

including Community Health Care—where thousands of my constituents can get access to high quality care with payment options that meet their specific needs. CHC alone serves 31,000 patients throughout the Quad Cities and manages 119,000 unique visits per year. By 2012 the CHC team will be serving 40,000 patients annually. Under George's leadership, CHC has dramatically expanded their services by opening new outpatient clinics, enhancing relationships with regional hospitals physician groups, and adding multiple dental suites to meet the incredible need for childhood and adult dental care.

Madam Speaker, I advocate for our federal community health centers because people like George Barton and the CHC team get results. They dramatically improve health and wellness in our communities and are invaluable to solving one of the most critical issues facing our country today—access to health care. Please join me in thanking George and this team for their service.

#### RWANDAN GENOCIDE

#### HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, I've spent my entire career advocating for victims, for those that have suffered at the hands of perpetrators both as a former judge in Texas and as founder and co-chair of the Victims' Rights Caucus. It grieves me that people resort to violence and commit such atrocities to their fellow neighbor. On April 6, 1994 and for the next three months our world learned an important lesson—violence is not the answer, nor is watching and doing nothing.

Sixteen years ago, beginning on April 6, 1994 more than 800,000 persons were killed in the Rwandan genocide, many being Tutsis.

A shot-down plane of Rwandan President Juvenal Habyarimana, a Hutu, and his death sparked the beginnings of the genocide because the very next day, April 7, 1994, the Rwandan Armed Forces (FAR) and the interahamwe went out and slaughtered thousands of people by setting up roadblocks and then going house to house killing Tutsis and moderate Hutus. The slaying went on for the next 100 days.

On June 22, 1994 the U.S. used the word "genocide" only after the Security Council deployed French forces in South West Rwanda. On February 19, 1995 Western countries committed to sending \$600 million in aid, with \$60 million coming from the United States. Rwanda bears a deep and grave loss from this tragedy, and the international community has come around them to support, encourage and comfort.

Much was said during this conflict, but little was done. We can do better. We must do better.

We send our sympathies out to the loved ones who died in the Rwandan genocide. We know that they are still greatly missed even sixteen years later. May we remember this time when so many lost their lives, and may we do better in interceding during future conflicts. Let us always take a stand against violence.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF  
MS. CHRISTINE MILES

#### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ms. Christine Miles of Berea, Ohio, a remarkable woman who has dedicated her life to her dual passions of music and helping children. Ms. Miles has worked on my staff for 14 years, but she has been my friend for almost 40 years. She brings joy into the lives of thousands of young men and women through her work as a music therapist and her role in creating and managing the 10th Congressional District Art Contest, which she has organized for 14 consecutive years.

Ms. Miles is simply one of the most interesting people you could ever hope to meet. She has a deep passion for cooking and gardening. Her home is a calming oasis of history, warmth and love. She has dedicated her life to the arts and to service to her community. An alumna of Baldwin-Wallace Conservatory of Music, Ms. Miles has been honored for her devotion to music as a performer, a teacher and as a music therapist for children.

Ms. Miles was elected to the Berea City Council in 1972 and in 1976, she became a special aid to U.S. Congressman Ron Mottl. She was the first woman to Chair the Ohio Democratic Delegation to a presidential convention where she was a delegate for Jimmy Carter. She served as President Carter's deputy co-coordinator for his Ohio Campaign. She later served on the National Advisory Board on Ambassadorial Appointments. She has also served as a Member of the Advisory Committee on the Arts at the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ms. Christine Miles, a strong supporter of the arts who has made Northeast Ohio a more beautiful place to live through her work, her consistent dedication to the well being of children, and her very presence. Thank you, Chris.

IN RECOGNITION OF GEORGE  
THOMLINSON

#### HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, allow me to recognize and pay tribute to Mr. George Thomlinson who recently received the Spirit of Service award from the Warrensburg Stake of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. This annual award recognizes a member of the community who shows an outstanding commitment to service and volunteerism.

Although Mr. Thomlinson has worked for 31 years as an insurance agent with Farmers Insurance Group in Sedalia, Missouri, volunteering remains his true calling. Since 1995, Mr. Thomlinson has been involved with the Sedalia-Pettis County United Way. As president and campaign chair, Mr. Thomlinson helped raise hundreds of thousands of dollars

for charitable organizations in Pettis County, and he currently serves on the board as first vice president.

Over the years, he has also served as president of the Liberty Center Association for the Arts, a member of the Salvation Army Advisory Board, and a board member of the Sedalia Rotary Club. For 2 years, he was president of the Sedalia Area Chamber of Commerce, and he was awarded the "Volunteer of the Year" award in 2002 for his service with the Chamber.

Though his commitments are wide and diverse, few have meant more to Mr. Thomlinson than his work with Ducks Unlimited, an organization that has conserved, restored, and protected over 12 million acres of habitat in North America. After serving as the Missouri State chairman for 3 years, this year he will be nominated to become a regional vice president.

Madam Speaker, let me take this means to recognize Mr. Thomlinson for his tireless service to our community and for the impeccable example he and his wife Holly have set for their daughter Vanessa and us all.

#### IMPLEMENTING MANAGEMENT FOR PERFORMANCE AND RE- LATED REFORMS TO OBTAIN VALUE IN EVERY ACQUISITION ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

#### HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, April 28, 2010*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5013) to amend title 10, United States Code, to provide for performance management of the defense acquisition system, and for other purposes:

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today in support of H.R. 5013, the IMPROVE Acquisition Act of 2010, which will implement reforms that reduce waste within the Department of Defense, DOD. This important legislation will help ensure that our government's second largest department acts efficiently and effectively in its pursuit of our national security.

I thank Chairman SKELTON for his leadership in bringing this bill to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congressman ROBERT ANDREWS, for his dedication to enacting substantive government reform that protects taxpayers and makes our Federal Government work more efficiently on behalf of the American people.

Mr. Chair, in 2009, the DOD's budget was \$680 billion, the second largest budget of all executive branch departments. The American taxpayer deserves our best effort to ensure that this money is spent efficiently, effectively, and in areas of the most need. H.R. 5013 will aid in this effort by ensuring the DOD gets the maximum value possible from its acquisitions. The bill will require that the DOD set performance standards and goals for all acquisitions. It then requires all acquisitions to be subjected to regular assessments to ensure that these goals are being met.

This legislation also directs the Secretary of Defense to manage and develop a highly skilled workforce that ensures that the DOD

gets the best possible value out of its expenditures. The bill requires that an enhanced system of incentives be put in place to encourage employees to reach performance goals. Finally, H.R. 5013 will require that all companies receiving DOD contracts are subjected to comprehensive audits that ensure that their federal dollars are spent wisely and efficiently.

I have long been an advocate of increased government efficiency and accountability. As the holder of a master's degree in business administration and a former employee in the private sector, I understand the importance of government being as economically efficient as possible. At a time of economic hardship across in the United States, government should spend its money carefully and efficiently, just like households and businesses across the country.

Moreover, increased efficient and accountability is the fair thing for the American people. The American people deserve a government that works for them. If government is going to spend their hard-earned tax-payer dollars, it must do so in a way that gets the best possible value out of every single dollar. H.R. 5013 will help achieve this goal. By ensuring that the DOD limits waste, this bill will play a critical part in the effort to run our government more effectively and in a way that protects the American taxpayer.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H.R. 5013.

IN HONOR OF JAMES E. BENNETT

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. HOYER. Madam Speaker, I rise on behalf of myself, Representative FRANK WOLF, Congresswoman ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, Representative JIM MORAN, Representative CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, and Representative GERALD CONNOLLY to recognize James E. Bennett, the President and Chief Executive Officer of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority, Airports Authority, who has announced his retirement after 14 years of exceptional public service to the agency, the region, and the Nation. During his tenure at the Airports Authority, Mr. Bennett expertly guided the significant expansion and modernization of Washington Dulles International Airport and Ronald Reagan Washington National Airport, while simultaneously undertaking the challenge of managing the Dulles Toll Road and constructing the long planned Metrorail line to Dulles Airport and Loudoun County.

Whether one is a visitor to either of these world-class airports or watching the construction of the Metrorail line, it is not difficult to appreciate the bold vision and many accomplishments of Jim Bennett. Reagan National and Dulles International Airports combined served a total of more than 40 million passengers in 2009. In difficult economic times, both airports retained service to all top 50 domestic markets, bringing valuable, new air service to the metropolitan Washington region. Mr. Bennett's leadership also brought to completion \$3 billion of capital development projects, providing improved passenger service and enhanced ability to accommodate increased air service and passenger volume.

At Dulles International, a new security mezzanine and the state-of-the-art AeroTrain, were recently put into service. These monumental improvements return Dulles International to the form and function that Architect Eero Saarinen, envisioned for this beautiful landmark when it opened in 1962. At Reagan National, Mr. Bennett guided the addition of expanded parking and completion of a new Public Safety Communications Center to expand the Airports Authority's emergency operations capabilities.

In everything Jim Bennett has done, the interests of the public have been paramount. He has guided reinvestments in Washington Dulles and Reagan National Airports ensuring that these valuable facilities are equipped to serve travelers throughout the next decades, continuing to be important economic catalysts, providing jobs and business development opportunities for the region. He took on the Dulles Metrorail Project, proposing an innovative financing plan to bring transit service to Dulles Airport and the entire Dulles Corridor. The project is on budget and on schedule, indicative of Mr. Bennett's stellar management skills.

This region has had the unique benefit of having had one the country's finest airport managers, as well as a consummate public servant, in Jim Bennett. We all owe him a debt of gratitude for his leadership, integrity, humility and inspiration. I ask that my colleagues join me and the National Capital region in expressing our heartfelt gratitude to Jim Bennett for his vision and legacy of transportation improvements that he has left for the region and the Nation.

HONORING IWAO MATSUDA

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor my longtime friend and respected colleague, Iwao Matsuda. Matsuda-san is arriving in Washington today for a meeting of the United States-Japan Legislative Exchange Program, a project he founded to encourage meaningful dialogue between our two countries. He has a long and honorable history of service to Japan as an elected official, first in the House of Representatives and later in the House of Councilors in the Diet. Matsuda-san has always been interested in resolving tensions and improving the relationship between the United States and Japan, and it was this drive that led to the creation and continuing success of the Legislative Exchange Program.

Members of the Diet and the Congress have grown to understand the importance of the United States-Japan Legislative Exchange Program. The two delegations have had the privilege of getting to know each other, and if there is ever a problem, we know who to call to find out more about it. These personal connections are vital to creating understanding between our legislatures and our nations. But I would like to point out another facet of Matsuda-san's contribution. Not only has he helped us to know each other and to create personal relationships, but his work has transcended his own personal relationships and left us all with an enduring legacy.

I honor my friend Matsuda-san's life and work, and I wish him a peaceful retirement. My colleagues and I will never forget his kind hospitality, both in official and personal settings, and I look forward to continuing our friendship in the years to come.

# CONGRESSIONAL CERTIFICATE OF MERIT WINNERS

**HON. MICHELE BACHMANN**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mrs. BACHMANN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the accomplished students who earned the Certificate of Congressional Merit for their exemplary citizenship and academic excellence. Eleven students from Minnesota's Sixth District were nominated by their schools for this prestigious award and it is a great privilege to be able to share their accomplishments with this Congress.

These students have shown that they can set and achieve goals, work as a team member or a leader, and contribute to a larger cause all while making time for study and friendships as well. They have made significant contributions to their schools and communities and stand out to faculty and staff as students that would never ask for recognitions for their efforts.

I rise today, Madam Speaker, to honor these 11 students for their successful high school careers and to wish them all the best in their bright futures: Kaia Larson, Meadow Creek Christian School; Kara Peterson, Becker High School; Danielle Liebl, Rocori High School; Taylor Haag, Paynesville Area High School; Matthew Vogel, Saint Francis High School; Zachary Johnson, Monticello High School; Duy Nguyen, Spring Lake Park High School; Travis Taylor, New Life Academy; Sandra Arnold, Delano High School; Emily Bloch, Immaculate Conception Academy; and Kelsey Vigoren, Kimball Area High School.

Madam Speaker, please join me in congratulating these students for their hard work and wishing them the best of luck. As the Irish poet and Noble Peace Prize winner William Butler Yeats said, "Education is not the filling of a pail, but the lighting of a fire." In these students, a fire has been lit. They are the bright future we have to look forward to in Minnesota, and in our Nation.

# OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 4, 2010*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,876,734,073,745.72.

On January 6, 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 \$2,288,594,800,033.30 so far this Congress.

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