

Major General Gregory Wayt has served in the United States armed forces for 35 years. Throughout his career, MG Wayt has earned many accolades and achievements for his supreme leadership qualities and unwavering commitment to the guard. Since his appointment as Adjutant General of Ohio's 17,000 guardsmen and women in 2004, the Ohio Guard has received national recognition for its professionalism and for the commitment of its war fighters. Truly, they have lived up to their motto: "When called, we will respond with ready units!" The success and outstanding reputation of the Ohio National Guard reflects MG Wayt's caliber of leadership. His long and illustrious career serving our great state and nation will be remembered. I am proud to recognize the achievements of such a fine American.

Once again, congratulations to Major General Gregory L. Wayt on his retirement from the Ohio National Guard. He has left an outstanding legacy. On behalf of the citizens of the 12th Congressional District of Ohio, please accept our gratitude for many years of service and sacrifice.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S DISEASE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Ms. ZOE LOFGREN of California. Madam Speaker, I rise in recognition of National Alzheimer's Disease Awareness Month, which took place in November. Although November has passed, it is never too late to raise awareness about this disease, which afflicts an estimated 5.3 million Americans, including 480,000 in my home state of California, and affects another 11 million family members and friends who provide countless hours of unpaid care to those suffering from Alzheimer's and other forms of dementia. This is a disease that exacts high tolls from the American public, both financially and emotionally, and we must do all we can to eradicate it.

I urge my colleagues to commit to take action to support caregivers, and to invest in research and education so that we may diagnose, treat, and eventually find a cure for Alzheimer's.

A TRIBUTE IN HONOR OF THE LIFE OF JOSEPH R. CERRELL

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Ms. ESHOO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Joseph R. "Joe" Cerrell, iconic political consultant and one of the longtime pillars of the Los Angeles community, who died on December 3, 2010, in Camarillo, California. A political consultant before the profession existed, Joe Cerrell filled his dynamic 75 years with public affairs, public relations and public service.

There's a classic photo of John F. Kennedy riding through a Los Angeles ticker-tape pa-

rade, with a grinning Joe Cerrell sitting right in the front of the car. That was Joe—always smiling, always, out front, always driving the process—and of course, always showered in adulation. For five decades, Joe's passion, principle and unrivaled political acumen influenced state and national politics, and his forward-thinking work truly helped shape the country and modern California, his adopted home.

Joe Cerrell was born June 19, 1935 in New York City, to Sal, a firefighter, and Marion Cerella, a switchboard operator. No doubt it's from his parents that Joe learned to put out political fires and to organize and connect people with legendary efficiency. Moving west to Los Angeles in his teens, Joe Cerrell finished high school and enrolled at USC. It was there, after founding the Trojan Democratic Club, that Joe began his lifelong political career. As a junior, he began arranging Kennedy's California visits, ultimately becoming Kennedy's California personal aide. Having caught the attention of Jesse Unruh, Joe soon found himself working on Unruh's State Assembly campaign, and later, on Attorney General Edmund G. "Pat" Brown's gubernatorial campaign.

After graduating in 1957 with a degree in Political Science, 24-year-old Joe was tapped by Unruh to head the California Democratic Party, the youngest ever to lead the state party. Joe then served as Kennedy's California campaign manager in 1960, an experience that ultimately led Joe to both his greatest love and greatest heartbreak. At Kennedy's urging, Joe became engaged to Lee Bullock, a fellow campaign worker. After Vice President Johnson asked them to postpone their wedding in order to staff an event, the couple finally celebrated their wedding. While on their honeymoon in Paris, Joe and Lee read about Kennedy's assassination and wept with the world.

Together with Lee, Joe founded his own political consulting firm in 1967, Cerrell Associates. Over the years, Joe advised the presidential campaigns of Kennedy, Johnson, Hubert Humphrey, Lloyd Bentsen, John Glenn, and Al Gore. His statewide clients included the likes of Willie Brown and Jerry Brown, whom Joe first helped win a seat on the Los Angeles Junior College Board in a 124-candidate race. In later years, Joe's outstanding record of electing judicial candidates earned him the title of "the judge-maker." Notable dignitaries such as the Dalai Lama and His Holiness Catholicos Vazken I and Catholicos Karekin I sought out Joe to manage their California tours, with the latter earning Cerrell Associates a "Best Special Event" Award from the Public Relations Society of America—Los Angeles. Their long list of clients was a testament to Joe's extraordinary management and strategic skills, and the firm expanded their influence by adding a Washington, D.C. office in 1983, eventually becoming the 43rd-largest independently owned PR firm in the country.

This success earned Joe countless accolades. He won a PRism Award for being an "Outstanding PR Professional" and Cerrell Associates was named "Small Family-Owned Business of the Year" by the Los Angeles Business Journal. Embracing his role as one of Los Angeles' most prominent political professionals, Joe served as president and on the boards of both the American Association of Political Consultants and the International Association of Political Consultants.

In addition to his professional work, Joe found time to become one of Los Angeles' most involved and civic-minded residents. He served on the Los Angeles Memorial Coliseum Commission during the 1984 Olympics and was chairman of the Hollywood Wilshire YMCA. Returning to his alma mater, he co-founded and taught at USC's Jesse M. Unruh Institute of Politics, and lectured widely across the country. For his years of outstanding contributions to the city, the Central City Association named Cerrell a "Treasure of Los Angeles." But despite all that he did for his adopted hometown, Joe Cerrell never abandoned his New York roots, often requiring family and colleagues to play Frank Sinatra's "New York, New York" at events. That was the sense of humor and zest for life Joe brought with him everywhere.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in extending our deepest condolences to Joe Cerrell's wife, Lee; his children, Steve, Sharon and Joe; his sons- and daughters-in-law; and his seven wonderful grandchildren. Joe Cerrell embodied a time of political engagement and civility that made him one of the most sought-after political commentators and earned him friends across the political spectrum. He was a progressive pioneer, credited with helping "to create modern political consulting" by Professor Ann N. Crigler, Chair of USC's Political Science Department, and praised as "a great champion of progressive political causes" by former Vice President Al Gore. His death truly represents the passing of an era, and for me, the passing of a dear friend. I'm honored to pay tribute to Joe Cerrell for his incredible role in shaping our State and our country.

HELPING THE IRANIAN OPPOSITION

HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Mr. FILNER. Madam Speaker, on November 16th, 2010 I held a briefing on my bill H. Res. 1431, which urges the Obama administration to remove the main Iranian opposition group, the People's Mojahedin Organization of Iran (PMOI/MEK) from the list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations. This bill has been co-sponsored by 109 Members of the House of Representatives.

In a letter to the Secretary of State Hillary Rodham Clinton on that same day, I was joined by my colleagues and brought the resolution to the attention of the Secretary and urged her to delist the PMOI. Below are the remarks that I made to the Members and Staff gathered at the briefing:

We have introduced Resolution 1431, which calls upon the U.S. government, the President, the Secretary of State to remove the Peoples Mojahedin Organization of Iran . . . from the State Department list of Foreign Terrorist Organizations . . . Like other parliaments around the world, we in the United States Congress believe that this organization does not qualify to be on the FTO list both on legal and political grounds. Removing the MEK from the FTO list is not only the right thing to do but sends the right message to Iran.

I would like to thank the President-elect of the National Council of Resistance of Iran,

Mrs. Rajavi, who has not only led this fight, but has also offered all kinds of assistance to the residents of Camp Ashraf.

HONORING MR. JOHN E. BAIR

HON. BRIAN HIGGINS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 8, 2010

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of John "Jack" E. Bair, a proud veteran, father, grandfather, and great-grandfather who passed away on November 17th, 2010.

Mr. Bair was born on May 9th, 1928 in Ripley Township, Minnesota. He was the youngest of Basil E. Bair and Lela Beth Bunnell's four children. Jack joined the United States Army in 1943, serving our country for 31 years and eventually retiring in 1974 as a Chief Warrant Officer Four. For his service to his country, Chief Bair was awarded the WWII Victory Medal, the United Nations Service Medal, and the Korean War Service Medal. He played a critical role training his fellow soldiers in the deployment of the National Air Defense Systems as well as the implementation of the Nike and Hercules missile systems.

During the course of his life Mr. Bair lived and served in South Korea, the South Pacific, Turkey, Alaska, Colorado, California, Alabama, and Minnesota. After his retirement from the Army, Jack settled with his family in Ashland, Oregon and eventually moved to his home in Cibola, Texas. Jack was an avid reader and a feared billiards and cribbage opponent. He excelled in hunting, fishing, water skiing, bowling and pinocle.

Jack is survived by his wife of 48 years, Mardell Rae Bair, his daughter Genie Jones and her husband Mike, his daughter LeyAnn Pyne and her husband Kevin, his son John T. Bair and his wife Amy, his daughter-in-law Dawn Bair, and his many grandchildren and great-grandchildren. He happily joins his brothers, Eugene and Robert Bair, as well as his sons, Daniel and Jason Bair.

Jack Bair lived a life of honor and service to both his country and family. He passed on the importance of hard work and doing things right the first time to all those he met. Madam Speaker, I ask my fellow members to join me in honoring the life of John E. Bair and the lasting legacy he leaves behind.

**HEALTHY, HUNGER-FREE KIDS
ACT OF 2010**

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 1, 2010

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, S. 3307, to reauthorize and improve the child nutrition programs and the Special Supplemental Program for Women, Infants, and Children, WIC. Further, I wish to expand upon my floor remarks to clarify the intent of my support for specific provisions included in this legislation.

This legislation makes important improvements to improve children's access to the

child nutrition programs, improve quality of nutrition benefits provided, protect the Federal investment, and promote financial solvency of program providers. S. 3307 provides robust reforms that inspire public-private partnerships, ensure better stewardship of Federal funds, and better meet the nutritional needs of children.

Many of these provisions included in S. 3307 were also considered in H.R. 5504, The Improving Nutrition for America's Children Act, which was reported favorably out of the Committee on Education and Labor on July 15, 2010 with a bipartisan vote of 32–13. I am pleased that both pieces of legislation share many critical priorities to strengthen the child nutrition programs and provide the following clarifications on provisions within S. 3307.

IMPROVING ACCESS TO SCHOOL MEAL PROGRAMS

First, this legislation authorizes the Secretary to directly certify eligible children for free school meals using Medicaid data. Direct certification is a method to automatically enroll eligible low-income children for free school meals using data from specific means tested programs, including the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program, the Temporary Assistance for Needy Families program, or the Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations.

Direct certification of eligible children for free schools meals reduces household and administrative burden, and can improve program integrity by relying on electronic data matching systems rather than household income applications. Direct certification using Medicaid data has the potential to be a very promising mechanism to substantially reduce the number of families that have to complete a household application for school meals in addition to other Federal means tested programs with similar income requirements.

While H.R. 5504 established a nationwide option for all States to utilize direct certification using Medicaid data, S. 3307 limits implementation to a demonstration project in school districts selected by the Secretary. Despite the more limited scope, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that this provision will connect approximately 115,000 more eligible children with free school meals each year that currently do not participate.

Furthermore, I commend the Secretary of Agriculture for committing to take additional administrative action to bolster this legislation and further improve children's access to the school meal programs by testing new effective methods for maximizing the use of direct certification to improve eligible children's access to free and reduced price school meals. Upon passage of this legislation, I urge the Secretary to maximize the potential of direct certification using Medicaid data by using the pilot authority established in section 18(c) of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act to test specific methods that may more effectively identify eligible children. Specifically, I encourage the Secretary to use this authority to identify effective statewide direct certification systems using Medicaid data, or to test methods by which Medicaid data may be effectively used to directly certify eligible children for reduced price meals.

Secondly, this legislation creates new alternatives for low-income schools and districts to count and claim reimbursable meals by establishing additional community-data based methods rather than household applications. Section 104 of this legislation allows the Secretary

to reimburse high-poverty schools or districts based on an approximation of the number of students who would qualify for free or reduced priced meals. The Secretary will make this determination based on data from direct certification or other rigorous community survey data to determine the percent of children attending schools or districts that are income eligible for free or reduced price school meals. This provision makes school meals more accessible to low-income children and will significantly reduce administrative burden for schools.

It is important that the Secretary recognize that the authority provided by this provision allows these alternative counting and claiming methods to be available to any school or district nationwide, consistent with the parameters of the provision. There are approximately 12,000 schools in which more than 80 percent of students are certified for free or reduced price meals. I urge the Secretary to ensure that these new options for counting and claiming reimbursable meals be available to all eligible high-poverty schools that elect to participate, to conduct appropriate outreach, and to provide necessary technical assistance to support adoption and compliance.

INCREASING PARTICIPATION IN THE SCHOOL BREAKFAST PROGRAM

I am pleased that this legislation includes section 105, an authorization of grants to expand the school breakfast program. This provision recognizes the important role that the school breakfast program plays in promoting diet quality, learning, and curbing child hunger. This section authorizes the Secretary to focus technical assistance and support to increase children's access to this program by implementing best practices to provide breakfast, including through tested best practices such as breakfast in the classroom or by offering the meal service as part of the school day.

I am disappointed, however, that this legislation does not provide critical funds to help schools overcome initial start-up barriers, such as minor equipment costs or inadequate staffing. Barriers such as these can preclude schools from moving toward sustainable school breakfast program improvements. I appreciate, though, that the Secretary has expressed his commitment to expanding children's access to this important program through administrative actions which encourage best practices in school breakfast programs such as meal delivery outside of the cafeteria and the offering of school breakfast as an integral part of the school day. The Secretary's commitment will help to ensure that children who want to participate are able to participate in school breakfast programs.

IMPROVING DIET QUALITY THROUGH THE SCHOOL MEALS PROGRAMS

I understand the Secretary is currently working to promulgate proposed regulations to update the school meal nutrition standards to reflect the recommendations from the Institute of Medicine. The last time that the nutrition standards for school meals were revised was in 1995. Improvements to reflect current science are long past due and I urge the Secretary to work expeditiously to promulgate proposed regulations to update school nutrition standards.

There have been concerns expressed by stakeholders that the improvements necessary for the school meal patterns to reflect current