

Mr. Speaker, since that time, 18,600 law enforcement officers have been killed in the line of duty. Let me repeat: 18,600 peace officers in the United States have been killed in the line of duty. On average, 58,000 law enforcement officers are assaulted every year; and in 2009, 125 of those officers were killed protecting other Americans. Five of those fallen officers were from my home State of Texas. Those individuals were Senior Corporal Norman Smith of the Dallas Police Department. He was killed by gunfire on June 6, 2009. Lieutenant Stuart Alexander from the Corpus Christi Police Department. He was killed by vehicular assault on March 11, 2009. Sergeant Randy White of the Bridgeport PD was killed by a vehicle pursuit on April 2, 2009. Houston police officer Henry Canales was killed by gunfire on June 23, 2009. And Jesse Hamilton was killed on August 25 by gunfire, and he was a member of the Pasadena Police Department of the State of Texas.

2009 was a particularly difficult year for peace officer families. On the 21st day of March 2009, four members of the Oakland, California Police Department were shot and killed in the line of duty. Sergeants Mark Dunakin, Ervin Romans, Dan Sakai and Officer John Hege gave their lives in service to their fellow Americans, and we honor them in their service today.

On November 29, 2009 four members of the Lakewood Police Department in Washington were brutally ambushed as they sat in a coffee shop catching up on paperwork and planning for their upcoming shift. Sergeant Mark Renninger and Officers Tina Griswold, Ronald Owens and Greg Richards were all veteran law enforcement officers, each with between 8 and 14 years of experience. This loss was a staggering blow to the Lakewood community and the national community of peace officers. We continue to mourn this senseless loss and honor them for their service.

Although there has been great progress in protecting the safety of these men and women who wear the uniform, the death of every officer serves as a reminder to the whole country that our Nation's law enforcement officers still face dangerous and potentially deadly situations every day.

During my 20 years as a judge in Texas, I had the privilege of working alongside some of America's finest police officers. Later, during my term on the bench, some of those police officers were killed in the line of duty. Now, as a founder and co-chair of the Congressional Victims Rights Caucus, I recognize that peace officers are too often victims of crimes they seek to prevent.

When a peace officer puts on a uniform in the morning, they represent everything that is good, everything that is right about our country. And I am privileged to honor them here today.

Mr. Speaker, we in this House of Representatives need to always remember

that outside these Halls, on the rooftops and around the Capitol are the Capitol police officers watching and protecting those who come to the people's House, to the Capitol Building and the surrounding buildings. And we need to remember that in 1998, two of those Capitol police officers, Jacob Chestnut and Detective John Gibson, were killed in the line of duty in this very building as they were protecting other Members of Congress from a gun-wielding assailant that came into this place.

We should always remember that these peace officers every day are a cut above the rest of us, and they do represent everything that's good and fine and right about America.

Later this week, not far from here, on the west side of the Capitol, there will be the families of the slain police officers in the United States. Surrounding them, in a group, will be thousands and thousands of peace officers in the United States, all wearing the uniform, wearing a badge that they wear above their heart and a black cloth across that badge. Those people stand in honor of those families that have lost loved ones who were peace officers that represented the rest of us and were killed in the line of duty. We owe them everything that we can say that is good and noble about their work. We honor them. We praise those that are in the line of duty. We remember those that were killed in the line of duty, and we also remember their families.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H. Res. 1299 to support the goals and ideals of Peace Officers Memorial Day.

Every year, on May 15, we recognize the fallen peace officers from our communities that have given their lives in the line of duty. We can thank these men and women for upholding our laws and ensuring our safety, even in times of crisis. I am deeply humbled by the sacrifices of these brave men and women, and I express my condolences to their families for their loss.

On January 6, 2009, Dallas lost one of our own police officers, Senior Cpl. Norman Stephen Smith, when he was shot and killed while serving an arrest warrant. He died shortly before his 18th anniversary with the Dallas Police Department, and his knowledge and skill continue to be missed within his unit. With his death, Dallas lost a great man and a great police officer, and we will never forget his sacrifice for our community's wellbeing. My condolences go out to his wife, Regina Smith, and their two children.

Mr. Speaker, Peace Officers Memorial Day is a day in which we honor some of our nation's bravest and most valiant men and women. The work of police officers and other peace officers places them in danger almost on a daily basis, and I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in supporting this resolution that honors our peace officers who have died in the line of duty.

Mr. POE of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to support this resolution,

and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) that the House suspend the rules and pass the joint resolution, H. Res. 1299.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COMMEMORATING THE LIFE OF CYNTHIA DELORES TUCKER

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and agree to the resolution (H. Res. 1094) commemorating the life of the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker.

The Clerk read the title of the resolution.

The text of the resolution is as follows:

H. RES. 1094

Whereas the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker dedicated her life to eliminating racial barriers by championing civil rights and rights of women in the United States;

Whereas, having grown up in Philadelphia during the Great Depression, C. DeLores Tucker overcame a childhood marked by economic hardship and segregation;

Whereas, having personally experienced the effects of racism, C. DeLores Tucker first became active in the postwar civil rights movement when she worked to register African-American voters during the 1950 Philadelphia mayoral campaign;

Whereas C. DeLores Tucker became active in local politics, developed her skills as an accomplished fund raiser and public speaker, and quickly became the first African-American and first woman to serve on the Philadelphia Zoning Board;

Whereas in 1965, in the midst of the Civil Rights Movement, C. DeLores Tucker participated in the White House Conference on Civil Rights and marched from Selma to Montgomery with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in support of the 1965 Voting Rights Bill, which was later signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson;

Whereas in January 1971, while still primarily focused on efforts to gain equality for all, C. DeLores Tucker was named Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by then-Governor Milton Shapp, making her the first female African-American Secretary of a State in the Nation;

Whereas, under the leadership of C. DeLores Tucker as Secretary of the Commonwealth, Pennsylvania became one of the first States to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, lower the voting age from 21 to 18, and institute voter registration through mail;

Whereas, after leaving her position in Pennsylvania State government, C. DeLores Tucker became the first African-American to serve as president of the National Federation of Democratic Women;

Whereas in 1984, C. DeLores Tucker founded the National Political Congress of Black Women, now known as the National Congress

of Black Women, a non-profit organization dedicated to the educational, political, economic, and cultural development of African-American Women and their families;

Whereas in 1983, C. DeLores Tucker founded the Philadelphia Martin Luther King Jr. Association for Non-Violence and, in 1986, the Bethune-DuBois Institute, both of which are dedicated to promoting the cultural and educational development of African-American youth and young professionals;

Whereas C. DeLores Tucker served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the NAACP and numerous other boards, including the Points of Light Foundation and Delaware Valley College;

Whereas, in the later phase of her life, C. DeLores Tucker publicly criticized gangster rap music, arguing that such music denigrated women and promoted violence and drug use;

Whereas, as a student of history, C. DeLores Tucker led the successful campaign to have a bust of the pioneering activist and suffragist Sojourner Truth installed in the United States Capitol, along with other suffragette leaders;

Whereas C. DeLores Tucker received more than 400 honors and awards during her lifetime, including the NAACP Thurgood Marshall Award, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Distinguished Service Award, and the Philadelphia Urban League Whitney Young Award, and honorary Doctor of Law degrees from Morris College and Villa Maria College; and

Whereas the work of C. DeLores Tucker as crusader for civil rights and rights of women, through grace, dignity, and purpose has helped transform the perception of race and gender in the United States: Now, therefore, be it

Resolved, That the House of Representatives—

(1) commemorates the life of the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker;

(2) salutes the lasting legacy of the achievements of C. DeLores Tucker; and

(3) encourages the continued pursuit of the vision of C. DeLores Tucker to eliminate racial and gender prejudice from all corners of our society.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Florida.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the resolution under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

Mr. DEUTCH. I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, House Resolution 1094 commemorates the life of the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker. Cynthia DeLores Tucker dedicated her life to eliminating racial barriers by championing civil rights and the rights of women. In particular, Ms. Tucker realized that voting was the most important civil right denied to African Americans and the key to changing this country. She spent her career in service to the prin-

ciple that there could be no equality without equal access to the ballot box.

Born October 4, 1927, the 10th of 11 children, she grew up in Philadelphia during the Great Depression, overcoming a childhood marked by economic hardship and segregation, to attend Temple University and later the University of Pennsylvania.

In what would become the first step in her long career as a civil rights activist, Ms. Tucker worked to register African-American voters during the 1950 Philadelphia mayoral campaign. Shortly thereafter, she became active in local politics, serving as the first African American and first woman on the Philadelphia Zoning Board.

Driven by her belief that no one should be denied the right to participate in our democracy, Ms. Tucker went on to participate in the White House Conference on Civil Rights and to march from Selma to Montgomery with Dr. King in support of the 1965 Voting Rights Bill.

In 1971, Ms. Tucker was named Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania by then-Governor Milton Shapp, making her the first female African American to hold this position in any State in the Nation. Under her leadership as Secretary of the Commonwealth, Pennsylvania became one of the first States to pass the Equal Rights Amendment, to lower the voting age from 21 to 18, and to institute voter registration through the mail.

After leaving her position in Pennsylvania State Government, Ms. Tucker continued to dedicate her time to public service and the promotion of civil rights through private organizations. She served as a member of the Board of Trustees of the NAACP, and on numerous other boards, including the Points of Light Foundation and Delaware Valley College.

In 1984, Ms. Tucker co-founded the National Political Congress of Black Women, now known as the National Congress of Black Women, a nonprofit organization dedicated to the educational, political, economic and cultural development of African-American women and their families.

Mr. Speaker, Cynthia DeLores Tucker was a crusader for civil rights and the rights of women. Through her dedication to voting rights and the civil rights movement, she helped transform the perception of race and gender in the United States.

I'd like to commend my colleague, Diane Watson, for introducing this resolution. It is important that this Nation remember and honor the outstanding work of civil rights activists like Ms. Tucker.

I urge my colleagues to support this resolution, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself as much time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, in the last House resolution that we just discussed, Peace Officers Memorial Day, H. Res. 1299, I

also want to mention the fact that Deputy Sheriff Shane Thomas Detwiler of the Chambers County Sheriff's Department in Texas was killed in the line of duty on July 13, 2009, and his cause of death was gunfire.

In this resolution, H. Res. 1094, of course I support this resolution. And this resolution commemorates the life of the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker. Ms. Tucker dedicated her life to eliminating racial barriers and fighting for civil rights and the rights of women. In 1927 she was born in Philadelphia. Her dad was a minister. After overcoming financial hardship and segregation during the Great Depression, she attended Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania at the Wharton School.

As part of the postwar civil rights movement, she worked to register African American voters in the 1950 Philadelphia mayor's race. She later became the first African American and the first woman to serve on the Philadelphia Zoning Board.

Then in 1965 she marched from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., in support of the 1966 Voting Rights Act.

In 1971 she became Secretary of the State of Pennsylvania, making her the first female African American Secretary of State in the whole United States.

In 1984, Ms. Tucker founded the National Political Congress of Black Women, today known as the National Congress of Black Women; and with the help of this organization, she criticized the promotion of drugs and violence in gangsta rap music, and also how women were treated in the music industry.

She was also the founding member of the National Women's Political Caucus, and she was head of the minority caucus of the Democratic National Committee. Her life's work on behalf of racial and gender equality truly reaped fruitful change in our country.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this resolution. I commend the sponsor of this resolution, DIANE WATSON from California.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H. Res. 1094 to commemorate the life of the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker, a civil rights activist and the first female, African-American Secretary of State of any of our fifty states.

C. DeLores Tucker was born in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania in 1927 as the tenth of thirteen children. She grew up during the Great Depression, and during this period she faced large amounts of racism and economic hardship. She would later attend Temple University and the University of Pennsylvania, and in 1951 she married her husband, Bill Tucker.

In 1950, Ms. Tucker became active in the civil rights movement and local politics when she registered African-American voters for the Philadelphia mayoral campaign. She would later go on to run for public office herself and was elected to the Philadelphia Zoning Board where she became the first African-American and the first woman to serve in this position.

Later, in 1971, she was named Secretary of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania making her the first female, African-American secretary of a state in the nation.

The rights of African Americans and the rights of women were never far from Mrs. Tucker's thoughts. In 1965, she participated in the White House Conference on Civil Rights, and she marched with Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., from Selma, Alabama to Montgomery, Alabama in support of the 1965 Voting Rights Bill. She also founded the National Congress of Black Women in order to aid in the educational, political, economic, and cultural development of African-American women and their families.

Mr. Speaker, America lost a great soul and noble spirit with the passing of Cynthia DeLores Tucker. I ask my fellow colleagues to join me today in honoring her legacy by supporting this resolution. Truly, she will be missed.

Ms. JACKSON LEE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1094: "Commemorating the life of the late Cynthia DeLores Tucker."

Although it has been almost five years since the world lost a true pioneer and leader, but the legacy of C. DeLores Tucker endures. October 13, 2005 did not mark a tragedy; rather, it marked a day of celebration as to the achievements and legacy of a paragon of the woman leader. It is an honor for me to stand here today to celebrate the passing on of Dr. C. DeLores Tucker to her rightful place among other angels and saints.

Dr. Tucker represented a major segment of African American and political history in the U.S. She was among the many women stalwarts of our lifetime that led on so many different issues. The key aspect about Dr. Tucker's efforts was that they were not for personal gain. I would compare her to an eagle that spread its wings to help other women—not only African Americans, but all women. She provided the wind and momentum for other women to ascend to equality and a better quality of life.

Given the long fight that our dear DeLores and I endeavored together in the Halls of Congress, I ask your short indulgence as I cite an excerpt from the words spoken by a similar pioneer, Madame Sojourner Truth, in her "Ain't I a Woman?" speech delivered at a women's rights convention in Akron, Ohio in 1851:

That man over there says that women need to be helped into carriages, and lifted over ditches, and to have the best place everywhere. Nobody ever helps me into carriages, or over mud-puddles, or gives me any best place! And ain't I a woman? Look at me! Look at my arm! I have ploughed and planted, and gathered into barns, and no man could head me! And ain't I a woman? I could work as much and eat as much as a man—when I could get it—and bear the lash as well! And ain't I a woman? I have borne thirteen children, and seen most all sold off to slavery, and when I cried out with my mother's grief, none but Jesus heard me! And ain't I a woman? . . .

If my cup won't hold but a pint, and yours holds a quart, wouldn't you be mean not to let me have my little half measure full?

Then that little man in black there, he says women can't have as much rights as men, 'cause Christ wasn't a woman! Where did your Christ come from? Where did your Christ come from? From God and a woman!

Man had nothing to do with Him. If the first woman God ever made was strong enough to turn the world upside down all alone, these women together ought to be able to turn it back, and get it right side up again! And now they is asking to do it, the men better let them.

Obligated to you for hearing me, and now old Sojourner ain't got nothing more to say.

Dr. Tucker did just this—she fought until the fight was made, she spoke until "she ain't [had] nothing more to say." For women's rights, civil rights, the disenfranchised, or the underrepresented, she stood up like a warrior and a leader, and the progress she made will be enjoyed by many for as long as man exists. As author Ron Daniels said in his opinion piece in the Madison Times, DeLores was not afraid to denounce gang violence, fratricide, or the denigration of women in rap lyrics; not afraid to implore our children to devote less time to athletics and more to academics; and staunchly advocated excellence in education, improved parenting skills, and the harnessing of our economic resources as a distinct market. It did not have to be sexy, popular, or self-promoting to be right for Dr. C. DeLores Tucker, and I had the privilege of standing next to her in the trenches of the fight for equality.

Mr. Speaker, Dr. C. DeLores Tucker was a close and valued friend for many years. Her crusade for women's and civil rights served not only as an inspiration to women, minorities, and other traditionally disadvantaged groups, but to all of society, and her lifelong service indeed worked for its betterment. From her devout involvement in the Democratic Party to her founding of the Philadelphia Martin Luther King, Jr., Association for Non-Violent Change, she embodied the tenacity and courage necessary to eradicate the disparities and bigotry that continues to constrain the attainment of equality.

Of her many endearing qualities were the fact that her service was never for personal gain and that it was boundless—she never hesitated to travel the extra mile to help others. This was evident in her singular work as the lead advocate to urge the recognition and honor of abolitionist Sojourner Truth with the addition of her likeness to the statue commemorating women's suffrage in the rotunda of the United States Capitol. Bill, as you know, her determined, passionate, and powerful efforts have ultimately resulted in the honoring of Sojourner Truth. Our own DeLores was in her own right a guiding light of truth. The love and devotion that she displayed in this endeavor continue to inspire legislators and supporters.

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Mr. POE of Texas. I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to commemorate the life and to honor the legacy of Cynthia DeLores Tucker by supporting this resolution, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Florida (Mr. DEUTCH) that the House suspend the rules and agree to the resolution, H. Res. 1094.

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 NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE ON ITS 75TH ANNIVERSARY

Mr. HOLDEN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and concur in the concurrent resolution (S. Con. Res. 62) congratulating the outstanding professional public servants, both past and present, of the Natural Resources Conservation Service on the occasion of its 75th anniversary.

The Clerk read the title of the concurrent resolution.

The text of the concurrent resolution is as follows:

S. CON. RES. 62

Whereas the well-being of the United States is dependent on productive soils along with abundant and high-quality water and related natural resources;

Whereas the Natural Resources Conservation Service (in this resolution referred to as "NRCS") was established as the Soil Conservation Service in the Department of Agriculture in 1935 to assist farmers, ranchers, and other landowners in protecting soil and water resources on private lands;

Whereas Hugh Hammond Bennett, the first Chief of the Soil Conservation Service and the "father of soil conservation", led the creation of the modern soil conservation movement that established soil and water conservation as a national priority;

Whereas the NRCS, with the assistance of President Franklin D. Roosevelt, State governments, and local partners, developed a new mechanism of American conservation service delivery, which brings together private individuals with Federal, State, and local governments to achieve common conservation objectives;

Whereas the NRCS provides a vital public service by supplying technical expertise and financial assistance to cooperating private landowners for the conservation of soil and water resources;

Whereas the NRCS, as authorized by Congress, has developed and provided land conservation programs that have resulted in the restoration and preservation of millions of acres of wetlands, forests, and grasslands that provide innumerable benefits to the general public in the form of recreational opportunities, wildlife habitat, water quality, and reduced soil erosion;

Whereas the NRCS is the world leader in soil science and soil surveying;

Whereas the NRCS is the national leader in the inventory of natural resources on private lands, providing national leaders and the public with the status and trends related to these resources and helping forecast the availability of critical water supplies;

Whereas the NRCS has helped communities develop and implement thousands of locally led projects that continue to provide flood control, soil conservation, water supply, and recreational benefits to all Americans, while providing business and job creation opportunities as well;

Whereas since its establishment, the NRCS has developed, tested, and demonstrated conservation practices, helped develop the science and art of conservation, and continues to strive toward innovation;

Whereas the NRCS encourages and works with landowners and land users to adopt conservation practices and technologies in a