

# EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

## OPEN AND TRANSPARENT SMITHSONIAN ACT

### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Ms. NORTON. Madam Speaker, today I introduce the Open and Transparent Smithsonian Act to further ensure that the Smithsonian Institution is accountable to the public for the taxpayer funds it receives. This bill provides that, for the purposes of the Freedom of Information Act, FOIA, and the Privacy Act, the Smithsonian shall be considered a federal agency.

This bill was introduced in the Senate in 2008, and I saw it then and now as complementing my Smithsonian Modernization Act and my Smithsonian Free Admission Act. I introduce this bill today along with the other two because its purpose, like those, is to make the Smithsonian accountable for the 70 percent of its funding that comes from annual federal appropriations. Although the Smithsonian was created by Congress as a federal trust, it receives the great majority of its funding from the federal government, much like federal agencies, and had always been treated as a federal agency. However, in the 1990s, the U.S. Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia Circuit found that the Smithsonian is not a federal agency for purposes of FOIA and the Privacy Act. Indeed, the Smithsonian's website clearly states that it is "not an Executive Branch agency, and FOIA does not apply to the Smithsonian."

The lack of transparency is of great concern, particularly in light of the Smithsonian's recent history of secrecy and corruption. In 2007, an independent review committee found that the Smithsonian Board had violated many principles of good management during the tenure of Lawrence Small as Secretary of the Smithsonian. The report indicated that the Board had failed to provide desperately needed oversight, had overcompensated the Secretary, and had allowed the creation of an "insular culture." The report further found that the Smithsonian's deputy secretary and chief operating officer had frequent absences from her duties because of outside activities, including service on corporate boards, for which she earned more than \$1.2 million in six years. Importantly, the report indicated that Smithsonian leaders took great measures to keep secret these missteps and mismanagements.

While the Smithsonian now has new leadership that is moving away from the mistakes of the past, its transparency should not depend on who is in charge. A federally supported entity must be accountable to the American people. The American people have a right to know that their interests are being served.

I urge my colleagues to support this measure.

## HONORING 19TH CENTURY AFRICAN-AMERICAN LEGISLATORS OF TEXAS

### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and voice my support for a new monument that will be unveiled at the Texas State Cemetery in Austin, Texas, on March 30, 2010, to commemorate the state's African-American legislators of the 19th century.

This monument will serve as a reminder to all Texans of the role that African Americans have played in Texas political history and give credence to the first steps that these legislators made for the black community in the state. There were 52 African-American men who served in either the Texas legislature or were Constitutional Convention delegates during the last half of the 19th century, and while their time in office may have been short, their impacts can still be felt today.

I often reflect on the endurance and tenacity of these men who served a disenfranchised community during a politically volatile time in Texas history. They truly were political pioneers entering a system of government for the first time and working diligently to ensure a future for all African Americans and Texans. This work is not lightly forgotten, and that is why this monument is so important for people across the state and all Americans.

Madam Speaker, I encourage my colleagues to join me today in remembering the 19th century African-American legislators of Texas and to honor them by supporting this monument that will help Texans understand the work and sacrifices of these great legislators.

## HONORING LEWIS F. GOULD, JR.

### HON. JIM GERLACH

OF PENNSYLVANIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. GERLACH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Lewis F. "Lew" Gould Jr. for his longstanding selfless and passionate service to Lower Merion Township, Montgomery County.

As a four-term Lower Merion Township Commissioner, Lew has been a leading voice for fiscal responsibility and sound stewardship of community resources. He has earned the respect of his colleagues for his frankness and his willingness to mentor younger community leaders on the duties and responsibilities associated with governing the largest municipality in the 6th Congressional District.

Lew's efforts have earned him the 2010 Service Award from the Republican Committee of Lower Merion and Narberth. The

award will be presented during the Committee's annual Lincoln Day Dinner at the Merion Tribute House in Merion Station, Pennsylvania.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me today in extending our deepest appreciation to Lewis F. "Lew" Gould Jr. for his exemplary leadership, civic engagement and dedication to making Lower Merion Township a great place to live, work and raise a family.

## CONGRATULATING THOMAS THAYER FOR RECEIVING THE INTERNATIONAL CIRCLE OF EXCELLENCE AWARD

### HON. ERIC CANTOR

OF VIRGINIA  
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. CANTOR. Madam Speaker, I rise today in order to congratulate Thomas Thayer, the owner of International Truck Sales of Richmond, for his receiving of the International Circle of Excellence Award.

Tom's business, International Truck Sales of Richmond, is headquartered in Ashland, Virginia, where it was founded in 1998. Under his leadership, it has grown into one of the pre-eminent truck dealerships in the Southeast and the entire nation, with 109 employees and three dealer locations serving Richmond and its surrounding counties. In 2005, it was named the International Dealer of the Year, an honor awarded to the one International dealer who exhibits the highest commitment to best-in-class customer service. With this most recent award, International Truck Sales of Richmond has now received the Circle of Excellence Award under Tom's leadership a total of 13 times.

The Circle of Excellence, which is awarded by the international dealer organization, Navistar, Inc., honors International truck dealerships that achieve the highest level of dealer performance with respect to operating and financial standards, market representation, and most importantly, customer satisfaction.

Tom has achieved this level of accomplishment and recognition through many years of hard work and service to his industry and community. He has also built a successful truck leasing business, Idealease of Richmond, is the current chairman of the Truck Renting and Leasing Association, and is the past chairman of the Make a Wish Foundation. He is also involved with the Rotary Club, the United Way and the American Cancer Society. Despite all these activities, he still finds time to work the concession stand at James River High School on Friday nights, and serves as a band booster for his son, Robert, and his daughter, Leah.

Through his commitment to hard work and outstanding customer service, he has built an economically vital business of which he can be justly proud. Madam Speaker, I ask you

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

and my colleagues to join with me in congratulating Thomas Thayer for his record of accomplishment and for his many contributions to his community, state and Nation.

**HONORING ROBERT WORKMAN ON  
THE ADMISSION OF HIS WORK  
TO THE MUSEE DU LOUVRE**

**HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Robert Workman, an acclaimed artist from Mt. Greenwood, Illinois. On January 15, 2010, Robert Workman's pen and ink drawing became the first American work of the 21st century admitted to the internationally renowned Louvre Museum in Paris.

A passionate artistic practitioner, Mr. Workman is a graduate of the Ecole du Louvre and the Art Institute of Chicago—two of the pre-eminent art institutions in the world. In addition to having a place in the Louvre, his work is part of the Archives of the Musees Nationaux de France. The specific piece of art admitted to the Louvre was a pen and ink work featuring an ancient Egyptian theme—mixing the human form with an array of hieroglyphic text. This work was credited by the head of the Department of Sculptures with bearing “witness to the international renown of the Louvre.”

Mr. Workman's art is only part of his contribution to society. He is a tireless author and illustrator, and has published numerous children's books and a graphic novel.

I ask you to join me in honoring Robert Workman for his remarkable achievements in art, and his recognition by the Musee du Louvre.

**COMMEMORATING THE 15TH ANNI-  
VERSARY OF THE BEIJING DEC-  
ARATION AND PLATFORM FOR  
ACTION AND INTERNATIONAL  
WOMEN'S DAY**

**HON. RUSS CARNAHAN**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. CARNAHAN. Madam Speaker, on Monday, March 8, 2010, the world will mark the 15th anniversary of the adoption of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action—the most comprehensive global policy framework to achieve the goals of gender equality, development and peace.

While we reflect on this milestone and celebrate the advancements of women thus far, we also need to pause and take stock of what more can be achieved. To fully live up to the goals of equality, development and peace it is imperative that we continue to promote opportunities for women to directly shape these policies by being involved in politics at all levels, and in all countries. Without this perspective, equality is no more than a hollow word.

The 1997 Universal Declaration on Democracy states that true democracy cannot be achieved unless there is a genuine, equal and complementary partnership between men and women in the conduct of the affairs of society.

Even we in the United States, where there are only about 15 percent of women in legislative positions and only 33 percent in ministerial positions, have a long way to go to fulfill this principle. It is important that lawmakers, both here and abroad, advocate for policies that empower women. In many countries that I've traveled to, I have seen firsthand the need for support from governments, international bodies, NGO's, and local communities. It is especially important that we educate young women and girls from an early age in order to give them as many opportunities later in life.

Just this last Congress the United States joined the list of countries that have shattered the glass ceiling of female leadership in parliament, with the appointment of Nancy Pelosi as the first female Speaker of the House of Representatives. We have yet to elect a female President—although we will surely see that day soon.

However, the leadership and courage of strong women in the United States who have broken down tough barriers continues to inspire many around the world. These women have demonstrated remarkable accomplishment our nation, and women across the globe can be proud of. They are a testament to the power of women everywhere.

Likewise we look to groundbreaking female leaders in other countries and praise their confidence and ability in forging the path for others to dare to fill their shoes and even go beyond. One of the best examples of this, is Liberian President, Ellen Johnson Sirleaf. She inspired many when she addressed a Joint Session of Congress.

The challenges faced by peoples everywhere are faced with the help of strong women. And today many women still face challenges fully acceding to all of the positions and roles formerly reserved for men. The impact and involvement of women is critical in reducing poverty, improving education and health care, reducing the violence against them, enhancing human rights on the whole, and even recovering from the brunt of the global economic crisis.

We celebrate these advancements, but continue to pursue and address the various challenges and inequalities women face day to day. I would like to thank the Inter-Parliamentary Union for its great work on this front and for calling this gathering today, in the spirit of cooperation and progress toward achieving the goals of equality, peace and development.

**RECOGNIZING VOLUNTEERS FROM  
THE EAST VALLEY RETIRED  
AND SENIOR VOLUNTEER PRO-  
GRAM**

**HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL**

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the accomplishments of 11 retired Seniors from the East Valley who have been awarded the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for Lifetime Achievement. This prestigious award honors those who have provided more than 4,000 hours of volunteer service over the course of their lifetime. The President's Volunteer Service Award program was created as a way to thank and honor Ameri-

cans who, by their demonstrated commitment and example, inspire others to engage in volunteer service.

This year's recipients of the Presidential Volunteer Service Award for Lifetime Achievement are exceptional individuals who epitomize the true meaning of service. These 11 honorees exhibit a sincere commitment to helping others and creating positive communities.

As a representative, I am fortunate to have such benevolent and dedicated individuals serving within my district. Each one of the recipients should serve as an inspiration for us all and encourage us to make service a central part of our lives.

Madam Speaker, it is my honor to officially recognize Kay Fisher, Shigeko Godsey, Kenneth Hawkes, Marietta Hopkins, Gertrude Huhn, Rena Johnson, Peter Loguda, Pamela Manaos, Helen McShane, Susanne Ulbrish and Grant Whitney for their outstanding service to our community.

**HONORING MR. PAUL HAZZARD**

**HON. BRIAN HIGGINS**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. HIGGINS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the years of service given to the people of Chautauqua County by Mr. Paul Hazzard. Mr. Hazzard served his constituency faithfully and justly during his tenure as a member of the Busti Town Council.

Public service is a difficult and fulfilling career. Any person with a dream may enter but only a few are able to reach the end. Mr. Hazzard served his term with his head held high and a smile on his face the entire way. I have no doubt that his kind demeanor left a lasting impression on the people of Chautauqua County.

We are truly blessed to have such strong individuals with a desire to make this county the wonderful place that we all know it can be. Mr. Hazzard is one of those people and that is why Madam Speaker I rise to pay tribute to him today.

**HONORING NATIONAL PEACE  
CORPS WEEK**

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 4, 2010*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize this week as National Peace Corp Week.

In October of 1960, when then-Senator John F. Kennedy was campaigning for the Presidency, he visited the University of Michigan. At about 2:00 AM in front of the University of Michigan Union, he first outlined his plan to create a program that would send Americans to countries around the globe for 2 years of service. He said that night:

“ . . . I think Americans are willing to contribute. But the effort must be far greater than we have ever made in the past. Therefore, I am delighted to come to Michigan, to this university, because unless we have those resources in this school, unless you comprehend the nature of what is being asked of