

the English Department Chair, Mr. Feeser has dedicated his time beyond normal school hours. He is involved in afterschool activities, serving as the drama club sponsor and organizing an annual Poetry Out Loud competition that routinely sends students to prestigious national competitions. These connections enliven the school and Mr. Feeser's commitment to Banneker extends to all students, not just those enrolled in his classes.

Before coming to the District of Columbia Public Schools, Mr. Feeser taught humanities and history at Columbus Alternative High School in central Ohio. Teaching in two urban public schools, his ability to identify, develop, and encourage talent in his students has shattered the stereotypes about public education. Even though he has spent the last 10 years teaching in the District of Columbia, Mr. Feeser is still well remembered in my district by parents and students who took his courses at Columbus Alternative High School. It is with great pride that I rise to honor Charles Feeser for his excellence as an educator. I look forward to his continued success with the District of Columbia Schools.

INTRODUCTION OF H. RES. 1777, A
RESOLUTION RAISING AWARE-
NESS OF SCHOOL PUSHOUT AND
PROMOTING DIGNITY IN
SCHOOLS

HON. CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. MURPHY of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, I rise today in proud support of H. Res. 1777, a resolution raising awareness of school pushout and promoting dignity in schools.

I want to start by thanking my colleagues Representatives BOBBY SCOTT and DANNY DAVIS for partnering with me on this effort and for their long and esteemed records of standing up for children and civil rights.

I also want to thank the parents, teachers, students, school administrators, advocates and academics from across Connecticut whose expertise and input were essential in drafting this resolution.

We are introducing this resolution for the millions of students who are pushed out of school each year at the hands of harsh and exclusionary zero-tolerance school discipline policies.

We are introducing it for the 14-year boy with Aspergers syndrome from Richardson, Texas who was given a \$364 police citation for swearing in class.

We are introducing it for the six-year-old student of Newark, Delaware who was so excited about joining the Cub Scouts that he brought his camping utensil to school. Because it had a small knife, he was suspended and referred to an alternative school for 5 days.

And we are introducing the resolution for the 16-year-old of New York City who broke school policy by using a cell phone. He was subsequently detained and beaten by school police officers, rushed to the emergency room, and, outrageously, charged with disorderly conduct. Fortunately for the boy and his family, those charges were later dropped.

Madam Speaker, unfortunately, those stories are not random acts of irresponsible school administration. They are representative of a growing trend.

Now, before I go any further, it is important to recognize that there are many cases where the removal of a student from school is absolutely necessary. When a student poses a real safety threat to teachers or his or her fellow students, suspension or expulsion is warranted.

Yet too often, kids in this country are being excluded from school at a growing rate for unjustifiable reasons.

According to the Department of Education, over 3 million students are suspended and over 100,000 are expelled from school each year often, for minor offenses. Hundreds of others are arrested or sent to alternative schools for incidents historically dealt with within school walls.

Disturbingly, African American, Hispanic and disabled students are disproportionately impacted.

As you can imagine, kicking youth out of the classroom without addressing underlying issues for their behavior doesn't help that child, and usually doesn't improve the learning climate of the school.

In fact, the American Psychological Association has found that suspension and expulsion negatively impact school-wide achievement and increase the risk that excluded students fall behind academically, become alienated from school, drop out, and become involved with the juvenile and adult criminal justice systems.

In other words, these harsh practices are pushing kids out of the classroom and creating what has been widely dubbed as a "school-to-prison pipeline."

In 2007 in my own home state of Connecticut, 89% of the 16 and 17-year olds involved with the criminal justice system had been suspended or expelled from school. While this may be attributable to many factors, common sense will tell you that when a kid is expelled from school, home alone without supervision, he's likely to keep getting into trouble.

Fortunately, there is also great work being done in Connecticut and across the country to address school pushout and our resolution commends those efforts.

Counterproductive zero-tolerance policies are being replaced with evidenced-based behavior management and discipline practices. Schools are partnering with community leaders and services to better support at-risk students. Parent engagement is being prioritized and states are passing laws limiting the use of exclusionary discipline practices.

These efforts are producing real results in decreasing behavioral incidents and improving school climate and student achievement.

Yet what I've heard time and time again is that in order to be successful, Congress needs to support and help expand these efforts.

We need to help teachers and administrators who aren't receiving the training they want and need to effectively manage a classroom.

And we must support efforts to adopt evidenced based practices to improve student engagement and school safety by providing both effective technical assistance and flexibility for our schools.

Most importantly, we have to acknowledge this rising problem in our nation's schools and commit to working together to stop it.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the resolution.

RECOGNIZING WILLIAM D. JAMES,
MD, FAAD, INCOMING PRESIDENT
OF THE AMERICAN ACADEMY OF
DERMATOLOGY

HON. CHAKA FATTAH

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. FATTAH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. William James, a University of Pennsylvania dermatologist who recently took office as President of the American Academy of Dermatology. He will hold office for one year and also will hold the same position for the American Academy of Dermatology Association.

After beginning his academic career at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, Dr. James earned his medical degree from Indiana University School of Medicine. He completed a medical internship at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, in Washington, DC, and his residency in dermatology at the former Letterman Army Medical Center in San Francisco. He is the Paul R. Gross professor and vice chair of the department of dermatology at the University of Pennsylvania in Philadelphia. He also serves as the residency and fellowship program director.

An active member of the American Academy of Dermatology, Dr. James has served as a member of the board of directors, the council on member services, and numerous task forces and committees. He is the past chief of dermatology service at Walter Reed Army Medical Center. He has authored more than 310 publications, including co-authorship of the last three editions of Andrews' Diseases of the Skin. Additionally he served as founding editor-in-chief of the dermatology section of Emedicine.com, a clinical reference developed by WebMD. He lives in Bryn Mawr, Pennsylvania, with his wife, Ann. They have two children and are expecting a grandchild in early 2011.

RITA PETERSON

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Rita Peterson for her outstanding service to our community.

Rita Peterson has been co-owner and Vice president of her family owned appraisal business since 1977. The business has grown from one appraiser and a part time secretary to six full time appraisers and three administrative staff. They began primarily appraising operating farms and ranches throughout the state, and now deal with more complex issues involving eminent domain, conservation easement valuations and federal land exchanges.

While running and expanding her business, Rita still found time to become involved in the community. Most notable has been her involvement with the Senior Resource Center since 1982. Her vision has been the key to the

\$8.7 million dollar expansion and renovation project which includes a new 17,000 square foot Adult Day building.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Rita Peterson for being honored by the West Chamber serving Jefferson County. I have no doubt she will exhibit the same dedication and character in all her future accomplishments.

TAX RELIEF, UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE REAUTHORIZATION, AND JOB CREATION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 16, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4853) to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to extend the funding and expenditure authority of the Airport and Airway Trust Fund, to amend title 49, United States Code, to extend authorizations for the airport improvement program, and for other purposes:

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Chair, Title VII of this legislation provides for the extension of a number of tax provisions that expired at the end of 2009, or were set to expire at the end of 2010. I understand an effort was made to limit this title to what are known as the "traditional" tax extenders, with the general test being whether or not an expiring provision had been extended in the past. As a result of this decision, several provisions that expired for the first time at the end of 2009, and that had been included in previous drafts of tax extenders legislation, are not extended in this bill. One of these, the Section 45 production tax credit for electricity produced at open-loop biomass facilities placed in service before October 22, 2004, is important to a number of energy producers in the district I represent. Under current law, these facilities were permitted to claim the production tax credit for 5 years, ending in 2009. Previous tax extension proposals included a 2-year extension of this credit period. As a matter of simple fairness, I believe it is only right that these biomass producers should be able to claim the production tax credit for the same 10-year period afforded to the other renewable electricity producers covered under Section 45.

It is my understanding that no judgment was made on the policy merits of individual expiring tax provisions, and therefore no negative inference should be drawn against provisions that are not included in this legislation simply because they had not been extended in the past. I look forward to working with other members of the Ways and Means Committee in the 112th Congress to review these provisions and determine which ones are worthy of extension.

HONORING BYRON LEYDECKER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise with my colleague Congress-

man GEORGE MILLER today to recognize the great accomplishments of our friend Byron Leydecker, who recently announced that he will conclude operation of Friends of the Trinity River, the organization he founded 18 years ago and has led ever since.

The Trinity River flows through mountains in coastal northern California and is the largest tributary of the Klamath River. These rivers supported huge bountiful populations of both Chinook and Coho salmon, steelhead and other fish that sustained Native Americans for millennia and visitors from other continents for the past two centuries. The impacts of ill-advised and poorly managed development had devastated both the Trinity and the Klamath. Thanks in large part to Byron, the Trinity is on its way to recovery.

He pushed the Department of the Interior to develop and then implement the historic 2000 Trinity Record of Decision, he has worked tirelessly ever since to ensure that the Trinity restoration program goes forward as intended, and he has pushed the agencies to follow the science.

Byron has led an active and vigorous organization over the years, devoting his time, energy, and financial resources to make a real difference in the direction of the Trinity River restoration program, which is today one of the leading efforts of its kind.

Byron and FOTR have worked with the usual alphabet soup of government agencies, as well as tribes, fishermen, and water and power interests, to develop and implement the restoration plan. Byron has always been consistent and persistent, cooperative when possible and tough when needed.

Thanks to Byron and the work of FOTR, the Trinity River is now in better shape than at any time since the 1960s—we have seen increased flows, a healthier fishery, and a stronger scientific foundation for its management.

While there will always be snags and eddies in these undertakings, the successful restoration of the Trinity River will serve as a national model of a restored river below a Federal dam. The Trinity River could have no better friend than Byron Leydecker. We are grateful to Byron for his leadership, and thank him for all his work on behalf of healthy rivers and sustainable fisheries.

AN EXTRAORDINARY SPEECH

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 21, 2010

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, I submit the following for the RECORD:

What follows is an abridged transcript from *The American Thinker* by Alan Fraser of an extraordinary speech given by Lieutenant General John F. Kelly USMC on November 13, 2010. What renders it so is that General Kelly's son, First Lieutenant Robert Michael Kelly, was killed in action in Sangin, Afghanistan only four days before Lt. Gen. Kelly gave this speech. Lt. Gen. Kelly's eldest child is also a U.S. Marine.

The *American Thinker* wrote earlier about this incident to which the general refers in his speech of Corporal Jonathan Yale and Lance Corporal Jordan Haerter. Recall that

it occurred at a time when it appeared that our troop surge in Iraq had perhaps stabilized what had been for several years a horrific situation. Now think about how that troop surge—in fact, the entire war—would have been viewed had fifty of our Marines been massacred in their sleep on that April night in 2008. And finally, as we are in the season, it's good to remind ourselves that it is only because of men like Yale, Haerter, Gen. Kelly, and his brave sons that we are able to celebrate our holidays and not those of our enemies.

[SEMPER FI SOCIETY OF ST. LOUIS SPEECH]

(By LTG Kelly on Nov. 13, 2010)

Nine years ago two of the four commercial aircraft took off from Boston, Newark, and Washington. Took off fully loaded with men, women and children—all innocent, and all soon to die. These aircraft were targeted at the World Trade Towers in New York, the Pentagon, and likely the Capitol in Washington, D.C. . . . Three found their mark. No American alive old enough to remember will ever forget exactly where they were, exactly what they were doing, and exactly who they were with at the moment they watched the aircraft dive into the World Trade Towers on what was, until then, a beautiful morning in New York City. Within the hour 3,000 blameless human beings would be vaporized, incinerated, or crushed in the most agonizing ways imaginable. The most wretched among them—over 200—driven mad by heat, hopelessness, and utter desperation leapt to their deaths from 1,000 feet above Lower Manhattan. We soon learned hundreds more were murdered at the Pentagon, and in a Pennsylvania farmer's field.

Once the buildings had collapsed and the immensity of the attack began to register most of us had no idea of what to do, or where to turn. As a nation, we were scared like we had not been scared for generations. Parents hugged their children to gain as much as to give comfort. Strangers embraced in the streets stunned and crying on one another's shoulders seeking solace, as much as to give it. Instantaneously, American patriotism soared not "as the last refuge" as our national-cynical class would say, but in the darkest times Americans seek refuge in family, and in country, remembering that strong men and women have always stepped forward to protect the nation when the need was dire—and it was so God awful dire that day—and remains so today.

There was, however, a small segment of America that made very different choices that day . . . actions the rest of America stood in awe of on 9/11 and every day since. The first were our firefighters and police, their ranks decimated that day as they ran towards—not away from—danger and certain death. They were doing what they'd sworn to do—"protect and serve"—and went to their graves having fulfilled their sacred oath. Then there was your Armed Forces, and I know I am a little biased in my opinion here, but the best of them are Marines. Most wearing the Eagle, Globe and Anchor today joined the unbroken ranks of American heroes after that fateful day not for money, or promises of bonuses or travel to exotic liberty ports, but for one reason and one reason alone; because of the terrible assault on our way of life by men they knew must be killed and an extremist ideology that must be destroyed. A plastic flag in their car window was not their response to the murderous assault on our country. No, their response was a commitment to protect the nation swearing an oath to their God to do so, to their deaths. When future generations ask why America is still free and the heyday of Al Qaeda and their terrorist allies was counted in days rather than in centuries as the extremists themselves predicted, our hometown heroes—soldiers, sailors, airmen, Coast