

NATIONAL TEACHER
APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I am pleased to support this resolution to commemorate National Teacher Appreciation Week and to recognize the importance of teachers in ensuring that Americans receive a quality education.

Teachers are heroes in our communities. None of us in Congress would be where we are today without the influence of those teachers who shaped our lives. They corrected us when we were wrong and they praised us when we were right. They taught us how to read and write, think critically, add and subtract, and they opened our minds to past events, scientific discoveries, and different cultures and civilizations. They encouraged us to follow our dreams and inspired us to reach our full potential.

My parents were educators in this vein. My father served as the first President of Bishop College in Mobile, Alabama, and my mother worked as a librarian. I saw through them how our teachers work miracles in the classroom day in and day out. They truly deserve the strongest praise we have to offer.

Benjamin Franklin once said that "an investment in education pays the best dividends." It is our teachers who are responsible for the value of that investment, and I urge all of my colleagues to join me in commemorating them for their outstanding work.

RECOGNIZING THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF IWAO MATSUDA TO THE US-JAPAN LEGISLATIVE EXCHANGE PROGRAM

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the contributions of Iwao Matsuda, Co-chairman of the U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Program (LEP).

LEP is the longest standing and among the most successful legislative exchange programs in the U.S. Congress. This week marks LEP's 22nd year and 43rd consecutive session. Mr. Matsuda has played a tremendous role in making LEP a rewarding program.

I have had the privilege of participating in several LEP meetings with Mr. Matsuda. He has been a remarkable leader of LEP and representative of the people of Japan.

As a member of the Japan Diet, Mr. Matsuda was troubled by the sometimes bitter trade disputes between the United States and Japan and wanted to find a way to improve communications and understanding among the legislatures of Japan and the United States. In 1988, Mr. Matsuda took the far-sighted initiative of contacting friends in the U.S. Congress and at the George Washington University to create a program that would encourage personal and informal discussions among U.S. and Japanese parliamentarians. This was the beginnings of LEP.

As time passed, Mr. Matsuda sought to expand the U.S.-Japan Legislative Exchange Program to include members of the South Korean National Assembly and initiated in 2003 the U.S.-Japan-South Korea Trilateral Legislative Exchange Program (TLEP), which meets regularly with LEP to foster closer ties and understanding among the democratic legislatures of the three countries.

After twenty-plus years of public service, Mr. Matsuda, a true visionary of the promotion of democratic ideals, will be retiring, and this will be his last LEP session.

Mahalo nui loa (thank you very much), Mr. Matsuda, for all that you have done to strengthen U.S.-Japan-South Korean friendships and expand understanding among the free peoples of the Asian-Pacific region and the world at large.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to explain how I would have voted on rollcall votes cast on April 29, 2010. Due to prior commitments in Houston, I was returning home and was not able to make the last series of votes. Had I been present, I would have voted on the following:

"No," on rollcall vote #234, the Foxx of North Carolina Amendment;

"No," on rollcall vote #235, the Gutierrez of Illinois Amendment No. Two;

"No," on rollcall vote #236, the Gutierrez of Illinois Amendment No. Three;

"Yes," on rollcall vote #237, the Burton of Indiana Amendment;

"No," on rollcall vote #238, the Velázquez of New York Amendment No. Five;

"No," on rollcall vote #239, the Velázquez of New York Amendment No. Six;

"No," on rollcall vote #240, the Velázquez of New York Amendment No. Seven;

"No," on rollcall vote #241, the Motion to Recommit on H.R. 2499 the Puerto Rico Democracy Act;

"Yes," on rollcall vote #242, on passage of H.R. 2499 the Puerto Rico Democracy Act.

Madam Speaker, I am a cosponsor of H.R. 2499, and strongly supported its passage in a statement made last week. I am pleased this legislation has passed the House and hope to see it move forward in the Senate to give the people of Puerto Rico and opportunity to determine their future.

IN RECOGNITION OF COLONEL
DAVID FURNESS, USMC

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, today I recognize and pay tribute to Colonel David Furness, United States Marine Corps, on the occasion of his transfer from the liaison office. I, and many other members of this chamber, have had the pleasure of working with him

over the past two years that he has served as part of U.S. Marine Corps Office of Legislative Affairs and as the Director of the USMC Liaison Office in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Colonel Furness expertly represented the Marine Corps on all matters in the U.S. House of Representatives and spearheaded the Marine Corps' most difficult and challenging legislative initiatives from June 2008 to May 2010. Through his direct and skillful interaction with Members of Congress, he ensured that Marine Corps requirements were widely understood by key Members and staff to guarantee the best possible support to the Marine Corps. He also successfully oversaw, planned, coordinated, and escorted more than 150 international and domestic trips for high-level Congressional and Staff Delegations.

Furthermore, Colonel Furness managed, trained and mentored a team of Legislative Liaison Officers and House Legislative Fellows and created an environment that fostered teamwork and professionalism. He led Company and Field Grade Officers and ensured they better understood both the message of the Commandant and the role of the Congress in National Security matters. Colonel Furness contributed immeasurably to making capable Liaison Officers who will return to the Marine Corps Fleet with a better understanding of how Congress and the Corps work closely together to win our Nation's battles.

Through it all, Colonel Furness has been able to ensure that Members of Congress and their staffs never forget the purpose and focus of the Marine Corps: the Marines themselves.

Madam Speaker, through all of these actions, and many more, Colonel Furness has maintained and improved the U.S. House of Representatives' view of the Marine Corps. His performance has made a lasting impact on the readiness of the Marine Corps, laying the groundwork for continued Marine successes on Capitol Hill.

INTRODUCTION OF OUTDOOR
LIGHTING EFFICIENCY BILL, H.R.
5201

HON. JANE HARMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Ms. HARMAN. Madam Speaker, three years ago, Congressman UPTON and I introduced legislation—which became law in 2007 as part of the Energy Independence and Security Act—that will revolutionize the way Americans light their homes.

Our legislation banned the famously inefficient 100-watt incandescent light bulb by 2012, will phase out remaining inefficient light bulbs by 2014, and requires that light bulbs be at least three times as efficient as today's 100-watt incandescent bulb by 2020.

That bill was the product of bipartisan and bicameral efforts to forge a consensus between industry and environmental groups. The result was not only broadly accepted, it was groundbreaking. The Alliance to Save Energy estimates that the provisions will eventually save \$18 billion in energy costs every year, and prevent the emission of 100 million tons of carbon dioxide annually by 2030. That's the equivalent of taking 20 million cars off the road.

If we are serious about getting our arms around both climate change and reducing our dependence on oil, we now have to address outdoor lighting. It is the other side of the coin. Lighting consumes 22 percent of all electricity generated in the U.S. Outdoor lighting for streets, parking lots and area lighting consumes about 20 percent of that total. Up to 25 percent of household electricity goes to light outdoor spaces, according to the California Energy Commission.

H.R. 5201, the bipartisan bill we are introducing today, is identical to legislation introduced by Senators BINGAMAN and MURKOWSKI. It reflects a compromise with industry and the environmental community. And it builds on the provision we added to the American Clean Energy and Security Act reported by the House Energy and Commerce Committee last May.

The legislation imposes standards for outdoor lights in three tiers. The first tier takes effect three years after the bill becomes law, the second in 2016 and the third in 2021.

By 2030 the new efficient outdoor lights are expected to save the equivalent power output of three to six nuclear plants or 6 to 10 large coal fired plants every year.

It will also save us money. As the Grandma of the Blue Dogs, that's important to me. And given skyrocketing deficits and the ongoing recession, it ought to be important to this Congress. Annual savings will be in the range of \$2.8 billion to \$5.1 billion by 2030.

By 2030 carbon emissions will also be reduced in a major way—from 4.48 to 7.95 metric tons annually, the equivalent of taking approximately 3 to 5.4 million cars off the road.

The bill also protects the efforts of early innovators like California, which has already passed an aggressive outdoor lighting standard.

And this bill is consensus legislation at its best. It shows what we can do when Democrats and Republicans and manufacturers and environmentalists work toward the same goal. I urge its prompt enactment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RON KLEIN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. KLEIN of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to state how I would have voted on Thursday, April 29, 2010 when I was unavoidably detained.

Had I voted, I would have voted "yes" on rollcall No. 242.

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF JOHN LONSAK

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 John Lonsak on the occasion of his retirement after 41 years of service to the library system of Greater Cleveland.

For eight years, Mr. Lonsak served as executive director of the Cuyahoga County Public Library system. He also served as regional library manager for the Parma and Fairview

Park library systems. Mr. Lonsak has worked to promote and develop innovative projects and programs hosted at the Rocky River Library and throughout the Rocky River community. He served as past president of the Cleveland Metropolitan Library system and is a lifelong member of the Ohio Library Council and the American Library Association. In 2001, Mr. Lonsak was honored with the Director Award by the Ohio Library Council and was named the Librarian of the Year for his development of a universal library card.

Mr. Lonsak's enthusiasm for libraries began in childhood when his mother regularly brought him to story hours at the Eastman branch of the Cleveland Public Library. He earned a bachelor's degree from Cleveland State University and a Master of Library Science from Case Western University. When he became director of the Rocky River library six years ago, Mr. Lonsak worked to oversee an expansive renovation project, which included the restoration of the interior built in 1928, an expansion of the children's department and the renovation of the public computer center. A new lobby and children's room were also included in the renovation.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of John Lonsak, whose service to the Greater Cleveland Community is deeply appreciated.

CONGRATULATING ARLISS STUR- GULEWSKI AND CONGREGATION BETH SHOLOM

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 4, 2010

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Madam Speaker, each year Congregation Beth Shalom of Anchorage selects a distinguished Alaskan to receive its annual "Shining Lights" award. The Shining Lights award has a dual purpose, in that it expresses appreciation for the honoree's contributions to the 49th State and its people, and also inspires others to emulate the honoree's good works, in the spirit of "Tikkun Olam"—the repair of the world. This year, 2010, Congregation Beth Shalom has chosen former State Senator Arliss Sturgulewski to receive the Shining Lights Award.

I proudly commend the selection of Arliss Sturgulewski as the recipient of the 2010 Shining Lights Award. I remember when Arliss was a state senator between 1978 and 1992, was the Republican candidate for Governor of Alaska in 1986 and 1990, and served as an elected member of the Anchorage Charter Commission and the Anchorage Assembly. In addition to her elective offices, Arliss has served on numerous boards and commissions, such as the Municipality of Anchorage's Planning and Zoning Commission and the Board of Examiners and Appeals.

A parent herself, Arliss's interest in Alaska's youth has been made manifest by her leadership as a trustee for the Anchorage YMCA, and at the University of Alaska through her service as a member of the Advisory Council for the School of Fisheries and Ocean Services, the University of Alaska Foundation, and the Anchorage Chancellor's Council. A graduate of the University of Washington, Arliss was awarded an honorary Doctor of Laws degree from the University of Alaska Anchorage.

The immeasurable contributions of Arliss Sturgulewski are an inspiration to Alaskans in

all regions and walks of life. In particular, it is certain that Arliss has inspired many Alaska women to either seek public office or to become otherwise involved as political, business and community leaders, to the great benefit of Alaskans everywhere.

I would like to congratulate Arliss and Congregation Beth Shalom on the occasion of this well-deserved award.

SUPPORTING THE GOALS AND IDEALS OF WORKERS' MEMO- RIAL DAY

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 27, 2010

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a cosponsor of H. Res. 375, which supports the goals and ideals of Workers' Memorial Day, recognizes the importance of worker health and safety, and encourages the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, OSHA, employers, and employees to support activities aimed at increasing awareness of the importance of workplace safety. This legislation serves as an important tribute to the men and women who have been killed or injured in the workplace and a reminder of the need for a national effort to ensure that workplaces across the country are as safe as possible.

I thank Chairman MILLER for his leadership in bringing this resolution to the floor. I also thank the sponsor of this legislation, Congresswoman EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, for her dedication to ensuring a safe and healthy environment for all workers in the United States.

Mr. Speaker, every year, about 5,000 individuals are killed due to workplace related injuries. That is an average of 14 workers each day that die due to an accident in the workplace. In an advanced, industrialized society, these numbers are simply unacceptable. Many workers in my district are employed by the Port of Long Beach, where they operate complicated machinery and move heavy equipment to help facilitate the movement of goods throughout the United States. They deserve our best effort to provide them with a safe workplace as they perform this important work. Recent workplace tragedies, such as the death of the 29 coal miners in the disaster at the Upper Big Branch Mine in Raleigh County, West Virginia, and the explosion of the Transocean Deepwater Horizon oil rig in the Gulf of Mexico that left 17 workers injured and 11 missing, have made even clearer the need for increased workplace protections in the United States. Hopefully, we can take these horrible tragedies as a call to ensure that the necessary workplace safety and health regulations are in place for all Americans. Regardless of whether you work in an office complex or a textile mill, a steel plant or on an oil rig, every American deserves the assurance of knowing that he or she is safe at work.

Mr. Speaker, our nation needs a sustained and heightened focus on safety in the workplace, so that every employee in the United States can work in a healthy environment and return home safely to his or her family at the end of the day. This resolution is an important step in that effort.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting H. Res. 375.