most economically and ethnically diverse communities. During the years spanning Chief Poppelreiter's career, the Fire Department grew to a full-time professional staff of over 100 that serve West Bloomfield and several of the surrounding communities. During his tenure, Chief Poppelreiter's commitment to excellence has ensured that the residents of West Bloomfield have received outstanding fire safety protection.

Chief Poppelreiter's career illustrates exemplary public service in its truest spirit and finest tradition. His absence in retirement will surely be felt by his colleagues and the residents of West Bloomfield. Madam Speaker I ask all of my colleagues to join me today in honoring the courageous work and unwavering commitment of Chief Poppelreiter to the community and citizens of West Bloomfield.

HONORING JOSYF SLIPYJ

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the lifelong service and dedication of the Servant of God, Patriarch Josyf Slipyj to the Ukrainian Church and community. He died on September 7, 1984, and on November 22nd, 2009, a monument will be raised in his memory at the Sts. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Parish.

Josyf Slipyj was born on February 17, 1892 in the village of Zazdrist, Ternopil region, Ukraine, into the Kobernytskyj-Slipyj and Anastasia Dychkovska families. He completed grammar school in his village and secondary school in Ternopil. He studied theology in Lviv, and completed his philosophical and theological studies in Innsbruck, Austria.

He was ordained to the priesthood by Metropolitan Andrej Sheptytsky on September 30, 1917.

He returned to Innsbruck to continue his post-graduate studies, attaining a doctorate in sacred theology. From there he traveled to Rome where he was bestowed with the title Magister Agregatus.

He began lecturing in 1922 on dogmatic theology at Lviv Theological Seminary. Toward the end of 1925 he was appointed rector of this institution, and in 1929 he was appointed rector of the newly created Theological Academy. In 1939 metropolitan Andrej consecrated him bishop with the right of succession. On November 1, 1944, he became head of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church.

On April 11, 1945 he was arrested by the Bolsheviks and given an eight year sentence of hard labor in Siberia. After this ended and without any cause, he was imprisoned a second time for an unspecified term. In 1957 he was given a third term—seven years of hard labor. Due to the efforts of Pope John XXIII and U.S. President John F. Kennedy he was freed in 1963 to take part in the sessions of the Second Vatican Council.

Sts. Volodymyr and Olha Ukrainian Catholic Parish in Chicago, Illinois was founded in 1968 by Patriarch Josyf Slipyj. Among the reasons for establishing this distinct parish was the desire to preserve and more intensely nurture the traditions of the Ukrainian Church. The elements contributing to the Ukrainian Church's distinctiveness within the Universal Catholic Church are the Julian Calendar, a traditional liturgy, as well as a unique spiritual heritage.

Members of the parish are proud of the fact that Patriarch Josyf Slipyj was involved in all significant events of the parish's development. Besides establishing the parish, Patriarch Josyf blessed the cornerstone of the church and subsequently, in 1973, blessed the church itself. The reason for the parishioners' pride had to do with the Patriarch's position in the Catholic Church as a Confessor for the Faith.

Taking the lead from his predecessor Metropolitan Andrey Sheptytsky (+1944), as well as the decisions of the Second Vatican Council, Josyf Slipyj worked to restore self-government to the Ukrainian Catholic Church in the form of a Patriarchate. In 1965, he was made a cardinal by Pope Paul VI.

He died on September 7, 1984. In 1992 his remains were brought to Lviv, where they, in the presence of more than one million faithful, were re-interred in the crypt of St. George's Cathedral. Patriarch Josyf Slipyj has been proclaimed a Servant of God and the Ukrainian faithful pray for his beatification.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the great sacrifices and contributions Patriarch Josyf Slipyj made in his lifetime. His monument will stand as a reminder to all of his great achievements to future generations.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GRADUATION FOR ALL ACT OF 2009

HON. ROBERT C. "BOBBY" SCOTT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 19, 2009

Mr. SCOTT of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 4122, the Graduation for All Act of 2009 (GFA). I would like to thank Chairman GEORGE MILLER for introducing this comprehensive bill that creates a three-year grant to help turn around our nation's lowest performing schools. This bill will help address some of the problems facing our schools and ensure that they are moving toward a goal of graduating all of our children.

For far too long, schools have not been held accountable for ensuring that students graduate on time with a high school diploma. As a result, some students leave high school without a meaningful education that provides quality academic experiences sufficient for success in college or the workplace. Additionally, high school students are dropping out at an alarming rate. A recent study found that only 53 percent of all young people in the nation's 50 largest cities are graduating from high school on time. Regrettably, roughly 12 percent of all secondary schools in the United States produce approximately half of the nation's secondary school dropouts. In these secondary schools, known as ''dropout factories,'' African American, Native American and Hispanic students have graduation rates that are 50 percent or below.

Recently, strong reform efforts have targeted dropout factories and other low performing high schools, but it is obvious we have to do more and start our efforts earlier. More of an emphasis must be placed on the lowest performing middle schools. Too many students leave middle school with significant deficiencies such as being behind on English and Math proficiency; this leaves them ill prepared for the rigors of high school.

Increasing graduation rates and improving academic achievement will enrich the lives of our children as well as strengthen our workforce and nation as a whole. A nation enjoys a competitive advantage in the global marketplace when it has a well educated and well trained workforce. If we expect to compete, we must ensure that all of our children receive a quality education.

The Graduation for All Act will make education a priority and invests significant funding to accomplish several goals. First, it provides funding for schools to increase teacher and leadership effectiveness, hire highly qualified teachers, restructure schools, and transition students out of low performing schools into higher achieving schools. Second, the bill will fund initiatives that increase college access and completion such as dual enrollment and early college programs. Finally, the legislation includes provisions from the Every Student Counts Act (ESCA, H.R. 1569), which I introduced on March 17, 2009, that will require consistent and accurate counting of high school dropouts, require the establishment of aggressive and attainable graduation rate goals, and provide incentives to meet these goals.

This bill will make significant strides toward improving student achievement, postsecondary readiness and graduation rates. It is my hope that Congress will move this legislation quickly and it will be signed into law. This will ensure that all of our nation's students will receive the kind of help and support required for them to obtain a quality education. Thank you.