

United States. Due to this work, the USDA presented Dr. Breitmeyer with the Honor Award in 2002.

Dr. Breitmeyer also led the effort in California to develop animal health emergency response planning with the Governor's Office of Emergency Services—an effort put to the test during the successful eradication of exotic Newcastle disease from Southern California in 2003.

Dr. Richard Breitmeyer is loved and respected by his wife and family, by the team that worked for him at CDFA, and by all those who have interacted with him during his professional life. I am grateful that since his retirement on September 30, 2010, Dr. Breitmeyer has joined the staff at the California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory at the University of California, Davis, to continue his outreach activities for livestock and poultry health.

I am pleased to recognize and congratulate Dr. Richard Breitmeyer upon his retirement, and applaud him for his dedication to California.

HONORING REVEREND BRUCE
HENNING DAVIDSON

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Reverend Bruce Henning Davidson, Director of the Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry of New Jersey, who is retiring January 1, 2011. The Office of Governmental Ministry is an advocacy ministry of the Evangelical Lutheran Church of America and communicates the official policies and actions of the church to leaders in state government, particularly on issues of hunger and poverty, and more recently, immigration reform, detention practices, refugee issues and marriage equality.

Reverend Davidson is recognized statewide as an inspiring pastor, an energetic community activist, and as an advocate for justice for all people. Since becoming Director of the Lutheran Office of Governmental Ministry of New Jersey, Reverend Davidson has been a tireless laborer in the vineyard of social service. He founded the New Jersey Advocacy Network to End Homelessness and the Anti-Poverty Network of New Jersey and a number of other community service organizations.

Heeding the biblical command to feed, clothe and shelter the poor and needy, Bruce Davidson made it his business to search out ways for people in need to have an opportunity for a better life. He recognized that the homeless are often people with bad luck—lack of a job, a sick child and no health insurance, a lack of education, or a traumatizing war experience can cause a person to become homeless and this can happen to any of us. He believes that no one should be homeless in America and inspires us to join in the fight against the poverty and indifference that allows this to happen.

Bruce Davidson was born on March 10, 1948 to David E. and Anne H. Davidson. He is a graduate of the Philadelphia school system and Temple University and was ordained following his graduation from the Lutheran

Theological Seminary in 1974. He has spent his entire career in New Jersey, ministering to congregations from Cape May in Southern New Jersey to Bergen County in the north.

Wherever he has lived and preached, Bruce Davidson has made an impact, as evidenced by the many organizations that have honored him for his leadership in the community. He received the Equal Justice Award from Legal Services of New Jersey and was recognized by New Jersey Citizen Action and the Bergen County Chapter of NAACP. He was chosen a Distinguished Alumnus by the Community College of Philadelphia.

I have known Bruce Davidson for many years and my admiration for his life's work has no bounds. He is an unselfish and humble man who inspires the best in all of us. He deserves a happy and healthy retirement, with much time to spend with his long-time partner, Donald Barb, and a bit of leisure. But it is hard to think that he will not continue his advocacy for the unfortunate. Please join with me in recognizing Pastor Bruce Davidson and thanking him for a life of service.

10TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
DELTA REGIONAL AUTHORITY
(DRA)

HON. JO ANN EMERSON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mrs. EMERSON. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Delta Regional Authority, DRA, on the occasion of its 10th anniversary. Ten years ago, President Clinton signed into law legislation establishing the DRA. He did so with the widespread bipartisan support of Members of Congress who were eager to give this region a strong foothold up the ladder to success.

The DRA has proven to be effective in leveling the playing field for the Delta region. The DRA helps connect opportunity with the sheer grit, intelligence, and willpower that already exists in the people of the region. For ten years, DRA has made great strides in bridging the gaps that have kept the region isolated from progress.

The DRA is a federal-state partnership that serves 252 counties and parishes in parts of Tennessee, Alabama, Arkansas, Illinois, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi and Missouri. These counties and parishes hold great promise for access and trade in bordering the world's greatest transportation arterial—the Mississippi River.

It has been a privilege for me to work alongside DRA and the people of the Delta region over the years. The educators, healthcare providers, farmers, local officials, small business owners and workers in this part of the country have all made meaningful contributions to overcome unique challenges and make the Delta region a wonderful place to live and work.

The people of the Delta region are fortunate to have a reliable federal partner in the DRA. In its first ten years of work, the DRA has made significant progress tackling the region's unique challenges. For example, the DRA operates a highly successful grant program in each of the eight states it serves, allowing cities and counties to leverage money from other federal agencies and private investors.

An independent report from the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service found that per capita income grew more rapidly in counties where the DRA had the greatest investment. Anyone who knows what it is like to live and work in an area without the most basic infrastructure systems will understand how important the DRA work is to bring critical infrastructure such as new water and sewer services to more than 43,000 families.

I look forward to working with the DRA as it continues to expand its regional initiatives in the areas of health care, transportation, leadership training and information technology, small business development and entrepreneurship, and alternative energy jobs. I am proud to recognize the DRA's first ten years of achievements, and I look forward to working with the DRA to build an even stronger region for our future.

INTERNATIONAL PROTECTING
GIRLS BY PREVENTING CHILD
MARRIAGE ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of S. 987, the International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act. I'd like to thank Congresswoman McCOLLUM and Senator DURBIN for introducing this legislation and for their longstanding leadership on this issue.

Child marriage is a true tragedy, as well as a serious human rights violation. Sixty million girls worldwide, some as young as eight years old, have been forced into early marriage. Child brides have little, if any, control over their lives, their bodies, and their futures. Not only do girls forced into early marriage lose the opportunity to attend school and develop as children, they also face serious health consequences and substantially higher rates of domestic violence.

Girls who are married at a young age are also typically forced into early sexual activity, but their bodies are not physically suited for giving birth. According to the International Center for Research on Women, pregnancy is the leading cause of death worldwide for girls aged 15–19.

Child marriage is often linked to a lack of education, opportunity, and resources. Girls from poor households are far more likely to be given away as child brides; some families view it as a way to guarantee their daughters' future, while others see girls as an economic liability. Either way, studies have shown that girls who are married before 18 are more likely to remain poor and less likely to receive education.

We need to do much more to prevent child marriage. I am an original cosponsor of the International Protecting Girls by Preventing Child Marriage Act, which makes preventing child marriage an international priority for the U.S. Government. This legislation requires the State Department, as part of their annual Country Reports on Human Rights, to report on countries with high rates of child marriage in their annual, and the White House to create an action plan on combating child marriage.

Mr. Speaker, by passing this legislation, we take an important step toward ending child marriage around the world, and ensuring that all girls have the opportunity to learn and grow as children. I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this legislation.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF JOSEPH
EUGENE QUINN

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. COSTA. Madam Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANGEVIN and Mr. NEAL, to pay tribute to Mr. Joseph Eugene Quinn who passed away on December 3, 2010 at the age of seventy. Mr. Quinn was an extraordinary man who will long be remembered.

Joseph Eugene Quinn was born in Pawtucket, Rhode Island on March 1, 1940, the third of four sons to the late Joseph L. and Mary E. Quinn. Joseph Eugene, known as Gene by friends and family, attended St. Raphael Academy in Pawtucket and excelled on the football and basketball teams. He graduated from Providence College in 1960 and maintained a life-long commitment to the intellectual and spiritual traditions of the Dominican Order.

After graduation, Gene enlisted in the United States Army. While serving in the military, he travelled extensively and befriended a wide spectrum of people who delighted in exchanging viewpoints on religion, politics and sports.

After his discharge from the Army, Gene moved to Largo, Florida where he became president of Bardmoor Country Club, a real estate and resort development. Gene later moved to Washington, DC and worked on Ronald Reagan's reelection bid in 1984. Mr. Quinn went on to hold a series of increasingly important positions with the Federal Government, and being a fond admirer of President Reagan, he took great pride later in his career when telling friends that he worked in the Ronald Reagan Building. At the time of his passing, Gene was an international trade specialist and project officer for Global Trade Programs at the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Although Mr. Quinn lived in the Washington area for three decades he considered Rhode Island his home and always enjoyed spending summers there.

Mr. Quinn leaves behind his loving wife, Marguerite Slocum Quinn, to whom he was married twenty-three years. They were both founding members of the Anacostia Gracious Arts Program, an urban afterschool arts program for underprivileged youth in Washington. Gene was also a member of the Spouting Rock Beach Association in Newport, RI, the Clambake Club of Newport, the Providence College Alumni Association, and the American Ireland Fund.

In addition to his wife, Mr. Quinn is survived by his daughter, Tara, her husband Andrew Reilly, and his grandchildren, Andrew and Fiona of Middletown, RI. He is also survived by his brothers, Paul of McLean, VA, Thomas of Washington, DC, Francis of New York City, and their families.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join Mr. CARDOZA, Mr. KENNEDY, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mr.

NEAL and I in remembering the life of this remarkable man as we offer our condolences to his family and celebrate his memory and service to our country.

HONORING JAMES R. BOMBARD

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Madam Speaker, I am proud to recognize my constituent, James R. Bombard of Port Jefferson, New York, for his hard work and commitment to America's veterans. Jim will retire on December 23rd after twelve years of service at the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs. Jim's many contributions and achievements over a career dedicated to public service have undoubtedly enhanced the lives of our Nation's veterans and expanded opportunities afforded to them.

During his service as an Army paratroop commander during the Vietnam War, Captain Bombard was decorated with the Silver Star and Purple Heart. Following his service, Jim continued on a path of service by advocating for future generations of servicemen and women.

In the late 1980s, Mr. Bombard served as Special Assistant to Congressman Robert J. Mrazek of New York. He worked on the American Homecoming Act of 1988, which allowed Vietnamese children, born of American fathers, to immigrate to the United States. This legislation resulted in America welcoming nearly 100,000 Asian Americans and relatives, enriching our vibrant Vietnamese-American community.

Continuing his dedication to veterans, Jim served as Chief of the New York State Division of Veterans Affairs' Bureau of Veterans Education, working to improve the "veteran friendliness" of New York institutions of higher education. As Legislative Director, two-term President, and Chief of the National Association of State Approving Agencies, Jim has enhanced the policy and curricula that promote quality education and training opportunities for veterans.

Jim's experience in state government, industry, and the halls of Congress have also informed the development and implementation of the post 9/11 GI Bill, which extended full tuition and benefits to the newest generation of American heroes.

Madam Speaker, building a career on expanding opportunity to veterans is a calling of the highest honor. James R. Bombard deserves our gratitude and recognition for his outstanding service and enduring contributions to improving the lives of America's veterans. We wish him continued success in his future endeavors as well as a long and fulfilling retirement.

HONORING JEANNE KAIDY FOR HER ACHIEVEMENT IN BEING SELECTED AS A RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE TEACHING

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. REED. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jeanne Kaidy, a recipient of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Mathematics and Science Teaching.

Ms. Kaidy has been teaching at McQuaid Jesuit High School in Rochester, NY, for twelve years, currently teaching Biology and AP Environmental Science. Ms. Kaidy serves as chair of the Science Department at the high school and an adjunct instructor at Monroe Community College in Rochester, NY. Her lessons have encouraged her students to develop skills in collecting and analyzing field data; as a result, Ms. Kaidy's students continuously achieve some of the highest marks among schools in New York State on the AP Environmental Science exam. Ms. Kaidy's commitment to the academic growth of her students and dedication to her work is deserved of this high honor.

I am proud to honor her for the outstanding achievement of this award. I hope her excellence will be an example to the whole Nation and its hard working teachers.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL
DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$13,879,785,054,580.12.

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 \$3,241,359,308,286.32 so far this Congress.

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

SUPPORTING A NEGOTIATED SOLUTION TO THE ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, December 15, 2010

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, while I do not intend to call for a recorded vote on this resolution, I would like to express my serious reservations about both the content of the measure before us and the circumstances under which it is being considered. Once again, we are being asked to consider a resolution about one of our Nation's most important foreign policy challenges that was rushed