

Walter was one of many courageous men who chose to serve his community as a firefighter. He was a Captain of the Dix Hills Volunteer Fire Department and served his community valiantly for 32 years.

To all of those who knew and loved him, his untimely death will forever be a reminder of his selflessness. His last heroic moment in the line of duty saved the lives of others who he never met. As time passes, the pain will fade, but the memory of Walter will always remain a shining example of truth and goodness to all of those whose lives he touched.

It is at this time we remember Walter Hessling for his bravery and kindness and for his dedication and service to the Dix Hills Fire Department.

RECOGNIZING THE HOA HAO BUDDHISM ASSOCIATION'S 71ST ANNIVERSARY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the Overseas Hoa Hao Buddhism Association's 71st Anniversary of the Founding of Hoa Hao Buddhism. Today, Hoa Hao Buddhism is one of the six most important religions in Vietnam. Through the hardships and trials of Communist Vietnam, Hoa Hao Buddhism still exists with a mass of over four million followers closely united in their faith. In Orange County, the Hoa Hao Buddhist Church is a Member of the Vietnamese Interfaith Council, a body established in order to promote harmony between major religions in Vietnam.

The U.S. Department of State 2009 International Religious Freedom Report indicates that the Vietnamese government continues to persecute and restrict organized activities of religious organizations like Hoa Hao Buddhists. We are continuing to see more and more activists being detained and imprisoned for exercising their freedom of speech, religion and expression. I encourage my colleagues to continue to urge the State Department to redesignate Vietnam as a Country of Particular Concern and fight for those in Vietnam who are putting their lives in danger in the name of freedom.

ON THE PASSING OF FORMER GOVERNOR OF TEXAS DOLPH BRISCOE, JR.

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, Uvalde, TX is a small rural town in my district. Uvalde is known for its plentiful trees and clear springs, but it best known for its two most famous residents: John Nance Garner, also known as Cactus Jack who was Speaker of the House from 1931–1933 and also served as Vice President to Franklin Roosevelt and also Former Governor of Texas and Philanthropist Dolph Briscoe Jr.

Last night, at the age of 87, Governor Briscoe passed away. My thoughts and pray-

ers are with his family and friends and with the people of Uvalde who he loved.

I rise today to honor his legacy. With his passing, Texas lost a legendary figure. He was the first Texas governor from Southwest Texas and one of the great philanthropists of our time.

His generosity has preserved western art and expanded our institutions of higher learning. He served in the Texas Legislature from 1949 to 1957 and then served as Governor from 1973 to 1979. He was truly a champion of the public, signing into law the 1973 Texas Open Records Act guaranteeing the public's right to information about state and local government. He was also responsible for sponsoring legislation that gave Texas its statewide farm-to-market road system. And his role as president of the Texas and Southwestern Cattle Raisers Association in the 1960s improved the agricultural industry immeasurably.

I was proud to name the Uvalde Post Office after Gov. Briscoe in 2007 for his distinguished career in public service. And today, I honor the memory of Gov. Briscoe for his commitment to Texans and a life as a dedicated public servant.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5175) to amend the Federal Election Campaign Act of 1971 to prohibit foreign influence in Federal elections, to prohibit government contractors from making expenditures with respect to such elections, and to establish additional disclosure requirements with respect to spending in such elections, and for other purposes:

Mr. TIAHRT. Mr. Chair, I stand in vehement opposition to H.R. 5175, the Democracy is Strengthened by Casting Light on Spending in Elections Act. The DISCLOSE Act is a hasty, ill-conceived, un-Constitutional response to the near unanimous decision of the U.S. Supreme Court in *Citizens United vs The Federal Election Committee*. In that ruling, Justice Kennedy, writing for the majority, stated that:

When Government seeks to use its full power, including the criminal law, to command where a person may get his or her information or what distrusted source he or she may not hear, it uses censorship to control thought. This is unlawful. The First Amendment confirms the freedom to think for ourselves.

The DISCLOSE Act takes us down a familiar road of the majority acting to remove the First Amendment rights of the minority, including the rights of those who are fighting to defend the sanctity of life. For over a year, the Democrat majority in Congress and the White House have held the voice of the American people in contempt, whether at town halls or on the National Mall. Instead of listening, they would rather find ways to silence us.

The DISCLOSE Act is designed to impact this year's election by immediately placing its

provisions into effect without the normal regulatory vetting process that occurs when a bill is signed into law. It is also a discriminatory bill, with requirements that do not apply equally to all citizens, but are based on the type of activity or speech they are involved in. Nowhere in the Constitution does the Federal Government have the right to decide who has the right to speak up. It is specifically designed to exempt most Unions from the reporting requirements. It requires CEOs of corporations to appear in any ads that their companies have funded, in whole or in part, and state the name of the company, twice. These limits on First Amendment rights are not in keeping with the intentions of the Founding Fathers.

This bill is an abhorrent attack on our rights and it will not stand up to the scrutiny of the courts. This hallowed body should not even be considering it. I urge my colleagues to send this bill back to where it deserves to go, the dust bin.

DEMOCRACY IS STRENGTHENED BY CASTING LIGHT ON SPENDING IN ELECTIONS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 24, 2010

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Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the DISCLOSE Act. I believe this appropriately named piece of legislation is a critical step forward to improving transparency and limiting the influence of corporations in electoral politics, and I'm pleased to be a cosponsor of it.

In January, the Supreme Court issued its controversial ruling in *Citizens United v. the Federal Election Commission*, overturning limits on corporate campaign activity that had been settled law for over 100 years. This created a guarantee of a free-for-all in campaign spending. I strongly disagree with the decision, and I'm pleased that the DISCLOSE Act will reverse the damage that the Supreme Court has created.

I have been a supporter of campaign finance reform since I was first elected to Congress. Over a decade ago I was proud to cosponsor the Shays-Meehan campaign reform legislation to prevent corporations from buying elections.

Today's legislation takes a number of important steps forward. It prevents corporations from spending money in campaigns, including those who receive large government contracts; those who are controlled by foreign entities; or those who received a government bailout through the TARP program.

It also forces corporations to stand by their ads by requiring their CEOs to appear on camera to say they endorse the message, just as candidates must do. The bill would also

strengthen disclosure requirements in the critical weeks before an election.

Under DISCLOSE, corporations will not be able to hide behind organizations with innocuous or vague sounding names when they run political ads. Organizations that sprout up overnight to participate in campaigns will be required to disclose their donors so voters will know who is sponsoring their ads, while at the same time allowing well-established issue-advocacy groups to protect the privacy of their donor base.

The American people deserve to know who attempts to influence their elections. Once they know who sponsors an ad, they can judge the content for themselves and vote accordingly. The DISCLOSE Act will help voters make their own decisions, a principle that is at the core of our democracy.

I urge my colleagues to vote for this highly important legislation.

RECOGNIZING DARWIN HINDMAN

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Darwin Hindman, the former mayor of Columbia, Missouri, who retired after 15 years of public service, thus becoming the longest-serving mayor in the city's history.

Over the course of his storied career, Mayor Hindman left a significant mark on Columbia's park system by creating Stephens Lake, Flat Branch, and the new South East Regional Park. During his tenure, Columbia grew to over 100,000 residents and saw its downtown greatly improved. Also, as an avid bicyclist, Mayor Hindman transformed Columbia into a more bike-friendly community. It should also be noted that Mayor Hindman has been a great advocate for healthy living and has won numerous awards for his efforts, including the Leadership for Healthy Communities Award in 2009.

In addition, Mayor Hindman is a past recipient of the Columbia Chamber of Commerce Outstanding Citizen of the Year, University of Missouri Faculty Alumni, Chevron Times Mirror Publications Citizen Conservation, Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Association, and MU College of Arts and Science Distinguished Alumnus awards.

Mayor Darwin Hindman is supported by his wife, Axie, children Skip and Ellen, and four grandchildren. Mayor Hindman served two tours of active duty as a pilot in the U.S. Air Force.

In closing, Madam Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in congratulating former Mayor Darwin Hindman for his service to the city of Columbia.

TRIBUTE TO CLIFFORD LEE CHILDERS

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the late Clifford

Lee Childers, a family man who had a long and distinguished career in Pulaski County Kentucky.

In 1988, Mr. Childers operated the Somerset Financial Center and while there obtained his real estate and insurance licenses. Soon after, Mr. Childers was able to fulfill his lifetime dream of owning a small business when he opened Childers Financial Services. Performing residential and commercial appraisals in 14 counties he managed a very successful company that serves the Lake Cumberland area.

Mr. Childers was a man of faith and served as a deacon for the East Somerset Baptist Church. Always putting God first he strived to be an example to those around him and spread God's Word through his actions. Mr. Childers also proudly served his country. Enlisting in the Kentucky National Guard in 1970, he served until October 1996 and achieved the rank of Colonel.

Family was always Mr. Childers priority. He was married to Charlene Childers for 37 loving years and together they raised 3 children and were blessed with 5 grandchildren. Whether he was with his family at home in Somerset, Kentucky, or at their 'home away from home' in Bluffton, South Carolina, Mr. Childers treasured every moment with his family.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in memory of Mr. Clifford Lee Childers, a man who tirelessly worked to make the world a better place. His love for life will be truly be missed.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,038,305,786,811.25.

On January 6th, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$2,399,880,040,517.40 so far this Congress.

This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

RECOGNIZING THOMAS W. LUDLOW ASHLEY

HON. MICHAEL R. TURNER

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. TURNER. Madam Speaker, it is my privilege to join my colleagues to honor the life and work of former Congressman Thomas W. Ludlow Ashley.

Thomas W. Ludlow Ashley served the State of Ohio for 13 terms in the U.S. House of Representatives, from 1955 to 1981. Mr. Ashley served Ohio's 9th District, which includes the city of Toledo and surrounding Lucas County.

He was a graduate of Yale University where one of his classmates was a future President, George H.W. Bush. Ashley graduated from the Ohio State University Law School in Columbus, Ohio in 1951.

Congressman Ashley was the great-grandson of former Congressman James Mitchell Ashley, who also represented Ohio's ninth congressional district, from 1859 to 1869, and co-authored the 13th Amendment that abolished slavery.

Congressman Ashley's work in Congress has proven very important for American cities. He was chairman of a House subcommittee on housing and community development within the Banking Committee.

In this role, Ashley helped write and pass the Housing and Community Development Acts of 1974 and 1977. These important bills paved the way for the Community Development Block Grant program. In recognition of his role as an advocate for affordable housing, Senator Edward Kennedy remarked: "Americans sleep in better homes today because of Lud Ashley."

I join my colleagues in the Ohio delegation in honoring the life of Congressman Thomas W. Ludlow Ashley, and his distinguished service to our State and our Nation.

ON THE OCCASION OF CELEBRATING THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF MRS. GLADYS HASKINS

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 28, 2010

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Madam Speaker, on Saturday, July 17, 2010, friends and family will gather to celebrate the 100th birthday of Mrs. Gladys Haskins in Wilson, North Carolina. Mrs. Haskins is a strong and caring woman who strives to treat everyone well and always tries to do what is right.

The youngest of 12 siblings, Mrs. Haskins was born in Florence, South Carolina on July 3, 1910. Because her family worked as sharecroppers, she had to leave school after the third grade to work. Her family later moved to Wilson, North Carolina where she met and married her husband, Nathan Haskins, Sr.

After living in Washington, DC for a decade, Mrs. Haskins returned to Wilson, North Carolina where she lives to this day. She maintains an interest in gardening, and has been a faithful member of Wilson Chapel Free Will Baptist Church for more than 50 years. And, as the Bible commands in Exodus 20:12, Mrs. Haskins has always sought to honor her father and mother in order to live long in the land the Lord has provided.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing Mrs. Gladys Haskins. She is a truly remarkable person deserving of our deepest good wishes as she and her loved ones celebrate her 100th birthday.