

year's team was determined to come home with a different result, and displayed resilience and skill all the way to the end.

Finishing the season on a 15-game winning streak, LT was playing its best soccer coming into the tournament, and that momentum carried over into the playoffs. With excellent coaching and strong senior leadership, LT put together a playoff run that included coming from behind, defeating an opponent that had twice beaten it in the regular season, and knocking off the defending state champions. All this set the table for an intense championship match against Lake Zurich High School. Ninety minutes proved insufficient, as it took overtime for Lyons Township to close out a hard-fought 2-1 victory.

I ask you to join me in honoring the members of the Lyons Township men's soccer team for achieving what every high school athlete strives for—a State Championship.

RESERVE OFFICERS ASSOCIATION
MODERNIZATION ACT OF 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of the Reserve Officers Association Modernization Act. As a member of the Homeland Security Committee, I understand the role of the brave men and women of the National Guard and the Reserves and I strongly support legislation that facilitates their ability to continue to provide an excellent service to the United States.

The Reserve Officers Association was founded in 1922 by several hundred military officers, many of whom were veterans of World War I. The Association was concerned that in the wake of World War I, the complacency and isolationism that was sweeping across the political landscape would lead to a return to America's pre war unpreparedness. In June 1950, President Truman signed the Reserve Officers Association's charter into law. Today, over 80 years after the Association's founding, the complacency that its founders feared is long gone, yet the Reserve Officers Association remains committed to its mission: ". . . [to] support and promote the development and execution of a military policy for the United States that will provide adequate National Security."

Today, the Reserve Officers Association is organized into 55 departments with one department in each of the 50 states, and 5 additional departments located in Latin America, Puerto Rico, Europe, the District of Columbia and the Far East. Each department is further divided into chapters. There are over 550 chapters around the world.

The Reserve Officers Association helped to establish the bipartisan Reserve Component Caucus in the House of Representatives, of which, of course, I am a member, to provide congressional oversight of Reserve issues and programs.

Since the events of September 11, 2001, our country has relied more heavily on the National Guard and the Reserves than at any other time in recent history. The National Guard and the Reserves play a significant role

in the United States military, national security and disaster relief efforts. The Reserves and the National Guard have stepped forward to answer the call of duty in both Iraq and Afghanistan. Furthermore, they have each played pivotal roles in homeland security and disaster relief. These new, demanding responsibilities of the National Guard and the Reserves require an update of policies, and of the Reserves Officers Association charter.

This legislation is designed to update the Reserve Officers Association's Federal Charter to reflect the current operations of the Association. The bill extends the Association's National Executive Committee, its governing body, to include the Association's president-elect. It also names the president-elect as an officer of the Association. Furthermore, it provides for the possibility of having more than 3 national executive committee members as officers and on the National Executive Committee. The bill also provides for one vote for each member of the Committee except the president elect and the executive director. The bill also provides for certain officers to be decided in accordance with the Association's Constitution.

It is our responsibility to provide for the needs of the National Guard and the Reserves. They each contribute to our Nation's military, our national security and disaster relief efforts. I am proud and honored to support the brave men and women of the Reserves and the National Guard by endorsing this legislation. I encourage all of my colleagues to vote in support of this bill to bring the Reserve Officers Association Federal Charter up to date so that the organization can continue to provide a valuable and honorable service to the United States of America.

THE BENEFITS OF BUYING LOCAL

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 18, 2009

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, as the holiday shopping season approaches, I want to urge my colleagues to consider the benefits of buying local, and join me in sharing your support for strengthening our local economies, creating local jobs, and ensuring local, sustainable economic development in our communities.

Buying locally strengthens the viability and competitiveness of local businesses. For every \$100 in consumer spending, the total local economic impact is only \$13 when goods and services are purchased at a national chain store.

The same amount spent with a local merchant, small business, or retailer yields more than three times the local impact, nearly \$45 for every \$100 spent.

Buying locally benefits small businesses, retailers and merchants who maintain a healthy and competitive marketplace for goods and services. Doing so ensures choice, diversity and competition in the marketplace for goods and services.

Moreover, as a former Mayor, I know that buying locally from independent businesses raises the standard of living in local neighborhoods because they take their profits and buy products and services from other local busi-

nesses in the area. As a result, local jobs are created in the community and the unique character of our neighborhoods and towns is preserved.

I want to recognize the work of Local Arizona First, a non-profit organization consisting of independent businesses, in making Arizona communities aware of the economic impact independent businesses have on local economies. Their mission is to promote, support, and celebrate a vibrant and sustainable Arizona economy by educating citizens about local business ownership, social equity, cultural diversity, environmental kinship, and collaboration.

On Friday, November 27, 2009, Local Arizona First will be launching their "Buy Local Week" in Arizona. I applaud their work and wholeheartedly support their efforts in showcasing the economic benefits of buying locally in our community.

HONORING 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF
SEARCH

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 17, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased today to offer my support of House Resolution 851 recognizing and honoring the 40th Anniversary of SEARCH, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics. For the past 40 years, SEARCH has worked to identify and solve information management problems of law enforcement agencies across the United States.

Accurate, efficient and effective communications between and among Federal, State and local agencies have posed challenges to effective public service since the beginning of organized governments in America. Thus, in 1969, the Department of Justice's Law Enforcement Assistance Administration developed SEARCH, a 10-State project designed to test the feasibility of an interstate automated exchange of criminal history records. The program was a success, and over the past 40 years, SEARCH has maintained a leading role in providing solutions to information management challenges nationwide.

SEARCH is a nonprofit organization created by and for the States and governed by a membership group that includes one appointee from each of the 50 States, Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Its mission is "to improve the quality of justice and public safety through the use, management and exchange of information; application of new technologies; and responsible law and policy; while safeguarding security and privacy." SEARCH has succeeded in using information sharing technology to help agencies to make accurate, informed, immediate and well-secured decisions about criminal justice and security issues.

SEARCH has played a crucial role in developing systems of collaboration for law enforcement agencies across the Nation. A few examples include: the Interstate Identification, a national index of criminal histories maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation; the National Instant Criminal Background Check System, a mechanism for determining eligibility to buy a firearm; the National Fingerprint

File, a tool that allows States to maintain their own fingerprint records while still sharing information with Federal and State law enforcement agencies around the country; and the Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System, a national fingerprint identification and criminal history system maintained by the Federal Bureau of Investigation. Such systems have been critical in sharing data to enhance law enforcement capabilities nationwide.

It is important to recognize, however, that accuracy in law enforcement is as important as vigilance. Accurate law enforcement requires strict focus on privacy rights especially when sharing information. SEARCH has been instrumental in championing privacy and civil rights in law enforcement. SEARCH has addressed the need to protect privacy, civil rights and civil liberties while promoting public and individual safety.

For example, in its "Guide to Conducting Privacy Impact Assessments for State, Local, and Tribal Information Sharing Initiatives," SEARCH identifies the potential risks of law-enforcement agency information-sharing. It writes: "[Data Sharing's] inappropriate or reckless use may irreparably damage reputations, threaten individual liberty, place personal safety at risk, or deny individuals access to some of life's most basic necessities such as employment, housing, and education. Greater information-sharing capabilities and opportunities are accompanied by equally greater responsibilities for protecting the privacy of the information being used and exchanged." In that document, SEARCH goes on to instruct agencies on how to assess the potential privacy risks of their information-sharing programs, and how to develop policies to help mitigate some of those risks.

I further congratulate SEARCH on its cutting edge technological advancements. Who could have guessed at the inception of SEARCH in 1969 that communications systems would evolve as far as they have? Over the years, SEARCH has managed not only to keep up with the remarkable technological advances of the past 40 years, but to be at the cutting edge. The original purpose of the SEARCH project was to examine the possibility of an automated system for exchanging information about criminals.

Today, it uses a variety of technological tools ranging from biometric technologies to cellular device data recovery tools to aid in crime prevention. SEARCH also trains and equips law enforcement agencies nationwide on issues of high-tech crime. It provides courses through its outreach training program on topics including: systems security, digital data recovery, and computer forensics. Further, SEARCH provides resources for investigators investigating crimes involving the internet such as online child exploitation. Such focus on technological advances is part of the reason for the success of SEARCH over the past 40 years and will certainly be an important component of its continued success over the next 40.

In addition to those SEARCH activities designed to aid law enforcement, I think it is important to recognize and applaud SEARCH's impact on public safety through its communications interoperability training programs. Information sharing and agency collaboration plays an important role, not just in crime prevention, but also in disaster relief. In August 2008, SEARCH was instrumental in enhancing Texas' communications response to Hurricane Gustav.

Gustav approached the State of Texas as a SEARCH All-Hazards Type III Communications Unit Leader, COML, training course was being conducted in my home town of Houston. As the hurricane bore down, the SEARCH instructors immediately mobilized the State emergency managers along with their students to construct the State's emergency communications response to Gustav. The instructors then deployed some students from the course to use the course's teachings to coordinate interoperable communications for emergency first responders. This is just one example of how SEARCH's programs have benefited, not only the people of my home State of Texas, but people all across the country. Efficient emergency response communications are an important part of keeping Americans safe.

Providing 40 years of effective information management tools to Federal, State and local agencies across the Nation is a wonderful accomplishment. Indeed, SEARCH has managed to stay at the forefront of communications technology as it pertains to law enforcement and public safety. It has effectively navigated America's transition to the information age of the 21st century and provided services to aid governments in saving lives.

Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to vote in favor of this resolution to salute SEARCH, the National Consortium for Justice Information and Statistics, for its success in providing quality tools for law enforcement and public safety across the United States of America.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

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 Thursday, November 19, 2009 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED
NOVEMBER 20

10 a.m.
Finance
To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Mary John Miller, of Maryland, to be Assistant Secretary, and Charles Collins, of Maryland, to be Deputy Under Secretary, both of the Department of the Treasury.

SD-215

DECEMBER 2

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine policy options for reducing greenhouse gas emissions.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
Disaster Recovery Subcommittee
To hold hearings to examine disaster case management, focusing on developing a comprehensive national program focused on outcomes.

SD-342

DECEMBER 10

10 a.m.
Energy and Natural Resources
To hold hearings to examine the role of grid-scale energy storage in meeting our energy and climate goals.

SD-366