

of agriculture and the protection of our farmland.

Madam Speaker, the recognition that I am offering today before the House of Representatives for Linda Padilla Maced is small compared to the contributions and impact she had on the lives of so many. She was truly an invaluable member of our community, an exemplary advocate for agriculture, and an outstanding human being.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. HELLER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 257 I was unavoidably detained.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HONORING STEPHEN A. BOUCH OF NAPA COUNTY

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Stephen A. Bouch who will be retiring as Court Executive Officer of the Napa Superior Court. Stephen's leadership will be truly missed by his co-workers, the people of Napa County, and the countless of people nationwide that relied on his extensive knowledge of the criminal justice system.

Mr. Bouch began his distinguished career as a jury commissioner/law librarian in the Superior Court of Santa Cruz County in California. He was soon promoted to assistant Superior Court administrator in San Mateo County, California. From there he launched his 4 decade career as the Court Administrator for the Superior Courts of Spokane, Washington and the Superior Court of Monterey County, California. Due to his passion and perseverance, Mr. Bouch became the first non-judge, trial court administrator in Idaho's history. More success followed when he was appointed to the position of deputy administrative director for the State of Alaska court system. He returned to California where he served at the state level working as a special consultant to the state's Judicial Council, Administrative Office of the Courts. In 2001 he was appointed as the Napa Superior Court executive officer.

Mr. Bouch's career and personal contributions are innumerable. As a court administrator in California, he assisted in the design and implementation of a countywide integrated criminal justice system. As the court executive officer he created an award winning public website which provides information on services that local non-profits offer. The website is instrumental for family court litigants and it is available to all Napa County residents. Mr. Bouch also administered domestic and juvenile relations divisions of trial courts in California and Idaho.

Mr. Bouch also spent 6 years working as a senior staff associate for the National Center

for State Courts, where he shared his extensive knowledge with varying sized jurisdictions throughout the United States and abroad. His administrative work was recognized when he received the Toll Fellowship from the National Council of State Governments in Lexington, Kentucky.

Madam Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to recognize Stephen A. Bouch for his many years of service to Napa, California, and to thank him for his many contributions on behalf of our country and his community. I join his wife Jan, and his children, David, Michael and Christopher, and our colleagues in wishing him the best as he enters this new phase of his life.

HONORING MAINE'S SMALL BUSINESS PERSONS OF THE YEAR: TRAPPER CLARK AND THOMAS STURTEVANT

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. MICHAUD. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the accomplishments of Trapper Clark and Thomas Sturtevant, the co-recipients of the 2010 Small Business Association's, SBA, Maine Small Business Persons of the Year Award.

The annual SBA Maine Small Business Person of the Year Award recognizes outstanding entrepreneurs for their contributions to the Nation's economy and for their personal achievements based upon staying power, employee growth, sales increases, current and past financial performance, product or service innovation, response to adversity and contributions to community. Trapper Clark and Thomas Sturtevant, co-owners of the aluminum trailer manufacturing company Alcom in Winslow, Maine, embody the spirit of this award.

On March 1, 2006, Alcom got its start in a small section of an old mill with only a handful of employees. Five years and one recession later, the manufacturers inhabit a seventy-thousand square foot factory, employing eighty workers and serving over two-hundred dealers. As of last month, Alcom was supplying its "mission line" trailers to customers from New England, throughout Canada and as far west as Utah.

Mr. Clark and Mr. Sturtevant have achieved remarkable growth even during these tough economic times. Alcom took on 25 new workers since last October, and Clark and Sturtevant have surpassed their projected sales and growth goals for 2010 inside the first three months of the year. Most impressively, with an ambitious business plan and expected sales of \$44 million and 196 employees in 2013, Alcom has found a way to grow while still keeping their employee base in Maine.

Madam Speaker, Alcom is a remarkable Maine success story. Please join me in honoring Trapper Clark and Thomas Sturtevant for their accomplishments and their dedication to community.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,931,157,737,293.42.

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 \$2,292,731,990,999.60 so far this Congress. The debt has increased \$4,372,259,520.42 since just yesterday.

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

SUPPORT OF THE "REMOVAL CLARIFICATION ACT OF 2010"

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to introduce the "Removal Clarification Act of 2010." This bipartisan legislation will help protect the Federal Government from interference with its operations.

Under the federal officer removal statute, 28 U.S.C. § 1442(a), "any officer of the United States or of any agency thereof, sued in an official capacity or individual capacity for any act under color of such office" may remove the case to Federal district court. The statute is designed to enable Federal officials to remove a case out of State court and into Federal court.

However, in over forty States, individuals may be deposed and/or required to produce documents despite the fact that they have not yet been sued. Such pre-suit discovery is sometimes used by plaintiffs to confirm that they are suing the proper defendant, identify unknown defendants, or investigate potential claims.

Courts are split on whether the removal statute applies to pre-suit discovery. Today's legislation will make clear that the removal statute applies to all State judicial proceedings in which a legal demand is made for a Federal officer's testimony or documents, including pre-suit discovery. It will also clarify that the Federal officer need not wait until he or she is subject to contempt in order to seek removal.

The ambiguity over whether a Federal officer can invoke the removal statute during pre-suit discovery was presented in a recent case involving Republican EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON, who was the subject of a pre-suit discovery petition. Republican JOHNSON removed the action from State court on the basis of the removal statute. However, the Federal court held that the pre-suit discovery proceeding did not constitute a "civil action or criminal prosecution" for purposes of the statute and remanded the petition to State court. The bill I introduce today would have permitted such removal.

This bill will not alter the well-settled requirement that removal under section 1442(a)(1)

must be predicated on the availability of a Federal defense. Nor will it result in removal of cases that belong in State court since only the part of the case involving the Federal officer is removed under 1442(a)(1).

In short, this legislation will enable Federal officials to remove cases to Federal court in accordance with the spirit and intent of the removal statute.

I hope that my colleagues will join me in supporting this bipartisan legislation.

WE THE PEOPLE

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Madam Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to pay tribute to the outstanding achievements of an exceptional group of students from Munster High School, located in Indiana's First Congressional district. Competing against a class from every state in the country, one team from Munster High School accomplished the extraordinary feat of finishing in eighth place in the national competition of the We the People: The Citizen and the Constitution program held in Washington, DC, from April 24–26, 2010. For their remarkable knowledge and understanding of American government, these exceptional young people are to be commended.

The We the People program, administered by the Center for Civic Education, is a program that reaches over 30 million elementary, middle, and high school students. The goal of the program is to provide students with an understanding of the fundamentals of the Constitution and the Bill of Rights. The national finals competition imitates a Congressional hearing in which high school students testify as constitutional experts before a panel of judges.

The people of Munster, as well as the community of Northwest Indiana, can be proud of this truly noteworthy class of students. The team consists of: Stacey Avtgis, Chandani Bhatt, John Bochnowski, Cristina Bonini, Thomas Burgwald, Sumanth Chintamani, Georgenna Chioros, Nicholas Estes, Michael Jerge, Kamryn Klawitter, Neil Kondamuri, Christina Lee, Melissa Lee, Aesha Maniar, Brianna Meyer, Tara Mojtahed, Santhosh Narayan, Spencer Newell, Katherine Palmer, Alexander Parobek, Aaditya Shah, Niraj Shah, Matthew Skiba, Adam Stepanovic, Shawn Tuttle, Ines Tzolov, and Elizabeth Wadas.

Madam Speaker, I would like to once again extend my most heartfelt congratulations to the members of Munster High School's We the People program, as well as their coach, Mr. Michael Gordon, and all of the community and faculty members who have instilled in these students the desire to succeed. The values exhibited by these young people and their interest in the history and fundamentals of our great nation serve to inspire us all. I am proud to represent these fine individuals in Congress, and I am proud to have been given this opportunity to recognize these future leaders. I look forward to watching their achievements as they continue to rise to the top.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEAN HELLER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. HELLER. Madam Speaker, on rollcall No. 258, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

HOME STAR ENERGY RETROFIT ACT OF 2010

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 6, 2010

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5019) to provide for the establishment of the Home Star Retrofit Rebate Program, and for other purposes:

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Chair, I rise today to voice my support for H.R. 5019, the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act.

This legislation will help to create jobs while saving consumers money and reducing our nation's energy consumption.

It will also provide an important boost for the construction sector which has been mercilessly pounded by both the recession and the collapse in new housing construction.

In my role as chair of the Joint Economic Committee, we have been examining the sector-by-sector impact of the Great Recession.

The construction sector has seen employment drop by almost 28 percent since the recession began. More than two million jobs—in this sector alone—were lost.

We're not going to get those jobs back overnight, but policies like the Home Star Energy Retrofit Act can play an important role in encouraging growth in construction while speeding our transition to a more energy-efficient economy.

The legislation provides rebates to consumers for purchasing energy-efficient products or materials and for doing renovations to make their homes more energy efficient.

Consumers can get the rebates for buying caulk or insulation, at their local hardware store for example, or working with a contractor on larger projects, such as installing new heating or cooling systems, or replacing windows.

The larger the project, the larger the rebate.

The legislation also creates a new state-federal program to provide loans to consumers for renovations that improve energy efficiency.

The Home Star legislation builds on the energy efficiency provisions in the Recovery Act, including weatherization programs targeted at low-income families and retrofits of public housing.

The legislation helps us accomplish two key goals—increasing jobs and reducing our energy costs and consumption.

A number of studies have already shown the job creation power of retrofitting homes and buildings.

The Center for American Progress estimated that \$40 billion invested in retrofits would create approximately 800,000 jobs. And these are good, high-paying jobs—construc-

tion workers, carpenters, electricians and roofers.

Finally, residential and commercial buildings use 40 percent of the energy in our country and account for 40 percent of carbon emissions.

The Home Star Energy Retrofit Act will speed the pace of home retrofits, speed up the creation of badly needed jobs, decrease our demand for carbon based fuels, and help us move more quickly to a cleaner, brighter more energy efficient future.

I encourage you to support H.R. 5019.

HONORING SPRING WOODS METHODIST CHURCH ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend Spring Woods Methodist Church on celebrating its 50th anniversary. The current Pastor is Dr. J.D. Phillips and the church is composed of people from all walks of life. I am a member of the church and am proud of this accomplishment.

Spring Woods has the distinction of being the first Methodist church in Northwest Houston. The first service was held on October 18, 1959, and was attended by 18 people at Spring Elementary School.

On May 15, 1960, Dr. Homer T. Fort, the Houston West District superintendent officially recognized Spring Woods Methodist Church. Through assistance from the Room to Grow Program, the church purchased five and a half acres on FM 1960 for the future church site. The original charter membership was composed of 44 people and by the end of the year, the number increased to 106. Today the congregation numbers over 1,000 members and continues to serve the Lord by serving the people of Northwest Houston.

Since the church was built, they have added several buildings on the property. This includes an 18,000 square foot education/administrative office building.

And so it is with great pleasure that I recognize and congratulate Spring Woods Methodist Church on celebrating its 50th anniversary.

TRIBUTE TO ACKNOWLEDGE DEPAUL UNIVERSITY AS IT LAUNCHES ITS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN TO HONOR THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF ST. VINCENT DEPAUL AND ST. LOUISE DEMARILLAC ON THE OCCASION OF THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THEIR DEATHS

HON. DANNY K. DAVIS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 12, 2010

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Madam Speaker, DePaul University is the largest Catholic university in the United States and the largest private non-profit university in the Midwest. It remains dedicated to serving and educating the