

Madam Speaker, the Bible says in John 15:13, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." Corporal Johnson paid the ultimate price for his fellow Marines, his wife and family, and this country. May we, as the House of Representatives, never forget that our freedoms are given by almighty God and secured by our Armed Forces, one soldier at a time.

IN HONOR OF JESSE CLIFTON
ALPHIN, SR., FOR HIS 90TH
BIRTHDAY

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Jesse Clifton Alphin, Sr., for his continued service to his community, county and state.

Jesse Alphin has been my friend for many years, and I am pleased to be able to honor him in recognition of his 90th birthday. Jesse had held many important posts throughout his career, including Rotary Club president, member and chairman of the Harnett County Board of Commissioners, and, notably, the less formal position as a prominent businessman and leader in Harnett County.

A resident of Dunn, North Carolina, Jesse established Alphin Brothers, Inc. in 1947 and has since grown this small family-owned general store into a federally inspected meat manufacturer and food distributor. Alphin Brothers, Inc. provides meat to both small mom-n-pops diners and drive-ins and large distributors and corporate food conglomerates, testimony to its success in the food distribution business. Jesse's integral business leadership in Harnett County has resulted in hundreds of jobs and opportunities for fellow North Carolinians, in addition to quality food and service for over 50 years.

Jesse's strong presence in the business community is matched by his leadership in his church, his community, and as a dedicated family man. His philanthropic endeavors include work with the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Campbell University, and other civic projects to foster the local school system. Jesse's untiring commitment to his wife of over 69 years, Allene, and his children make him a man to be admired. It is a true testament of a man's success to look at the success of his family, and I can honestly say his family has sure shown him to be a mighty successful man.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me today in recognizing Jesse Clifton Alphin, Sr., a man who truly lived the American dream and is still living it. A great friend to me and to North Carolina, I take the time today to wish Jesse a happy birthday and many more.

CONGRATULATING ISRAEL ON OECD MEMBERSHIP

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 26, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to join my colleagues in supporting H. Res. 1391, congratulating Israel for its accession to membership in the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development, OECD. On May 10, 2010, Israel became the 32nd member of the OECD by unanimous vote of the other members. This is an extraordinary achievement for a small, beleaguered nation that came into existence little more than six decades ago.

Sixty-two years ago, Israelis began the difficult process of creating a country from nothing. For more than a thousand years, the territory that is now Israel had been ruled by a series of far-off empires. It had no infrastructure, no history of self-rule, no major industrial base and very few large enterprises.

After Israel's establishment in 1948, Israelis created their own institutions from scratch. Israel has grown from an impoverished backwater colony to an economic powerhouse in the region. And although it has fewer natural resources than most nations of the world, it has made the most of what it has, investing in knowledge, development, innovation and medicine. Today, Israel is a center of scientific, medical and technological innovation, a leader in agriculture, water purification, alternative energy and public health.

Israel is a flourishing democracy, with a strong free press, a free and independent judiciary and a strong banking system that protects the safety and soundness of its financial institutions. The World Bank ranks Israel among the 30 countries in which it is easiest to do business. It is tied for fourth in ease of getting credit and tied for fifth in protecting investors. Similarly, the World Economic Forum rated Israel fifth of 133 nations on the Forum's legal rights index and 15th in judicial independence and 15th in financial market sophistication.

Israel's founders wanted to create an agricultural Garden of Eden—and since much of its territory consists of desert, its farmers developed techniques for growing crops in arid ground, using very little water. These techniques are now being marketed and used in developing nations across the globe. As part of its acceptance into OECD, Israel has agreed to increase its aid to underdeveloped nations in Africa, Asia, and Latin America. As part of that promise, Israel will be sending hundreds of experts in agriculture, water, and irrigation to impoverished areas, as well as experts in alternative energy, public health, education, and internal security. By sharing its knowledge, Israel will be helping its neighbors and improving relationships with developing countries. Even before OECD acceptance, Israel astounded the world by arriving in Haiti with a high tech field hospital that was able to perform sophisticated procedures and save lives.

With oil-producing nations hostile to it, and very little oil or gas of its own, Israel learned to become energy efficient, using solar power and other alternative fuels. With little land and

few natural resources, Israel positioned itself at the cutting edge of technological innovation. Many of the technological innovations we take for granted, including instant messaging, security firewalls, artificial stents, wireless computer chips, were developed in Israel. In 2010, the World Economic Forum ranked Israel 27th out of 133 countries in its Growth Competitiveness Index. Israel ranked third in quality of scientific research institutions, fourth in utility patents, seventh in life expectancy, ninth in innovation, 15th in availability of the latest technologies. Israel leads the world in the number of high-technology start-up companies, scientific publications, and research and development spending per capita.

Acceptance in the OECD is a mark of member nations' respect for Israel's economic progress, and it will help Israel attract foreign investors and develop its markets. Membership will enhance Israel's status in the world and will enhance its participation in other international bodies. It is no secret that the Palestinian Authority tried hard to deny Israel membership in the OECD precisely because they were concerned that OECD membership would enhance Israel's reputation in the world and strengthen its ties with other nations around the globe.

Mr. Speaker, Israel's accession to the OECD is a remarkable achievement. I am pleased to join my colleagues in saluting Israel's success and in expressing appreciation to the OECD members for their unanimous decision to accept Israel as a member. For all of the foregoing reasons, I urge my colleagues to support H. Res. 1391.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, on May 6, 2010, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to record my vote for rollcall No. 302. Had I been present I would have voted: Rollcall No. 302: "yes"—Honoring the workers who perished on the Deepwater Horizon offshore oil platform in the Gulf of Mexico off the coast of Louisiana, extending condolences to their families, and recognizing the valiant efforts of emergency response workers at the disaster site.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor the legislative week of Tuesday, May 18, 2010.

For Tuesday, May 18, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "No" on rollcall vote No. 273 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 2288), "no" on rollcall vote No. 274 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4614), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 275 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1327).

For Wednesday, May 19, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "no" on rollcall vote No. 276 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 1514), "no" on rollcall vote No. 277 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 5325), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 278 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1325), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 279 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1362), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 280 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 5099), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 281 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 403), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 282 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1292), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 283 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1364).

For Thursday, May 20, 2010, had I been present I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 284 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 5327), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 285 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1256), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 286 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1336), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 287 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1361), "no" on rollcall vote No. 288 (on ordering the previous question on H. Res. 1363), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 289 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1363), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 290 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 5128).

IN HONOR AND RECOGNITION OF
THE GREATER CLEVELAND
PEACE OFFICERS MEMORIAL SOCIETY 25TH ANNUAL POLICE MEMORIAL COMMEMORATION

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society upon the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the Police Memorial Commemoration. Today, we remember the men and women in blue who have made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of the citizens of our community.

In 1985, a group of police officers gathered after the funeral of a fellow officer killed in the line of duty. They discussed forming a union of officers, family members and citizens, and together they formed the Greater Cleveland Peace Officers Memorial Society. The mission of the Society is to honor those peace officers who have sacrificed their lives to protect others in the Greater Cleveland area. The Society adopted the motto: "In Honore Casorum," Latin for "Honor Our Fallen."

The Peace Officers Memorial Society provides support and assistance to the family members of officers who have died in the line of duty. They also provide support and assistance to police officers injured in the line of duty and work in tandem with law enforcement agencies and leaders with the planning and implementation of Line of Duty funerals. They also establish scholarship funds and work on strengthening police-community relations and community outreach initiatives.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the Greater Cleveland

Peace Officers Memorial Society as they continue their mission to honor the fallen, support the families of slain officers, and strengthen and promote bonds between police and community. We must recognize and remember every peace officer who has made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. Their selfless service and sacrifice, and the great sacrifice of their families, will not be forgotten.

HONORING BISHOP WILLIAM L. SHEALS

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Madam Speaker: Whereas, Bishop William L. Sheals is celebrating 30 years in pastoral leadership this year and has provided stellar leadership to his church on an international level; and

Whereas, Bishop William L. Sheals, under the guidance of God, has pioneered and sustained Hopewell Missionary Baptist Church, as an instrument in our community that uplifts the spiritual, physical and mental welfare of our citizens; and

Whereas, this remarkable and tenacious man of God has given hope to the hopeless, fed the hungry and is a beacon of light to those in need; and

Whereas, Bishop William L. Sheals is a spiritual warrior, a man of compassion, a fearless leader and a servant to all, but most of all a visionary who has shared not only with his Church, but with our district and the world his passion to spread the gospel of Jesus Christ; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to honor and recognize Bishop William L. Sheals as he celebrates 30 years in pastoral leadership;

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby proclaim May 16, 2010, as Bishop William L. Sheals Day in the Fourth Congressional District.

REITERATING THIS CONGRESS'S COMMITMENT TO AMERICA'S SENIORS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Ms. MATSUI. Madam Speaker, Democrats have an unassailable record when it comes to protecting the rights of seniors, and I rise today to thank all of my fellow Seniors Task Force Members for their continued commitment to America's seniors.

As the party that consistently fights efforts to dismantle Social Security and Medicare, we understand that many older Americans depend on these federal programs just to make ends meet. These parts of the social safety net constitute a right of all seniors to meet their needs for financial security and high quality, affordable health care.

The current Medicare system already delivers the best care in the world and it is strengthened by provisions in the health-care

bill that was recently signed into law. Our bill fulfills this right to affordable medicines by beginning to close the "donut hole," a process which is starting this year. The right to quality, affordable health care also means helping seniors avoid getting sick—our bill makes preventive care free for Medicare beneficiaries.

Seniors also have the right to a secure retirement, including a secure pension. Democrats will take action to secure this right in the coming weeks.

And one of the most important rights that every American senior has is the right to live with dignity. Federal policy should therefore be aimed at empowering seniors to make important decisions with family members, not insurance bureaucrats.

Seniors have a right to be protected from scams and fraud including credit card company abuses, identity theft, and mortgage schemes. That's why the financial reform legislation, which will be sent to the President in the coming weeks, is so critical to enact immediately. By reining in the ability of Wall Street executives to gamble away our retirements we will help put our economy on a path to financial stability. We will fulfill this right of America's seniors to have economic security and create an economy that we will be proud to pass on to future generations.

Madam Speaker, America's seniors want to guarantee America's place as a leader in a global economy by reinvesting in manufacturing and American-made goods, training students to be the workforce of the future, and ensuring there are job opportunities for anyone who wants or needs one.

Thanks to the Recovery Act, the Affordable Care Act, and the Wall Street Reform Act this Congress is making each of these rights a reality for our seniors.

CELEBRATING THE 120TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE QUIHI GUN CLUB

HON. CIRO D. RODRIGUEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 27, 2010

Mr. RODRIGUEZ. Madam Speaker, I am proud to rise today to recognize and celebrate the 120th Anniversary of the Quihi Gun Club. This is the oldest gun club in the country and counts a membership of over 1,000 people.

The Club, originally built to defend against Indian attacks, is the oldest continuous running gun club in the United States where members continue to meet each month. Two German men met under an oak tree on Quihi Creek on May 26, 1890 to organize the Quihi Schuetzen (shooting) Verein (club); now called the Quihi Gun Club and Dance Hall. The Quihi Gun Club hosts an annual turkey shoot in the fall, fundraising for the Make-a-Wish foundation, and hosts the Medina County Riders' Annual Trail Ride scholarship for Medina County students.

The club is based in Quihi, Texas, a quiet rural farming community with a population of about 200. Quihi is located about midway between Hondo and Castroville, north of Hwy 90 on State Road 2676. There is one state highway that runs through Quihi with a lot of county and private roads that branch off of it. The area that would come to be known as Quihi