

throughout the international community. The island's situation remains a source of contention between NATO allies, Turkey and Greece. Additionally, past negotiations have impacted the United Kingdom, the United Nations, and the United States. Therefore, I believe a swift resolution should be encouraged by the United States.

INDIAN ARTS AND CRAFTS
AMENDMENTS ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 21, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 725, the Tribal Law and Order Act Amendments of 2010 as amended by the Senate, which would address the issues of violence and sexual assault that occur on Indian Reservations. I would like to thank Congressman ED PASTOR for his leadership in introducing this bill to the House floor.

Mr. Speaker, the Tribal Law and Order Act is an amendment to H.R. 725, The Indian Arts and Crafts Act. The Tribal Law and Order Act will create accountability measures for the Federal agencies that are responsible for investigating and prosecuting crime that occurs on Indian Reservations. The act would also equip Indian tribes with the means necessary to tackle crime within their local areas.

Mr. Speaker, I am sorry to say that domestic violence and sexual assault occur quite frequently on Indian Reservations. Most of the victims to such violent crimes are Indian women and children. Statistics show that one in three American Indian women will be raped in their lifetime and two out of every five women will face domestic violence. Within most Indian Reservations, very little police patrol takes place and tribal courts have very limited jurisdiction. Currently tribal courts have a maximum sentencing of only one year, and non Indian criminal offenders cannot be tried under tribal courts. These restrictions continue to put innocent men, women, and children at risk for higher incidents of violent and heinous crimes.

Native American communities continue to suffer from the effects of poverty, substance addiction, and other health related diseases. Unfortunately these communities have been some of the most underserved in our nation. Rampant violent crime that is preventable should not be an outstanding statistic among Indian Reservations. As a Representative from California, a state that has a large population of Native Americans, I am deeply committed to seeing the progress of these communities and ensuring that justice is rightfully served.

Mr. Speaker, the Senate Amendment to H.R. 725 is a way to ensure that the criminal justice system is improved among Indian nations and also that federal law enforcement becomes more responsive to the instances that occur on tribal land. It is critical that attention be given to our nation's justice system and the victims that rely on it the most in order to seek justice. In conclusion, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 725 as amended by the Senate.

IN TRIBUTE TO ROXBURY VOLUNTEER EMERGENCY SERVICES ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. WEINER. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize Roxbury Volunteer Emergency Services in honor of its centennial anniversary. Roxbury Volunteer Emergency Services has provided a hundred years of service to the beachside communities of Roxbury, Breezy Point, and Rockaway Point, which are located on the Rockaway peninsula in Queens, New York, the most populous barrier island in the country.

In the summer of 1910, Henry B. Page organized the Roxbury Volunteer Fire Department and became Roxbury's first fire chief. During World War II, the Ambulance and Rescue Corps was founded as a division of the Fire Department. Since its inception, the Roxbury volliies have responded to a number of important emergencies both on the peninsula and in New York City. Following the attacks on the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, members of Roxbury Volunteer Emergency Services worked tirelessly alongside other first responders assisting in the rescue and recovery efforts at Ground Zero. Two months later, when American Airlines Flight 587 crashed shortly after take-off in Belle Harbor the Roxbury volliies were among the first on the scene. Be it fires, flooding, storm damage, or medical emergencies, our community and our city can always count on Roxbury Volunteer Emergency Services to come swiftly to our aid.

I would like to recognize all of the volunteers who have dedicated their time and are often asked to put their lives on the line for their neighbors. The volliies' members are Anthony Allocco, Timothy Arasin, Brian Baumann, Michael Beehler, James Caffrey, Alex Diffendale, Michael Duemig Jr., Richard Duemig Jr., David Feddem Jr., Diedre Feddern, Michael Forcina, Joseph Forcina, Danielle Hedderson, Paul Hedderson Jr., Gary Hunt, Edward Kurosz, Ryan McKinney, Christina Morton, James Morton, Sandra Morton, Kevin O'Brien, William Reid, Sean Rudolph, Tracy Rutter, Louis Satriano, Charles Thompson, Seamus Ward, Annemarie Willis and Robert Willis. Its life members are LuLu Allocco, William Bocker Sr., Mary Colleran, Richard Colleran Sr., Steven Colleran Sr., Mel Duemig, Michael Duemig Sr., Richard Duemig Sr., Robert Hanretty, William Hartman Sr., Paul Hedderson Sr., Arthur Kahlau, Michael Knowles, Harry Nungesser, and Kenneth Rutter. Its associate members are Robert Bernabo, Ronald Farrell, Eugene Hanretty, Eugene McEnroe and John Mulvanerty. I would also like to extend my congratulations to Richard Colleran, who has served as the volliies' chief for eight years. Roxbury Volunteer Emergency Services and all of its members have faithfully served the many communities of the Rockaway peninsula. They have provided necessary services to an isolated part of New York City that rarely receives the attention it deserves. I am pleased to congratulate Roxbury Volunteer Emergency Services on the occasion of its centennial anniversary.

BEYOND SWEATSHOPS

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise to commend to my colleagues the following article on one company's attempts to do the right thing—inspired by the consumer choices made by thousands of students across the United States who say that there should be “No Sweat” in their sweatshirts.

For years I have fought against the use of sweatshop labor, exploited adult labor and exploited child labor, around the world. For many years now, the student movement in the United States has played an important role in helping to bring the issue of sweatshop labor to the attention of political leaders, corporate boardrooms, and the college and university community. I applaud them.

Now, one company is trying to do the right thing by making apparel without sweatshop labor. That is good for workers and good for our consumers. I applaud Knights Apparel and urge other companies to follow their example.

I am especially pleased by this development because of the history of the Alta Gracia factory in the Dominican Republic where Knights Apparel is producing its goods. This same factory was unceremoniously shut down in 2007, leaving over 1,000 employees out of work and in dire economic straits—many of them forced to sign agreements that they didn't understand waiving their right to receive severance pay. As this new factory moves forward, it can become a shining example of a new trade model that works by ensuring that all workers are able to take advantage of broader prosperity, rather than by starting a race to the bottom that leaves only a select few better off.

The world looks to the United States to set standards for human rights, labor rights, and democracy. By making products with a decent wage and union rights, this company is setting the finest example of corporate responsibility for the world to see.

The article follows:

[From the New York Times, July 16, 2010]
FACTORY DEFIES SWEATSHOP LABEL, BUT CAN IT THRIVE?

(By Steven Greenhouse)

VILLA ALTAGRACIA, DOMINICAN REPUBLIC—Sitting in her tiny living room here, Santa Castillo beams about the new house that she and her husband are building directly behind the wooden shack where they now live.

The new home will be four times bigger, with two bedrooms and an indoor bathroom; the couple and their three children now share a windowless bedroom and rely on an outhouse two doors away.

Ms. Castillo had long dreamed of a bigger, sturdier house, but three months ago something happened that finally made it possible: she landed a job at one of the world's most unusual garment factories. Industry experts say it is a pioneer in the developing world because it pays a “living wage”—in this case, three times the average pay of the country's apparel workers—and allows workers to join a union without a fight. “We never had the opportunity to make wages like this before,” says Ms. Castillo, a soft-spoken woman who earns \$500 a month. “I feel blessed.”

The factory is a high-minded experiment, a response to appeals from myriad university

officials and student activists that the garment industry stop using poverty-wage sweatshops. It has 120 employees and is owned by Knights Apparel, a privately held company based in Spartanburg, S.C., that is the leading supplier of college-logo apparel to American universities, according to the Collegiate Licensing Company.

For Knights, the factory is a risky proposition, even though it already has orders to make T-shirts and sweatshirts for bookstores at 400 American universities. The question is whether students, alumni and sports fans will be willing to pay \$18 for the factory's T-shirts—the same as premium brands like Nike and Adidas—to sustain the plant and its generous wages.

Joseph Bozich, the C.E.O. of Knights, is optimistic. "We're hoping to prove that doing good can be good business, that they're not mutually exclusive," he says.

Not everyone is so confident. "It's a noble effort, but it is an experiment," says Andrew Jassin, an industry consultant who says "fair labor" garments face a limited market unless deft promotion can snare consumers' attention—and conscience. "There are consumers who really care and will buy this apparel at a premium price," he says, "and then there are those who say they care, but then just want value."

Mr. Bozich says the plant's T-shirts and sweats should command a premium because the company uses high-quality fabric, design and printing.

In the factory's previous incarnation, a Korean-owned company, BJ&B, made baseball caps for Nike and Reebok before shutting it in 2007 and moving the operation to lower-wage countries. Today, the reborn factory is producing under a new label, Alta Gracia, named after this poverty-ridden town as well as the Virgin of Altigracia, revered as protector of the Dominicans. (Alta gracia translates to "exalted grace.")

"This sometimes seems too good to be true," says Jim Wilkerson, Duke University's director of licensing and a leader of American universities' fair-labor movement.

He said a few other apparel companies have tried to improve working conditions, like School House, which was founded by a 25-year-old Duke graduate and uses a factory in Sri Lanka. Worker advocates applaud these efforts, but many say Alta Gracia has gone further than others by embracing higher wages and unionization. A living wage is generally defined as the amount of money needed to adequately feed and shelter a family.

"What really counts is not what happens with this factory over the next six months," Mr. Wilkerson says. "It's what happens six years or 10 years from now. We want badly for this to live on."

Santa Castillo agrees. She and many co-workers toiled at other factories for the minimum wage, currently \$147 a month in this country's free-trade zones, where most apparel factories are located. That amount, worker after worker lamented in interviews for this article, falls woefully short of supporting a family.

The Alta Gracia factory has pledged to pay employees nearly three and a half times the prevailing minimum wage, based on a study done by a workers' rights group that calculated the living costs for a family of four in the Dominican Republic.

While some critics view the living wage as do-gooder mumbo-jumbo, Ms. Castillo views it as a godsend. In her years earning the minimum wage, she said she felt stuck on a treadmill—never able to advance, often borrowing to buy necessities.

"A lot of times there was only enough for my kids, and I'd go to bed hungry," she says. "But now I have money to buy meat, oatmeal and milk."

With higher wages, she says, her family can move up in the world. She is now able to borrow \$1,000 to begin building her future home and feels able to fulfill her dreams of becoming a minister at her local evangelical church.

"I hope God will continue to bless the people who brought this factory to our community," she says.

In many ways, the factory owes its existence to an incident a decade ago, when Joe Bozich was attending his son's high school basketball game. His vision suddenly became blurred, and he could hardly make out his son on the court. A day later, he couldn't read.

A doctor told him the only thing that would cause his vision to deteriorate so rapidly was a brain tumor.

So he went in for an M.R.I. "My doctor said, 'The good news is you don't have a brain tumor, but the bad news is you have multiple sclerosis,'" he says.

For three days, he couldn't see. He worried that he would be relegated to a wheelchair and ventilator and wouldn't be able to support his family. At the same time, a close friend and his brother died, and then one of his children began suffering from anxiety.

"I thought of people who were going through the same thing as my child and me," Mr. Bozich recalls. "Fortunately, we had the resources for medical help, and I thought of all the families that didn't."

"I started thinking that I wanted to do something more important with my business than worry just about winning market share," he adds. "That seemed kind of empty after what I've been through. I wanted to find a way to use my business to impact people that it touched on a daily basis."

He regained his full vision after three weeks and says he hasn't suffered any further attacks. Shortly after Mr. Bozich recovered, Knights Apparel set up a charity, weKAre, that supports a home for orphans and abused children. But he says he wanted to do more.

A national collegiate bodybuilding champion at Vanderbilt, Mr. Bozich was hired by Gold's Gym after graduation and later founded a unit in the company that sold Gold's apparel to outside retailers. Building on that experience, Mr. Bozich started Knights Apparel in 2000.

Still solidly built at 47, he has made apparel deals with scores of universities, enabling Knights to surpass Nike as the No. 1 college supplier. Under Mr. Bozich, Knights cooperates closely with the Worker Rights Consortium, a group of 186 universities that press factories making college-logo apparel to treat workers fairly.

Scott Nova, the consortium's executive director, says Mr. Bozich seems far more committed than most other apparel executives to stamping out abuses—like failure to pay for overtime work. Knights contracts with 30 factories worldwide. At a meeting that the two men had in 2005 to address problems at a Philippines factory, Mr. Bozich floated the idea of opening a model factory.

Mr. Nova loved the idea. He was frustrated that most apparel factories worldwide still paid the minimum wage or only a fraction above—rarely enough to lift families out of poverty. (Minimum wages are 15 cents an hour in Bangladesh and around 85 cents in the Dominican Republic and many cities in China—the Alta Gracia factory pays \$2.83 an hour.)

Mr. Bozich first considered opening a factory in Haiti, but was dissuaded by the country's poor infrastructure. Mr. Nova urged him to consider this depressed community, hoping that he would employ some of the 1,200 people thrown out of work when the Korean-owned cap factory closed.

Mr. Bozich turned to a longtime industry executive, Donnie Hodge, a former executive with J.P. Stevens, Milliken and Gerber Childrenswear. Overseeing a \$500,000 renovation of the factory, Mr. Hodge, now president of Knights, called for bright lighting, five sewing lines and pricey ergonomic chairs, which many seamstresses thought were for the managers.

"We could have given the community a check for \$25,000 or \$50,000 a year and felt good about that," Mr. Hodge said. "But we wanted to make this a sustainable thing."

The factory's biggest hurdle is self-imposed: how to compete with other apparel makers when its wages are so much higher.

Mr. Bozich says the factory's cost will be \$4.80 a T-shirt, 80 cents or 20 percent more than if it paid minimum wage. Knights will absorb a lower-than-usual profit margin, he said, without asking retailers to pay more at wholesale.

"Obviously we'll have a higher cost," Mr. Bozich said. "But we're pricing the product such that we're not asking the retailer or the consumer to sacrifice in order to support it."

Knights plans to sell the T's for \$8 wholesale, with most retailers marking them up to \$18.

"We think it's priced right and has a tremendous message, and it's going to be marketed like crazy," says Joel Friedman, vice president of general merchandise at Barnes & Noble College Booksellers. He says Barnes & Noble will at first have smaller-than-usual profit margins on the garments because it will spend heavily to promote them, through a Web campaign, large signs in its stores and other methods.

It helps to have many universities backing the project. Duke alone placed a \$250,000 order and will run full-page ads in the campus newspaper, put postcards in student mailboxes and hang promotional signs on light poles. Barnes & Noble plans to have Alta Gracia's T's and sweats at bookstores on 180 campuses by September and at 350 this winter, while Follett, the other giant college bookstore operator, plans to sell the T's on 85 campuses this fall.

Still, this new, unknown brand could face problems being sold alongside Nike and Adidas gear. "They have to brand this well—simply, clearly and elegantly—so college students can understand it very fast," says Kellie A. McElhaney, a professor of corporate social responsibility at the University of California, Berkeley. "A lot of college students would much rather pay for a brand that shows workers are treated well."

Nike and Adidas officials said their companies have sought to improve workers' welfare through increased wages and by belonging to the Fair Labor Association, a monitoring group that seeks to end sweatshop conditions. A Nike spokesman said his company would "watch with interest" the Knights initiative.

To promote its gear, Knights is preparing a video to be shown at bookstores and a Web documentary, both highlighting the improvements in workers' lives. The T-shirts will have hanging tags with pictures of Alta Gracia employees and the message "Your purchase will change our lives." The tags will also contain an endorsement from the Worker Rights Consortium, which has never before backed a brand.

In a highly unusual move, United Students Against Sweatshops, a nationwide college group that often lambastes apparel factories, plans to distribute fliers at college bookstores urging freshmen to buy the Alta Gracia shirts.

"We're going to do everything we can to promote this," says Casey Sweeney, a leader of the group at Cornell. "It's incredible that I can wear a Cornell hoodie knowing the

workers who made it are being paid well and being respected.”

One such worker is Maritza Vargas. When BJ&B ran the factory, she was a stand-up-for-your-rights firebrand fighting for 20 union supporters who had been fired.

Student groups and the Worker Rights Consortium pressed Nike and other companies that used the factory to push BJ&B to recognize the union and rehire the fired workers. BJ&B relented. Today, Ms. Vargas is president of the union at the new plant and sings a very different tune. In interviews, she and other union leaders praised the Alta Gracia factory and said they would do their utmost to make it succeed and grow. Mireya Perez said the living wage would enable her to send her 16-year-old daughter to college, while Yolando Simon said she was able to pay off a \$300 debt to a grocer.

At other factories, workers said, managers sometimes yelled or slapped them. Several said they were not allowed to go home when sick, and sometimes had to work past midnight after beginning at 7:30 a.m.

Comparing this factory with other ones, Ms. Vargas said, “The difference is heaven and earth.”

HONORING ROBERT DEDMAN

HON. JIM COOPER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. COOPER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Robert Dedman, a dedicated public servant who is completing his third term as Wilson County Mayor. Since 1998, Mayor Dedman has served with distinction as Wilson County's Executive and has announced that he plans to retire at the end of the current term.

A lifelong resident of Lebanon and Wilson County, this native son has also rendered meritorious service to his fellow citizens as Wilson County Assessor of Property and as a Lebanon City Councilman representing Ward 4.

After completing a tour of duty in the United States Army in the 1950's, Robert Dedman worked for the American Legion for many years before entering public service. He began his long and distinguished career in government in 1972, when he was hired as the first Purchasing Agent for the City of Lebanon. He also enjoyed a productive tenure with the Tennessee Secretary of State's Personal Property and Inventory Division from 1978 until 1984. Robert Dedman additionally served Tennessee's 100th General Assembly as a Senate sergeant-at-arms.

Because of his broad experience in local, county, and state governments, Mayor Dedman was successful in promoting a harmonious relationship between and among all levels of government to accomplish Wilson County's future goals.

Madam Speaker and Distinguished Colleagues, Robert Dedman is a remarkable man who has compiled a singular record during his exemplary career in county and state government. Please join me in honoring him as he retires after thirty-eight years of outstanding service to the people of Wilson County and Tennessee.

NATIONAL COMMISSION ON CHILDREN AND DISASTERS REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 20, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 5266, to extend the final report deadline and otherwise reauthorize the national commission on children and disasters. H.R. 5266, is an important piece of legislation that assists a commission whose job is to report to Congress and the President on the necessary precautions and actions needed before major disasters or emergencies.

I would like to thank Speaker PELOSI, Majority Leader HOYER, and Chairman OBERSTAR for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congresswoman BROWN, for her important work on the reauthorization of the national commission on children and disasters through 2013.

Madam Speaker, in an average 3-year period, roughly 5 hurricanes strike the coastlines of the United States. The 2009 Atlantic hurricane season included 9 named storms, including 3 hurricanes, 2 of which were category 3 or higher. In 2009 there were 1843 earthquakes in the United States between the magnitudes of 3.0 and 6.0. From 2007 to the present, 269 fatalities have resulted from tornadoes. As Chair of the Subcommittee on Emergency Communications, Preparedness, and Response, my Subcommittee recently held a hearing on the difficulties of reaching those with special needs, such as children, during emergencies such as a hurricane or tornado. Children comprise about 25 percent of our population and have unique needs during a disaster that require specific recognition and coordination on the part of federal, state, Tribal and local governments and their non-governmental disaster-relief partners. The rise in major disaster declarations over the past two decades, and more recent disasters have highlighted the need to improve the gaps in preparedness, response and recovery policies that should specifically address the needs of children.

Madam Speaker, I am pleased that H.R. 5266 would reauthorize the National Commission on Children and Disasters through 2013. The National Commission on Children and Disasters examines and reports to the Congress and the President on the needs of children during the preparation for, response to, and recovery from major disasters and emergencies. Under current law, the commission would terminate in 2011.

In conclusion, Madam Speaker, I support this legislation to keep our children safe. I am pleased that Congress is taking action to promote increased safety measures in emergency situations as well as providing the funds in support.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5266.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD TIAHRT

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. TIAHRT. Madam Speaker, on July 22nd, I missed six rollcall votes numbered 461, 462, 463, 464, 465, and 466 because I was unavoidably detained in Kansas.

Rollcall No. 461 was a vote on H. Res. 1550, providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 4213, Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall No. 462 was a vote on H.R. 1469, the Child Protection Improvements Act of 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall No. 463 was a vote on H.R. 4213, the Unemployment Compensation Extension Act of 2010. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall No. 464 was a vote on H.R. 5341, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 Orndorf Drive in Brighton, Michigan, as the Joyce Rogers Post Office Building. Had I been present, I would have voted “aye.”

Rollcall No. 465 was a vote on ordering the previous question for H.R. 4773, providing for consideration of H.R. 1264, Multiple Peril Insurance Act of 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

Rollcall No. 466 was a vote on H. Res. 1549, providing for consideration of H.R. 1264, Multiple Peril Insurance Act of 2009. Had I been present, I would have voted “no.”

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN BARROW

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. BARROW. Madam Speaker, due to prior commitments in my district, I was absent from the House Monday, July 19 and Tuesday, July 20, 2010, and thus did not cast any votes on those dates. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following way on bills considered by the House: “yea” on rollcall 448; “yea” on rollcall 449; “yea” on rollcall 450; “yea” on rollcall 451; “yea” on rollcall 452; and “yea” on rollcall 453.

IN HONOR OF COLONEL GEORGE JUSKALIAN

HON. FRANK R. WOLF

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 26, 2010

Mr. WOLF. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Army Colonel George Juskalian, a constituent from Centreville, Virginia, for his dedicated service in World War II, Korea, and Vietnam. He passed away on July 4, 2010, at age 96, having served nearly 30 years on active duty.

Colonel Juskalian was one of the most highly decorated Armenian-American veterans to