

Congress has also worked to improve the tools of the SEC to conduct oversight. This bill is in line with the effort to reform the oversight of securities and ensure that massive fraud that was committed on the scale of Bernard Madoff never happens again.

Currently, the Securities and Exchange Commission has to issue subpoenas in the judicial district where the trial takes place or within a "100-mile bulge" of the courthouse. This unnecessarily burdens the staff, which has to travel to the courts where the trial takes place, wasting both time and money. Furthermore, by requiring the SEC to seek action in remote district courts, civil cases may be weakened. Witnesses in cases filed by the SEC are frequently located outside of the trial court's subpoena range. Because witnesses who are not able to travel would have to provide an alternative to live testimony, such as a videotaped deposition or written testimony, the impact of their statement is lost. Additionally, securities violations using the internet involve persons across jurisdictions.

H.R. 2873 will streamline the SEC's ability to investigate potential cases of violations of securities law. This bill will allow nationwide service of subpoenas in civil actions brought by the SEC in Federal courts. By granting the SEC this authority, this legislation will eliminate repetitive depositions. While the Congressional Budget Office has not scored this legislation, logically, this legislation will reduce costs for the SEC. The costs of creating and presenting videotaped depositions will be reduced. Additionally, SEC staff will no longer have to travel to file motions in remote district courts, saving the staff time and the taxpayer money.

Other agencies with similar mandates have long had the authority for nationwide service. This body has already considered and passed this provision: during the 110th Congress, the House of Representatives passed a law of this nature in Section 19 of H.R. 6513, the Securities Act of 2008. Furthermore, the SEC already has this authority in administrative proceedings.

HONORING THE MOUND CITY HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to recognize the outstanding achievement of the Mound City Panthers High School football team in defeating St. Joseph Christian, by a score of 50-8, to claim victory in this year's Show-Me Bowl.

Once again, the Panthers were able to be crowned champions this season through hard work and tireless effort. This is the second straight year that the Panthers have beaten the Lions in the 8-man title game. These young men have worked tirelessly for years on sharpening the skills needed to achieve the success they most definitely deserve. I join with the community of Mound City in expressing how proud we are of the team under the leadership of Coach Brian Messer and his coaching staff. I wish them the very best and look forward to continued success in the future.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you to join me in congratulating the Mound City High School football team on their state championship.

TRIBUTE TO DR. JOHN BRADHAM
COMMEMORATING HIS RETIREMENT FROM SCRA

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, today I rise in recognition of the extraordinary efforts of Dr. John Bradham, a life-long patriot and public servant to the citizens of South Carolina and the United States. Born and raised in Sumter, John's unyielding desire to learn and succeed led him to the University of South Carolina for his undergraduate studies and to Texas A&M for multiple advanced degrees. John has a rich history of putting others' needs before his own with the utmost honesty and integrity. He served 24 years in the United States Air Force where he filled numerous leadership roles including command of Air Force Command, Control, Communications, and Computer, C4, programs, as well as environmental research on aircraft systems, radar, and various energy communications systems. John's contributions and service to his country have gone above and beyond the call of duty, evident by the fact that he retired from the Air Force as a full colonel before joining the South Carolina Research Authority, SCRA.

I have had the pleasure of working with John during his tenure at SCRA on a variety of high-level programs that have benefited South Carolinians, our warfighters, and the United States' national security. As the Senior Vice President at SCRA and head of the Institute for Solutions Generation, ISG, John has been an impetus for ingenuity and a driving force for upholding the highest standards of professionalism.

Dr. Bradham's technical knowledge has been crucial in SCRA programs and other projects for pushing the limits of technology and expanding the capabilities of our manufacturing sector to increase America's defense readiness.

I commend Dr. John Bradham for his outstanding service to the United States and for embodying the ideals and morals of what we hold a true American to be. His dedication to his family, friends, and colleagues is unmistakable and seen through the respect and honor he has earned and so righteously deserves. I wish John the best of luck in his future endeavors including his decision to teach and share his technical expertise with the youth of South Carolina. May God bless John, his wife Becky, their two children, and five grandchildren.

HONORING JOHN J. RUFÉ

HON. PATRICK J. MURPHY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. PATRICK J. MURPHY of Pennsylvania. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor John J. Rufe of Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Serving his community as a presiding judge in the Bucks County Court of Common Pleas for twenty years, John J. Rufe has embodied what it means to be a public servant.

He has been responsible for authoring several landmark decisions on open space preservation zoning and has presided over the county's asbestos liability litigation for over a decade. In addition, John has been recognized by many for his attentive and considerate mediation in the complex and difficult field of child custody litigation.

John has also served as the President of the Bucks County Bar Association. He has been a contributor to Continuing Legal Education panels and has been a valuable resource for many beginning lawyers by offering constructive comment and guidance.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize the Honorable John J. Rufe for his outstanding commitment to public service, his community and his country. I am extremely honored to serve as his Congressman.

PROTECT RELIGIOUS MINORITIES
IN IRAQ

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, today I am introducing a resolution designed to raise awareness and express support for Iraqi religious minorities. The war in Iraq and the subsequent ethnic and sectarian violence has created a massive humanitarian crisis, and led to the displacement of millions of people. Iraqi religious minorities are particularly vulnerable, and are often specifically targeted in gruesome and random acts of violence, such as murder, rape, and abductions.

Many who have escaped Iraq to seek refuge in neighboring countries are forced to live in poverty, unable to legally work and lacking sufficient support from their host government. Those who remain in Iraq live a life of constant fear. They are forced into hiding and are vulnerable to emotional and physical attacks. Iraqi religious minorities lack the resources and sturdy community foundation necessary to defend themselves, and thus remain underrepresented politically, legally, and economically. Muslims and non-Muslims alike are exposed to such attacks, but the smaller religious sects remain more vulnerable, including Chaldeans, Syriacs, Assyrians, and other Christians, Sabeen Mandeans, and Yazidis. Catholic Christians have witnessed the killing of Archbishop Paulos Faraj Rahho and the ancient Iraqi Jewish community has seen itself diminish to a population of only ten members.

This resolution calls upon the combined efforts of the United States Government and United Nations to ask the Iraqi Government to protect religious minorities by encouraging free and fair elections, training Iraqi security forces and providing safe places to worship. It also seeks an investigation into human rights violations, and calls for an end to the abuse of Iraqi religious minorities. Finally, the resolution calls for United States to work with the Iraqi government to ensure the physical and economic safety of those wishing to return to Iraq.

It is no longer possible to stand by and watch as millions of religious minorities are

subjected to torture, abuse, and discrimination, which is why I ask my colleagues to support this important resolution.

HONORING THE SAVANNAH HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS' GOLF TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to congratulate Coach Tammy Steinkamp and the Savannah High School girls' golf team on their victory in the Missouri class 1 state championship. After a long, hard season these young women showed their true character by bringing home the state title.

A championship is not only a reflection of the final tournament of the year but also the hard work and dedication required in getting to that point. These young women have worked tirelessly for years on sharpening the skills needed to achieve the success they most definitely deserve. I join the community of Savannah in expressing how proud we are of this team and their incredible accomplishments. I wish them the very best and look forward to more success in the future.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you join with me in commending the Savannah High School girls' golf team on their state championship.

MILITARY FAMILY MONTH

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON-LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 2, 2009

Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 861, which supports the goals and ideals of National Military Family Month. The fact that our star-spangled banner yet wave is a testament to the courage and honor of our military which is reason enough to thank the men and women of our military for the safety we have here in America; equally important are the loved ones they leave behind each tour, who support them and help keep them going day in and out.

In 1996, the Armed Services YMCA expanded Military Family Week, which usually occurred around Thanksgiving, into Military Family Month. Just like the week grew into a month long celebration in appreciation, so to have military families grown in number. "When I came in the service back in the Dark Ages, most of the troops were single. Everybody was single," said retired Navy Rear Adm. Frank Gallo, director of the Armed Services YMCA. Now, he added, 65 percent to 70 percent of service members are married, many with children. Families are a big part of the military, and the health of those families is also a big part of the readiness of the military, he said.

Military Family Month puts a little extra focus on supporting the families who support the men and women of our military. This has especially been true since the beginning of the conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq as more of our soldiers are deployed.

The men and women of our military, through trial and tribulation, carry on; which they do in the name of many things, namely freedom, justice, democracy as well as in the name of their family and loved ones. The support necessary to keep a person going in such an atrocious environment is unfathomable, yet their families too, carry on. In my home district, the 18th District of Texas, we currently have, according to the Department of Defense, approximately 400 men and women in the military. With President Obama's planned deployment of 30,000 more troops to Afghanistan, there is bound to be more families left without sons, daughters, brothers, sisters, mothers and fathers here at home. National Military Family Month will help provide encouragement to military families who in turn support our military men and women.

Military families, through their sacrifices and their dedication to the United States and its values, represent the bedrock upon which the United States was founded and upon which the country continues to rely in these perilous and challenging times. The month of November, which includes the Veterans Day holiday, is an appropriate month to observe National Military Family Month, which recognizes the sacrifices and dedication of military families and their contributions to the United States. H. Res. 861 will also encourage the people of the United States to observe National Military Family Month with appropriate ceremonies and activities.

HONORING EDDIE ROBERT STEFFNE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Eddie Robert Steffne as he is honored by the Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan. A dinner will be held in his honor on Sunday, December 6th in Mt. Morris, Michigan.

A lifelong resident of Genesee County, Michigan, Eddie Steffne served in the U.S. military after attending Beecher High School. He received his honorable discharge in 1957 returning to the Flint area and attended Flint Community College. He became a master mechanic and worked for Sears and Roebuck, Midas Muffler, Draper Chevrolet, Summerfield Chevrolet, Hunter Engineering and Applegate Chevrolet.

Eddie joined the Montrose Masonic Lodge No. 428 in 1976. He served as Worshipful Master in 1982 and 2006. Also in 1982 he was appointed District Deputy Instructor then in 1992 he was appointed Regional Grand Lecturer. The Grand Lodge of Free and Accepted Masons of Michigan elected him Right Worshipful Grand Lecturer.

Active in the community, Eddie has supported the Shriner's Children Hospitals, the Old Newsboys of Flint, the city of Flint Police Mounted Patrol and Canine Unit, and he is a 32nd degree Scottish Rite Mason and supports their charities. Eddie and his late wife, Ruth Ann, had 4 children: Eddie Ray, Gregory, Shannon and Todd. Eddie Ray passed away in 1978.

Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Eddie

Robert Steffne as he gathers with his family, Masons from throughout Michigan, friends, and his special friend Cynthia Allard, to celebrate his work and contributions to Masonry and the Flint area. I wish him the best for years to come.

HONORING THE MARYVILLE HIGH SCHOOL FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise to congratulate Coach Chris Holt and the Maryville High School football team for winning the Missouri Class 2 state championship. After a hard fought season, the Spoofhounds finished the year with an impressive 35-0 victory in the state final and a 14-1 record.

Not only should these young men be proud of the enormity of their accomplishment but also the manner in which it was achieved. Throughout the season the Maryville football team played with heart, class and great sportsmanship. I join the entire Maryville community in congratulating the players and coaches on their many successes throughout the season and look forward to the seasons to come.

Madam Speaker, I respectfully request you join with me in commending the Maryville Spoofhounds on their state championship.

125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CENTRAL UNION MISSION

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 3, 2009

Mr. ADERHOLT. Madam Speaker, I would like to bring the House's attention to an important milestone taking place in the District of Columbia. The Central Union Mission, the longest serving social service organization in the District, is celebrating its 125th anniversary of helping transform the lives of the least, the lost, and the last in Washington.

Beginning in 1884, the Central Union Mission, a highly effective faith-based nonprofit, has provided a compassionate helping hand to literally thousands of the District's homeless and addicted men, women and children. For some veterans of the Civil War who returned to Washington down and out, they turned to the Mission for assistance and the Mission faithfully provided it. During the Great Depression, the Mission was the nexus of the City for many who were jobless and penniless. Veterans of two world wars enlisted the Mission to help them fight battles of addiction and homelessness.

Just a short drive from this magnificent Capitol building, the Mission has been in operation continuously throughout 24 presidential administrations. The Mission has changed from what we would think of as a traditional homeless shelter providing food, clothing, and a safe place to sleep for the night, to a sophisticated transitional facility. The Mission provides emergency services to the homeless, life skills and job training, education and computer programs, group and individual therapy, clinical