

The impact of the CSU far exceeds the number of students it educates. The CSU provides more than 200,000 jobs for Californians, and research by CSU faculty and staff is solving critical problems for the state and creating innovative solutions for business and industry. Additionally, CSU students give back to their communities by participating in 32 million hours of service annually.

In conclusion, Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to commend the California State University system on 50 years of not only providing high-quality, affordable higher education to meet the changing workforce needs of California, but also preparing students to become engaged members of their community, state and nation.

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 1117 and to personally congratulate the California State University system on its 50th anniversary. As a Californian, I am proud to commemorate this wonderful occasion.

California is honored to be home to 23 world-class universities in the California State University (CSU) system. As the largest university system in the country, CSU serves nearly 433,000 students annually and provides jobs to almost 44,000 faculty and staff.

I am privileged to represent the students and faculty of two of these outstanding institutions—California State University Channel Islands and California Polytechnic State University, San Luis Obispo (Cal Poly). As the newest California State University, students at CSU Channel Islands benefit from top notch classroom instruction, up-to-date technology and successful local business partnerships that provide a pathway to a well-rounded education. As a nationally ranked university, Cal Poly San Luis Obispo has become a proven leader in engineering, architecture, and agriculture.

During these tough economic times, the CSU system is critical to ensuring our nation's long-term economic prosperity. As the most diverse and affordable system in the country, CSU provides us with a future robust workforce. These graduates will play a vital role in the growth and development of the economy and our local communities in California and across the nation.

I urge my colleagues to pass H. Res. 1117 and commemorate this wonderful achievement.

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, 50 years ago today, the State of California made a decision that would alter the course of a nation. By establishing the California State University system to work in conjunction with the University of California and California's community colleges, our state's forward thinking policymakers declared that California would be a state where higher education was the birthright of every qualified resident.

Since then, CSU has awarded nearly 2.5 million degrees, about 90,000 annually. Because leaders in California's past had the vision of what a better California could look like, the Golden State has become the world's great innovator in computers, biotechnology, space exploration, and clean technology.

The history of human civilization is replete with examples of great societies that fell into decline when they no longer prioritized education. We know that CSU returns \$4.41 for every dollar the state invests in it, and CSU creates \$13.6 billion in economic activity.

What will happen to us if we continue to systematically defund the 23 CSU campuses that produce our future teachers, nurses, and engineers? What will happen to California if our leaders fail to recognize the fierce urgency of now?

I was proud to serve as a California State University trustee, and it was saddening to witness almost yearly increases in student fees. I never voted for an undergraduate student fee increase—essentially a tax on students—because when we tell qualified students that we can't afford to give them the education they deserve, we don't just harm the individual. When we tell more than 40,000 qualified students that they are no longer welcome to an education in California, as we did in 2009, we are really saying that California is no longer prepared to be a leader in our global economy.

Today is a day for celebration. CSU has been a pillar of growth for California for 50 years, and I congratulate all the administrators, faculty, staff, and students that have made it a success. But today must also be a call to action. We must unite to say it's time to increase investment in education and California's future.

Ms. WOOLSEY. I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentlewoman yields back the balance of her time.

The question is on the motion offered by the gentlewoman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1117.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the resolution was agreed to.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

CONGRATULATING THE 482ND FIGHTER WING

(Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to congratulate Homestead's Air Reserve Base 482nd Fighter Wing for receiving the Department of Defense Reserve Family Readiness Award. Through the vigilance of these brave men and women in uniform every day, Americans can live with a greater peace of mind. The safety of our families is dependent on them. And it is heartwarming to know that our military families are given the extra support that they need.

The strong leadership of Wing Commander BG William B. Binger has made this distinction possible. He serves as an inspiration and motivation for such a remarkable unit and support personnel.

Again, congratulations to the 482nd Fighter Wing of the Homestead Air Reserve Base for this well-deserved honor. Congratulations, ladies and gentlemen.

REMEMBERING PENNSYLVANIA STATE TROOPER PAUL G. RICHEY

(Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. THOMPSON of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today and speak of the death of Pennsylvania State Trooper Paul G. Richey. On January 13, Richey responded to a domestic dispute call. He volunteered because he had taken a call at that residence outside Oil City, Pennsylvania, in the past. This time he was shot in the neck as he stepped out of his car, and never had the time to react. In the residence, the shooter killed his wife and then himself.

Richey was a native of Venango County, born and reared in Sandy Creek Township, and a graduate of Franklin High School. He graduated from Edinboro University with a degree in criminology, and then from the Pennsylvania State Police Academy. He was married to Carrie Cornell for more than 15 years, and he left two children: Conner, age 9, and Catherine, 6. He was active in his church and Scouting with his son. He is also survived by his parents, Clinton and Nancy Garmon Richey.

Richey lived up to the call of honor of the Police Academy, which states, "I must serve honorably, faithfully, and if need be, lay my life down as others have done before me." My thoughts and prayers are with the family.

INTERNATIONAL WOMEN'S DAY

(Ms. WOOLSEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WOOLSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize International Women's Day and to highlight the needs of mothers around the world.

Every minute somewhere in the world a woman dies in pregnancy or childbirth. Most of these deaths are preventable with targeted, cost-effective interventions and increased access to maternal health care. I applaud President Obama's newly announced global health initiative and its focus on maternal health issues. These programs will make sustainable changes in the daily lives of women around the world.

Now I call on my colleagues to take the next step and fully fund the initiative and the programs that are meeting the dire needs of women in need worldwide. We owe the women of the world no less.

SPECIAL ORDERS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 6, 2009, and under a previous order of the House, the following Members will be recognized for 5 minutes each.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. BERKLEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. BERKLEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. POE of Texas addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

CORPORAL DUSTIN LEE MEMORIAL ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from North Carolina (Mr. JONES) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I have introduced H.R. 4639. It is known as the Corporal Dustin Lee Memorial Act, to amend title 10, United States Code, to authorize the adoption of a military working dog by the family of a deceased or seriously wounded member of the Armed Forces who was the handler of the dog.

Mr. Speaker, 3 years ago I got involved with a family from Mississippi. It was somewhat by accident really. It was brought to my attention that Rachel and Jerome Lee, the husband, had lost a son named Dustin Lee, and that Dustin was killed for this country in Iraq. He was a dog handler, and the dog was wounded as well.

The Marine Corps took the dog, named Lex, to the funeral in Mississippi of Dustin Lee, the Marine who was killed. And at that time the daddy, Jerome Lee, and the mama, Rachel Lee, wanted to have the dog stay with them. Well, it wasn't possible because the rules and regulations said that the dog, which was owned by the Air Force, leased to the Marine Corps, had to be retired.

So when the family, the mother and dad, asked for the dog that their son loved so much, the Marine Corps said we need 2 more years of service by the dog Lex. And when I heard about it, I called the family in Mississippi. And my heart went out to the family. I asked the family what could we do to help. And I don't want to take credit for this, Mr. Speaker, I want to give credit to General Mike Regner, who right now is serving in Afghanistan for this country. He is responsible for this happening. I just made a phone call.

Lex was retired 2 years ago this December at a ceremony down in Georgia, and the family now has the dog. In fact, Mrs. Lee is going to bring Lex and come to Walter Reed on the 12th of April. She wants to take the dog to visit the troops at Walter Reed, which I think is very magnanimous of the mom and dad. They want to let the soldiers and the Marines there know what happened with their son Dustin and say

thank you, but also take Lex so that Lex can say thank you to the soldiers and Marines at Walter Reed.

□ 1845

Mr. Speaker, I am going to yield back my time in just a second. I am going to ask my colleagues in the House to please join us on H.R. 4639. This, again, is to honor the families who have given a child who happened to be a dog handler the opportunity to own that dog almost immediately after the dog is cleared. And if it should be a wounded soldier, marine, or airman or seaman, they would have the same opportunity.

So this is a photograph, Mr. Speaker, of Lex looking at the headstone of the grave of Dustin Lee, and Dustin is there on his knees with his hands around the head of the dog which was Lex. This is very special, and that's why I wanted to bring it to the floor. I ask my friends, again, to join me in this legislation, H.R. 4639.

Mr. Speaker, as I always do on the floor of the House, I want to ask God to please bless our men and women in uniform. I want to ask God to please bless the families of our men and women in uniform. I want to ask God in his loving arms to hold the families who have given child, dying for freedom in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Mr. Speaker, I want to ask God to please bless the House and the Senate, that we will do what is right in the eyes of God for his people throughout this country. And I want to ask God to give wisdom, strength and courage to the President, Mr. Obama, that he will do what is right in the eyes of God for God's people in this country. And three times I ask God, Please, God, please, God, please, God, continue to bless America.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from California (Ms. WOOLSEY) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Ms. WOOLSEY addressed the House. Her remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

HARVEST MARKET OF GRAINFIELD, KANSAS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. MORAN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Mr. MORAN of Kansas. Mr. Speaker, I am here this evening to recognize the Harvest Market for its service to the community and the citizens of Grainfield, Kansas. The Harvest Market represents everything that makes a small-town business work—community support, dedicated employees and a desire to maintain a quality of life for those living in and around Grainfield and Gove County, Kansas.

During my travels throughout our congressional district, the community grocery store has proven itself to be

the cultural center of rural Kansas. I frequently hear from Kansans who contact me following a conversation they've heard at the grocery store. Many times the grocery store, along with the local barber shop, provides patrons with the day's current events and activities. Economic development within the First Congressional District of Kansas can easily be seen as whether a community does or doesn't have a grocery store. And I know my colleagues here in Washington, D.C., at least some of them, find that hard to believe that that can be an issue in a community.

The viability of rural Kansas depends upon fresh and affordable food as well as the jobs a grocery store provides. When we lose our grocery store, we begin to lose our town. Grainfield is no exception to this rule. In this tiny community of 300 people, Harvest Market provides the people of Grainfield with everything from a cup of coffee from the in-store shop to the food that will make the evening's dinner.

Dan Godek and his wife, Nicole, own and operate the Harvest Market. The Godeks continue to work hard by supplying a wide variety of affordable produce with meats and dairy products in order to make the local shopping experience more enjoyable. With people in rural Kansas willing to travel to other communities featuring larger stores, maintaining that competitive edge is vital to both the store and the community.

The couple has also made efforts to make the store more energy efficient. They've installed more efficient coolers and are making plans for freezers and reusable grocery bags. These changes for efficiency reflect the long-term goal of maintaining a thriving business in this small town. Store efficiency will help cut down on costs, allowing the Godeks to put the extra money back into the store. This increased input means additional choices for their shoppers.

Harvest Market is a socially important component to Grainfield as well. The store serves as a community center for people to visit with their neighbors. It is here that residents discuss local news and run into old friends. The Godeks also participate and help sponsor community events as their way of giving back to the townspeople. Just a few of their civic activities include organizing and sponsoring Cruise, Shoes and BBQs, as well as sponsorship of the Harvest Pie Festival on Labor Day weekend.

While the Godeks work hard to maintain the success of the store, their fellow residents also have chipped in to help around the store. Dan says that he is very impressed with the locals and how much they've supported him. Customers are more than willing to lend a helping hand by retrieving items from the back and straightening the shelves. One Grainfield resident commented, It's not just my store; it's everybody's store. They're all proud of it too. Even