

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

CONGRATULATING THE STUDENTS OF URBAN PREP ACADEMY

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, today, I wish to congratulate the young men of the Urban Prep Charter Academy of Englewood class of 2010. As a result of the dedication these students have shown to their education, they have made a rousing achievement. The student body of this institution is 100 percent male, 100 percent African American, and 85 percent from low income families. Moreover, every single member of the Urban Prep Academy class of 2010 was admitted into a 4-year college or university. Together, these young men have earned nearly \$4 million in scholarships and grants. The achievement of these 107 individuals stands not only as a testament to their efforts, but also as evidence of the commitment of the educators who prepared them for college and who encouraged them to succeed. Too often, schools that have high percentages of minority students who are low-income make the news for failure. I am proud to recognize the achievement and success of these young men from Chicago.

I also wish to recognize the contributions made to the Chicago Community by Urban Prep Academies—the non-profit organization that operates the three Urban Prep schools in Englewood, East Garfield Park, and the South Shore. Urban Prep Academies was founded in 2002 by a group of African-American leaders from the Chicago civic, business, and education communities. Their efforts were organized by Tim King, whose vision for a school that prepares male urban youth for success in college serves as the foundation of the three Urban Prep Academies. The Englewood site was the Nation's first charter public high school for boys, and the class of 2010 is the first graduating class of the three academies. The success of Urban Prep has been highlighted in over 140 media outlets including the Chicago Tribune, the Washington Post, ABC News, and many others. The intuition can take much pride in the achievements of the class of 2010.

It is no secret that the American public education system is struggling with meeting the educational challenges facing minority men. Schools in low-income areas with large percentages of minority families are often plagued by underfunding and high dropout rates. Nationally, only 48 percent of black men graduate high school. In Chicago, the graduation rate for black men is only 30.8 percent. A 2006 study by the University of Chicago further revealed that only 2.5 percent of African American boys from Chicago Public Schools successfully graduate from a four-year institution. This is unacceptable. The Urban Prep Academy was designed to address this injustice. The Urban Prep Academy was designed

to focus on the needs of minority men, to provide them a high quality education, to support their educational success through mentors, and to create an educated citizenry that reflects the diversity of our nation. I rise today with this story of strength from the Urban Prep Academy, which provides an example of how to help minority men achieve. The achievements of the class of 2010 not only demonstrate the ability of African-American males, but they also stand as an inspiration to all the urban youth of America. I offer my hearty congratulations, and I wish the graduates much success as they begin their college careers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, on Monday, June 14, 2010, I missed rollcall vote No. 355 due to a flight delay. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote No. 355, to pass House Resolution 1368, supporting the goals of National Dairy Month, a resolution of which I am a cosponsor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GWEN MOORE

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Ms. MOORE of Wisconsin. Madam Speaker, I was unable to vote on rollcalls 368–375 on June 17. Had I been present I would have voted yes on each with the exception of rollcall 374. On rollcall 374, I would have voted no.

REPRESENTATIVE DAVID
DREIER'S MEMORIAL DAY AD-
DRESS

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend to my colleagues' attention a recent public address by the gentleman from California, Mr. DREIER, on the occasion of Memorial Day. For the past five years, I have had the privilege of serving with Mr. DREIER on the House Democracy Partnership, a bipartisan commission established by the House of Representatives in 2005 that works to strengthen the capacity of legislatures in emerging and developing democracies around the world. Mr. DREIER was the commission's first chairman and now serves as its ranking Republican member. As

the current chairman, I have had the privilege of working closely with him as we have sought to support our fellow legislators and their staffs in countries ranging from Haiti and Peru to Indonesia and East Timor.

On this Memorial Day, Mr. DREIER reflected on the work of the House Democracy Partnership and the relationship between the sacrifices made by our nation's men and women in uniform and the cause of freedom around the world. I have included his eloquent remarks in their entirety below:

I have been privileged to stand here on several previous occasions, and have had the honor of getting to know many of you. Every year we come together on Memorial Day to remember the war dead and to honor their service. We are humbled by their sacrifice. But I believe we honor them fully not just in solemn remembrance, but in commemorating their legacy as well.

Their legacy, first and foremost, is our 221-year history as a nation that was founded in, and has prospered by, a commitment to liberty. We have faced many crises. But we have endured because the men and women of our armed forces have fought to defend the principles on which our country was built.

These principles are enduring because they are universal. Across all cultural and geographic boundaries, people want to live in liberty. Which is why the legacy of those we honor today is evidenced not just here at home, but in the many fledgling democracies around the world. Democratic governance is taking hold in places that previously knew only totalitarianism or military dictatorship, like Macedonia and Indonesia. Places that were plagued with violence and chaos, like Colombia and Liberia. Places that were controlled by a foreign power, like East Timor and Kosovo.

In some of these places, our military has played a direct role, such as the former Yugoslavia. But their greatest influence has been simply in defending the principles that offer the only path to lasting peace. We have seen throughout our history that wherever there is tyranny, there can be no real security. Wherever repression and poverty allow resentments and extremism to spread, violence will always follow. And because repression's greatest enemy is liberty, the violence that follows will always threaten our security and our interests.

In recognition of this fact, I had the privilege of founding a commission in the House of Representatives called the House Democracy Partnership. For the last five years, this commission has worked with a number of new and reemerging democracies, like those I named before, to provide support and assistance in their quest to solidify their democratic gains. As we engage with the popularly elected representatives of these countries, the legacy of our armed forces provides the context for this work. We act with the knowledge that their sacrifice is what has enabled the United States to serve as a model for the rest of the world, and the recognition that failure to see democracy take hold threatens our security.

Of the 15 countries with which the House Democracy Partnership is currently working, the stakes are highest in Afghanistan and Pakistan, ground zero for the struggle against violent extremism. Nearly 100,000 of

• 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.

our men and women in uniform are currently in harm's way in the region, as we all know very well. They are doing what they have always done: valiantly defending the people of the United States. But we want them to be able to complete their mission and come home as soon as possible.

That means that the Afghan people must build a stable, peaceful, democratic government that will neither threaten the U.S. nor allow a breeding ground for terrorism to once again take root. As difficult as that process is, the right seeds have been planted. I have seen former adversaries in war sit around a table in Kabul, discussing the path forward for the Afghan people. I have worked with legislators in Islamabad who are determined to root out all forms of terrorism until it is completely eradicated from Pakistani territory.

These democratic efforts are made possible by the work that our troops are doing. Our service members are working to create the security and political space for these efforts to be successful. This is a Herculean task that can seem impossible at times. But if our nation's history demonstrates anything, it is the power of liberty and democratic principles. And our soldiers, sailors, marines, airmen and guardsmen have been their guarantor for 221 years. Today we honor all who have served, all who have made the ultimate sacrifice, and all who are currently in harm's way. And we honor them with the recognition that the fruit of their sacrifice is evident not just here at home, but around the globe.

IN RECOGNITION OF MRS. NANCY PIRONE

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Mr. ROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Nancy Maria Grassano Pirone, an extraordinary resident of New Jersey's Ninth District, in celebration of her 90th birthday on June 21, 2010. Born in Matera, Italy, Mrs. Pirone immigrated to New York City with her family when she was only 11 months old. In 1941, she married her husband, Carmine, and 3 years later, their daughter Esther was born. In 1953, they moved to Leonia, NJ, where Mrs. Pirone has lived ever since.

From the beginning of their time in Leonia, Mrs. Pirone and her husband established themselves as active and devoted members of the community, becoming involved with the St. John's Altar Society, the Women's Club of Leonia, the American Legion, Leonia's annual Memorial Day Parade, and many other groups and events. Because Esther had Down syndrome, the Pirones were active volunteers with The Arc of Bergen and Passaic Counties. They helped organize The Arc's "Camp Rainbow," a special needs summer camp that was constructed at a time when only minimal services were provided for children like Esther.

Mrs. Pirone is also widely known in Leonia for her 28 years as a crossing guard, having served longer than any other crossing guard in the borough. She retired 2 years before her 30th anniversary to care for Carmine during

his battle with cancer. Mrs. Pirone has lived through the passing of both her husband and her daughter, Esther, a mere 3 years apart, yet she still remains a warm and positive influence on everyone she meets.

I am proud to have such a kind-hearted and generous individual as Nancy Maria Grassano Pirone as part of my constituency and I am grateful for her many years of service to the Borough of Leonia, New Jersey.

Madam Speaker, today I would like to wish Mrs. Nancy Pirone a happy 90th birthday and continued good health and happiness!

RECOGNIZING THE 55TH ANNIVERSARY OF DES PLAINES OFFICE EQUIPMENT

HON. PETER J. ROSKAM

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Mr. ROSKAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 55th anniversary of Des Plaines Office Equipment, a leading distributor of document generation equipment in the Chicagoland area.

Under the leadership of its President, Chip Miceli, this company has excelled within the field of print management. It currently operates in three Illinois locations, with its headquarters in Elk Grove Village, a thriving town within my District.

Since 1955, Des Plaines Office Equipment has been committed to guaranteeing fast response times when assisting businesses. They have displayed superior technical service and are constantly exploring new technology. They are also active in a variety of civic organizations, such as the Chicago and Des Plaines Chambers of Commerce.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, please join me in recognizing this important landmark in our community as we celebrate the admirable legacy that Des Plaines Office Equipment continues to build for itself. I wish the people at Des Plaines Office Equipment much success for its next 55 years of service.

HONORING JOHN DELLORO

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 21, 2010

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of an outstanding citizen and community advocate, John Delloro. Delloro was the National President of the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance (APALA) and spent nearly twenty years of his life devoted to supporting and serving working people. He carried a powerful message with a powerful voice.

As a child, Delloro's mother was a nurse who had to work long hours. He took on additional responsibilities and cared for his brother as his mother worked night shifts every day. He knew firsthand the need for labor rights

and drew from his personal experiences to inspire others.

After graduating from the University of California, Los Angeles, with a Bachelors degree in Psychology and Masters in Asian American studies, Delloro began working with the Asian Pacific American Labor Alliance. His first labor movement position was organizing hotel workers in Las Vegas, Nevada. From there, he went on to organize clerical and healthcare workers in Los Angeles. John showed that he was capable at not only be an effective organizer, but able to build important coalitions and partnerships.

In 2003, he was promoted to the Southwest Area Manager of SEIU 1000, the largest state workers union in the country at that time, with close to 100,000 members. In 2006, John was hired as the first executive director of the Dolores Huerta Labor Institute, which works to expand labor studies curriculum for over 130,000 students within the Los Angeles Community College District. Delloro believed that it was not enough to only help mobilize workers, but it was also important to teach students the importance of labor rights. Under his leadership, the program grew stronger and expanded to all nine campuses. John continued his role as an educator as an Asian American studies professor at UCLA. There, he motivated and mentored hundreds of students in the ways of advocacy and community organizing.

Delloro also authored *Breaking Ground, Breaking Silence*: a report from the first National Asian Pacific American Workers' Rights Hearing and was the 2009 recipient of Asian Pacific Americans for Progress Unsung Hero.

As National President of the APALA, Delloro was instrumental in helping to convene the first National Asian Pacific American Workers' Rights Hearing in Washington, DC. This hearing was important to help raise awareness among lawmakers and the public the critical needs of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) laborers.

As Chair of the Congressional Asian American Caucus, I know firsthand the important work that the APALA has done in the community. Delloro has helped APALA raise awareness on AAPI worker's rights issues at the congressional level and nationally by holding several workers' rights hearings. CAPAC and APALA's relationship will continue to strengthen and CAPAC's relationship continues to strengthen as both the caucus and organization moves forward has helped APALA and CAPAC build a stronger relationship.

John Delloro's dedication and commitment runs deep. He was a nationally recognized union leader, teacher, and mentor. His leadership was visionary and will continue to inspire many others to continue this cause.

Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow members to join me in remembering John Delloro. He touched the lives of many and paved the way for many others to rise up. His work toward equality through organizing is an inspiration to us all.