didn't stop him. Tomlin was named the Calhoun County's Outstanding Handicapped employee of the Year in 1989. Tomlin served as the voice behind the Anniston High School Bulldogs including the varsity, junior varsity and junior high football games for both WHMA and WAMA radio stations in Anniston, Alabama.

Although Mr. Tomlin is sorely missed, he would be proud today to know the Press Box at Chink-Lott Stadium of Anniston High School will now proudly bear his name. Mr. Tomlin will always be remembered as the voice behind the football games at his alma mater and this great honor will help keep his spirit alive.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. WILLIAM MURPHY III

HON. MIKE McINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. McINTYRE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Mr. William Murphy III, of Wilmington, North Carolina, for his commitment to his community and as a dedicated man of public service. As a long-serving youth coach and a retired director at the Martin Luther King Jr. Community Center, he was an irreplaceable mentor for many inner city youth in his community. He was also a devoted family man and dear friend. Murphy passed away on October 18, 2009, and he will be dearly missed.

Driven by a strong love for his community and a deep investment in its youth, Mr. Murphy coached numerous sports during his lifetime, and most recently served as the head coach of the Wilmington Tigers minor league football team. In this capacity, Mr. Murphy was a valuable leader and role model, who pushed young athletes to achieve things they never thought possible and worked to shape their senses of integrity, character, discipline, and teamwork.

As a co-founder and Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Youth Sports, and as a former coach of over 130 young people in three different sports over 7 years, I have a deep, personal respect for Mr. Murphy's

dedication to this cause. Over several decades, he has taught hundreds of youth and adults in the Wilmington area valuable lessons and skills that have made meaningful and lasting impact on their lives, and our community will always remain grateful.

Madam Speaker, may we never forget the goodness, humility, and character that defined the life of William Murphy. May God continue to bless his wife, Audrie, his five children, Portia, Glenda, William, Torey, Russell, and all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 783 and rollcall No. 784 regarding the Homeland Security Fiscal Year 2010 Appropriations Conference Report, I am not recorded (because I was absent for my step daughter's wedding.) Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall No. 783 and "aye" on rollcall No. 784.

A PROCLAMATION HONORING
DREW GOODING FOR WINNING
THE AMERICANISM ESSAY WRITING CONTEST

HON. ZACHARY T. SPACE

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. SPACE. Madam Speaker,

Whereas, Drew Gooding won the Elks Grand Lodge essay writing contest, demonstrating a mastery of thought and word; and

Whereas, he has shown to take interest in upholding the values that make us a free nation; and

Whereas, Drew Gooding is honored for his patriotism and excellence in writing and; now, therefore, be it

Resolved that along with his friends, family, and the residents of the 18th Congressional District, I commend and thank Drew Gooding for his contributions to his community and country.

VOTES ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 15
AND PRESIDENT BARACK
OBAMA'S VISIT TO NEW ORLEANS

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, on Thursday, October 15, 2009, I was unable to cast votes in Congress due to my attendance at President Barack Obama's visit in New Orleans to discuss Hurricane Katrina related recovery issues.

It is critical that President Obama stand firm by his commitment to rebuild the Gulf Coast from the destruction caused by Hurricane

Katrina. There are several top priorities for which I personally requested the President's direct assistance including his explicit support for Category 5 hurricane protection, including strengthening our levees, improving our interior drainage protection, and rebuilding our eroding coastline. Category 5 protection is vital to the safety of Louisiana's families and to the full recovery of our region. The Corps of Engineers must make a full commitment to move forward with the safest and strongest plan to provide our communities with comprehensive flood and storm protection, and the President's support of the Louisiana Congressional delegation's efforts to achieve this goal is critical to our successful recovery. Coastal restoration is an essential component of our flood protection efforts, as Louisiana loses about 25 square miles of coastline each year. These wetlands provide a natural buffer to protect us from storm surge, and without them, the potential for loss of life and property damage increases significantly with each approaching storm. It is important that the Administration and Congress work together expeditiously to make significant investments in coastal restoration efforts.

While much has been done since Katrina to help restore the region, bureaucratic red tape remains a major hurdle to a successful recovery and continues to slow down our recovery and impair the abilities of our State and local governments to serve our citizens and respond to future disasters. If we have learned anything since Hurricane Katrina, it is that we cannot allow the same approach that failed us during Katrina to be followed again. FEMA must continue to work with our Congressional delegation and officials in Louisiana to expedite our recovery. During the town hall meeting, President Obama was asked to resolve the delays in our recovery, particularly with regard to Public Assistance projects and Community Disaster Loans, and to ensure that other states and communities do not have to face these challenges with future disasters.

There are too many lives and too much taxpayer money at stake to get it wrong again. I hope we will be able to continue discussing these efforts in the future and that this and future visits will help the President understand the very serious issues we are still facing.

IN HONOR OF MR. THOMAS PIGG

HON. JOHN SHIMKUS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. SHIMKUS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a true friend of the outdoors whose life was tragically cut short this summer.

Thomas Pigg, of Carlyle, Illinois, was an employee of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Carlyle Lake for four years, and then at the Kaskaskia River Project for another three. He was an instructor at the Illinois Federation of Outdoor Recreation's Youth Skills Camp and was dedicated to exploring and preserving the natural treasures of his native Clinton County, especially the Carlyle Lake recreation area. Tom believed that our natural resources should be enjoyed by all and he worked tirelessly to see that the young people of our community had the opportunity to visit

and benefit from having such a magnificent site as Carlyle Lake in their back yard.

Tragically, Tom's life was cut short by an automobile accident in July. I extend my heartfelt condolences to his father and step-mother, Daniel and Bonnie; his mother and step-father, Candyce and Russel; his brothers, Andy and Wes; his sister, Katie; his step-brother, Corey; and the many members of his family and community who mourn his loss.

Tom's memory will live on at his beloved Carlyle Lake, however. This month, the Corps of Engineers will honor Tom's service and his devotion by dedicating a section of the lake as the Thomas M. Pigg Wetland Restoration Area. It is a fitting honor for a man who was taken from us too soon and it is a site to honor Tom's wish for future generations to enjoy our nation's wonderful natural resources.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. PRICE of Georgia. Madam Speaker, on rollcall Nos. 790, 791, 792, 793, 794, 795, 796, 797, I was unable to record my vote due to a family illness.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes" on all.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF MACK
MARTIN BOYNTON

HON. BARON P. HILL

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, October 22, 2009

Mr. HILL. Madam Speaker, throughout his twenty-six year military career, Mack Martin Boynton was a leader among his fellow service men. Serving in the diving, salvage, and rescue operation, Mack developed many ways to streamline the repair of naval vessels. These techniques were able to save the country precious resources in the aftermath of the attack on Pearl Harbor. Thanks to his intellect and ingenuity, Mack became one of the youngest Warrant Officers in the Navy.

Mack continued his career as a member of the Underwater Demolition Team (UDT), a then newly-formed arm of the United States Navy. His commitment to service and dedication inspired others and led him to become one of the best recruiters for the UDT program. Mack continued his committed service through the Korean War, where he received the Bronze Star Medal and a commendation from Vice Admiral Joy for heroic action against the enemy. During his career he was involved in the early studies and implementation of the first Navy SEALs team.

With his sterling service record and considerable honors, Mack serves as an example of the caliber of individuals who we have the privilege of calling our servicemen. I am honored that Mack and his fellow Fifties Frogs have selected Clarksville, Indiana, to hold their annual reunion. When these heroic Americans convene their meeting here in Southern Indiana, we should pause, even if only for a moment, and give thanks to them for their contribution toward our freedom.