

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### HONORING VERN MOSS

#### HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2009

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Vern Moss upon his being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. Mr. Moss was honored on Saturday, January 31, 2009.

Vern Moss was born on September 2, 1939 in Yuba City, California. He spent much of his childhood on his uncle's dairy farm in Madera, California. After school, on the weekends and during the summers, Mr. Moss worked in the fields picking cotton, cutting grapes and bucking bales. He attended Pershing School, was a member of the first graduating class at Jefferson Junior High School and attended Madera High School. At age seventeen he left home to live with his aunt and uncle in San Jose; he graduated from San Jose High School in 1958. Upon graduation he moved to Visalia, attended College of the Sequoias, and worked at the Visalia Times-Delta.

In 1963 Mr. Moss received word that he would be drafted, so he immediately joined the U.S. Air Force. He went to Lackland Air Force Base for basic training, followed by technical school at Greenville Air Force Base, Mississippi. His next assignment was Mountain Home Air Force Base, Idaho. While in Idaho, he attended college courses in the evening. After meeting the necessary requirements, Mr. Moss attended Park College and earned his Bachelor's of Arts degree. Upon returning to Mountain Home, he applied for Officer Training School and was accepted. He was commissioned a Second Lieutenant on February 6, 1967 and directed to report to the 666 Radar Squadron, Mid Valley, California. He served as Administrative Officer, with numerous duties including Chief and Battle Staff Security Control. He was soon sent to Lowry Air Force Base, Colorado for further training.

In October 1968, Mr. Moss was sworn into the U.S. Army at Fort Ord, California; he and his family were quickly transferred to Germany. Upon arriving at HQ TASCOR in Germany, he was made Deputy Commander, 5th Replacement Detachment and Deputy Chief, Personnel Management Branch. Soon after arriving, he was promoted to Unit Commander and Chief PMB. In January 1970, he moved his family back to the states before leaving for Vietnam. He first arrived in Cam Ranh Bay then was told to report to Saigon where he was assigned as the MACV J-6, Executive Officer. During this tour, he was awarded the Bronze Star, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Vietnam Campaign Medal with three stars, Vietnam Service Medal and the Vietnam Signal Corp devise (a foreign award).

Upon returning to the United States Mr. Moss attended six months of school at Fort Benjamin Harrison, Indiana. He served as the Division Postal Officer and then was promoted

to Chief, Personnel Management Division in the Division's Adjunct Generals Office at the 4th Infantry Division at Fort Carson, Colorado. An opportunity arose for him to take command of a unit, and he took it; the 4th Infantry Division's Headquarters Company Administrative Command, a unit with over nine hundred service members assigned to it. It was a short lived assignment; he was then reassigned to Germany.

Shortly after arriving, he took command of one of the worst units in Germany. With the Inspector General due to arrive within one week, he assisted the unit as much as he could, but they failed all but two areas during the inspection. After the inspection he was determined to clean up his unit. He sent soldiers to Leavenworth Military Disciplinary Barrack and gave sixty-three expeditious discharges. Six months after taking control of the unit, a Commanding General and the Command Sergeant Major visited the unit; they passed the inspection with all areas satisfactory and with four commendable areas. From there, Mr. Moss became a Major and was selected to Command and General Staff College. He was given the opportunity to start a new unit at Wiesbaden to support the deploying Brigade 75.

In 1976, Mr. Moss attended the ten month program at Command and General Staff College; he graduated in June 1977. His next position was to advise the New York National Guard and United States Army Reserve throughout New York State. After three years, he was nominated and selected to serve in the Organization of the Joint Chiefs of Staff in the Pentagon. His final position in the Army was at Fort Irwin where he was assigned to the Army's National Training Center and served as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel and Community Activities and finally as the Installation Adjunct General.

Mr. Moss retired from the military on October 1, 1983. Afterward, he and his family moved to Idaho; he obtained a position as a Bank Manager in Los Gatos, California. He moved up through different banks and finally ended in Chowchilla, California in 1985. He has been part of the Chowchilla community since; including serving on the City Council, County Supervisor, President of the Chowchilla Chamber of Commerce, President of Chowchilla Rotary and President of the San Joaquin Valley Rail Commission. Mr. Moss is also a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896, member of the American Legion and Trinity Pregnancy Resource Center Board (President).

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Vern Moss upon being named as a "Distinguished Life Member" by the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Post 9896. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Moss many years of continued success.

### TRIBUTE TO SERGEANT TED WADE, AN AMERICAN HERO

#### HON. JOHN P. MURTHA

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 2009

Mr. MURTHA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the valor and determination of Army Sergeant Ted Wade and his wife Sarah.

An American hero, Ted served his country in Afghanistan with the 82nd Airborne in 2002, and later deployed to Iraq with his unit in July of 2003. On February 14, 2004, the Humvee Ted was riding in hit an improvised explosive device (IED), throwing Ted from the vehicle, severing his right arm, and causing significant traumatic brain injury.

Ted, unconscious and in a coma, was evacuated to the Landstuhl Regional Army Medical Center in Germany and later transferred to a civilian hospital in Germany that specialized in the care he needed. On March 2, 2004, Ted and Sarah came back to the states for recovery at Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

I first met Ted and Sarah while visiting with our wounded soldiers recovering at Walter Reed. Years later I sat with them at the 2007 Capitol Memorial Day Concert, where I learned of Ted's ongoing recovery and Sarah's fight to ensure that he receives the best possible treatment and care.

You see, military and VA doctors said that because of Ted's injuries, he would have little chance of ever walking and talking again. He was shuffled back and forth between doctors at VA facilities in North Carolina and doctors at Walter Reed. Sarah fought through the bureaucratic red tape and forced the VA to allow Ted to see one of the nation's premier traumatic brain injury specialists.

Sarah never gave up on Ted's recovery, and Ted was determined to prove his doctors wrong. Ted has achieved incredible results through his ongoing rehabilitation. He's beaten the odds for recovery, and he's proven that through persistence and perseverance individuals can overcome insurmountable odds in confronting their injuries.

Today, Ted and Sarah continue to press lawmakers and military leaders for better health care for our wounded warriors and for additional funds for the research and treatment of traumatic brain injury (TBI). Through their work, Congress has appropriated over \$1.2 billion in just the past two years for TBI programs. Sarah also works closely with the Defense Center of Excellence for Psychological Health-Traumatic Brain Injury to ensure that other wounded service members with Ted's injuries have access to the utmost care.

Madam Speaker, Ted and Sarah Wade are an inspiration to us all. Their courage, commitment, and extraordinary story have shown us the spirit that exemplifies our military families.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

# RECOGNIZING 188TH ANNIVERSARY OF GREEK INDEPENDENCE

SPEECH OF

**HON. NIKI TSONGAS**

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, March 24, 2009*

Ms. TSONGAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 273 and to honor the people of Greece on the 188th anniversary of their independence. This occasion is truly a celebration of the shared traditions and values of American and Greek democracy.

Over a million Americans, including the family of my husband Paul, claim Greek heritage. This vibrant community contributes to the fabric of our nation and further reinforces the bond between the United States and Greece.

I had the opportunity to visit Greece just last year as part of a Congressional Delegation to the region and saw firsthand the progress Greece has made in bringing prosperity to its people.

Greece has also stepped forward on the international stage to assist others in the pursuit of freedom and democracy. Through their active engagement in international peace-keeping efforts, the Greek people have shown their leadership on the world stage as well as their commitment to the democratic ideals we share.

Our common values have built an unbreakable bond between our two nations. This bond stretches back to the founding of our country and the establishment of the modern Greek state.

It is only fitting that the House of Representatives celebrate the 188th anniversary of Greek independence; express support for the principles of democratic governance to which the people of Greece are committed; and honor the contributions of Greece to the global community throughout its 188 years as an independent nation.

As an original cosponsor of this important resolution, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 273 to honor the 188th anniversary of Greek independence and to recognize the essential role that Greek culture has played in the development of democracy around the world.

## A TRIBUTE TO THE MILWAUKEE AREA LABOR COUNCIL

**HON. GWEN MOORE**

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the Milwaukee Area Labor Council. The Milwaukee Area Labor Council is the largest central labor council in Wisconsin. On April 1, 2009, the Milwaukee Area Labor Council will celebrate its 50th anniversary as it continues to work for the betterment of the workers in their three county jurisdiction.

The MALC is not only comprised of AFL-CIO member unions but includes dues paying unions in federations such as Change to Win. Further, MALC has strived to include other unions outside these federations as active supporters, encouraging the membership of

federal unions. The MALC works closely with community, retiree, and religious groups in collaboration with such AFL-CIO initiatives as Working America.

The primary mission of the MALC is to support and energize their AFL-CIO affiliated unions in their efforts to organize. Organizing is one of the most important duties they perform and is the engine through which they build strength through membership. However, organizing is not the only function of the MALC. They are politically active in federal, state, city and county initiatives to promote both strong communities and social justice. They research, monitor, meet and support candidates that support working families. The MALC informs and mobilizes their members and strives to support candidates and elected officials who truly help working families. Finally, the MALC publishes the Milwaukee Labor Press, providing important news and motivating labor perspectives to working families.

MALC participates in issues that are important to our community such as working cooperatively with the United Way. The MALC is deeply involved in the annual campaign contributing both strategies and legwork to elevate workplace giving and volunteerism. Union councils and their locals also provide direct help through treasury gifts, volunteer efforts and special charitable support.

MALC also initiates charitable campaigns like the Spring Health and Hygiene Drive. The drive has been so successful in providing health and hygiene products for Milwaukee's homeless shelters that the shelters could reallocate funds for this purpose to other clients needs.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to say the Milwaukee Area Labor Council provides a critical service to the people in the 4th Congressional District. The MALC takes a leading role in charities, legislative work, and social action. The breadth of their membership recognizes the importance of solidarity for all workers and is reflected by the diversity and reach of MALC.

## CONGRATULATING THE MID-OHIO REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION ON ITS 40TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. MARY JO KILROY**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission (MORPC) on its 40th anniversary. MORPC has been vital in assisting local governments of Central Ohio to address challenges and opportunities associated with growth and development in the region.

Solving important issues such as transportation, economic development, and energy conservation are vital to our country's success in the 21st century. Central Ohio is grateful to have a long lasting partnership with an organization that tackles these issues and works to solve problems.

The Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission partners with over 40 local governments who represent all sectors of central Ohio. Each of these organizations in conjunction with MORPC seeks to improve the quality of life in central Ohio.

Just one of the many examples where MORPC has supported local governments is its work with the state's Clean Ohio Fund. MORPC is assisting the state in restoring and connecting Ohio's natural and urban places by preserving green space farmland, cleaning up brown fields, and improving recreational trails. We have already seen the effects of the Clean Ohio Fund with redevelopment and job creation in central Ohio.

I want to thank MORPC for working with the 44 local partners to ensure prosperity and growth for their communities. I would like to congratulate the leadership of MORPC including Executive Director Chester Jourdan, Chair Dean Ringle, Vice Chair Derrick Clay and Secretary Marilyn Brown.

I acknowledge this historic day with our friends at the Mid-Ohio Regional Planning Commission and celebrate our continued support for their mission. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating them.

## INTRODUCTION OF THE DAIRY AND SHEEP H-2A VISA ENHANCEMENT ACT (H.R. 1660)

**HON. JOHN M. McHUGH**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, March 30, 2009*

Mr. McHUGH. Madam Speaker, on March 23, 2009, the Gentleman from New York, Mr. ARCURI, the Gentleman from California, Mr. NUNES, the Gentleman from Utah, Mr. BISHOP, and I introduced legislation, the Dairy and Sheep H-2A Visa Enhancement Act (H.R. 1660). This measure would allow dairy farmers to access the H-2A visa program and codify longstanding regulatory practices used by sheepherders and thus provide certainty to these two industries, which collectively accounted for over \$141 billion in economic activity in 2007.

In New York's 23rd District, which I have the privilege of representing, dairy is an integral component of the economy, with approximately 2,000 dairy farms with some 190,000 milk cows dispersed across the 11 counties that comprise the region. Dairy farmers have long overcome natural disasters and wide farm price fluctuations, such as the current nearly 50 percent decline in the price of milk from just one year ago. However, these difficulties are exacerbated by current labor shortages, which cause farms to either remain static in size, shrink, or make a decision to end a way of life and go out of business. Whether in New York or California, with a herd large or small, dairies need sufficiently trained and skilled labor.

Dairy work is demanding and must be done around the clock, 365 days a year. During the past decade, dairy farms throughout the nation have increasingly experienced difficulty in hiring local workers to meet their needs and, as a result, are ever more reliant upon immigrant labor. The tremendous uncertainty regarding that labor supply has a profound impact on their ability to plan for the future and make sound business decisions.

Under the H-2A program, employers may hire foreign workers to perform full-time, temporary or seasonal agricultural work. However, the H-2A program does not work effectively for dairy because the program requires both