

Father Moroney's retirement marks the end of almost half a century's dedication to helping others. He has made important contributions to every parish that he worked in, and helped countless individuals find their way. His leadership will be sorely missed from the Sacramento area and beyond, though his conviction and dedication will be remembered for a long time by the people he encountered across the state.

Mr. Speaker, I stand today to honor Father Moroney, who has been an exceptional community leader. He has devoted his life to serving and to assisting those around him. I ask all my colleagues to join me in wishing Father Moroney the best as he retires.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ROBIN DANIELSON ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, as a long-time advocate of women's health, I am proud to reintroduce the Robin Danielson Act, legislation that would address the unanswered health concerns regarding the safety of tampons. Given the sheer number of women who use these products and the potential cumulative adverse effects, it is time women have definitive answers about the potential risk these products pose to their health.

Today, approximately 73,000,000 women in the United States use tampons made of cotton and rayon and the average woman may use as many as 16,800 tampons in her lifetime. Rayon is a synthetic fiber produced from bleached wood pulp. During this process, dioxin, a probable cancer-causing agent, is created. Although chlorine-free bleaching processes are available, most wood pulp manufacturers use elemental chlorine-free bleaching processes, which continue to produce dioxin. Due to a lack of access to timely and comprehensive information, most women are not fully aware of the potential risks associated with use of the mainstream product. Dioxins in tampons and TSS are serious women's health concerns that have not been adequately monitored, analyzed, or reported.

Like thousands of others, Robin Danielson, whom the bill is named after, was the victim of Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS), a rare but potentially life-threatening illness that is often linked to high-absorbency tampon use. Robin's death could have been prevented if only she had recognized the symptoms. Even today, many women are not fully aware of the risks of tampon use or TSS. This legislation would direct the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to conduct research to determine the extent to which the presence of dioxin, synthetic fibers, and other additives in tampons and related products pose any health risks to women and asks the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) to collect and report information on Toxic Shock Syndrome (TSS).

According to the Center for Disease Control and Prevention, one to two of every 100,000 women between the ages of 15–44 years old will be diagnosed with TSS each year. Yet, the last national surveillance was conducted in 1987 and reporting of TSS by the states is voluntary. It is clear we do not have enough

transparent or timely information to evaluate the reality of TSS today.

This legislation is necessary to provide women with accurate information about the safety of tampons and to increase awareness about the risk of TSS.

RECOGNITION OF THE 250TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF BELCHERTOWN, MASSACHUSETTS

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, on June 30, 1761, the town of Belcher's Town, Massachusetts, was incorporated by the colonial Governor of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, Sir Francis Bernard. The town is named for Jonathan Belcher, colonial Governor of the Province of Massachusetts Bay from 1730 until 1741. After 250 years of development and innovation, Belchertown continues to promote civility and cooperation amongst its citizens.

Overlooking the Connecticut and Quaboag Valleys, Belchertown has long been a town connected to the thoroughfares passing through the area. Many of the original buildings were taverns to accommodate travelers; however, the first railroad in 1850 allowed greater diversity in the town's commercial endeavors. In the past century, Belchertown has continued to prosper while maintaining the community-oriented charm familiar to most of western Massachusetts.

The commitment to volunteerism and community service is traced throughout Belchertown's history. Its citizens stand as an example of what hard work and resolve can accomplish, as evidenced by the formidable carriage industry in the early 1800s, the town's first library in 1887, the development of Quabbin Reservoir in 1927, and the brave service of numerous citizens in every U.S. war except the War of 1812.

On the occasion of the 250th anniversary of the town of Belchertown, Massachusetts, I congratulate its citizens and praise their dedication and perseverance throughout the town's history. I look forward with enthusiastic support as we continue to work together for a prosperous future.

HONORING JAMES ADDY

HON. SHELLEY MOORE CAPITO

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mrs. CAPITO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize and honor, James Addy, the mayor of Harpers Ferry, West Virginia. Mayor Addy will retire this month after 10 successful years in the mayor's office. Jim has been Mayor since 2001 and is a professor of social studies at Bowie State University, where he teaches courses in American history. He has served a stalwart career as a public official and has worked relentlessly to improve his community.

Mayor Addy brought an honest and clear vision to Harper's Ferry where he has worked to

bring a better life to its citizens. I have always valued his wise counsel.

In his terms in office, Mayor Addy has applied his wealth of knowledge. As a professor, he knows the common thread of American history and how lessons learned in the past are often repeated in the future. As a teacher and former assistant principal, he applied his ability to build relationships and mentor those who will follow in his footsteps, especially the younger generation. And finally as a product of a childhood in a neighborhood of Baltimore, he brought the idea of working for a better community and a greater good.

Mayor Addy, I hope that you enjoy your time out of public service. I know you will continue to teach and affect the young lives that you so believe in. I know that you will continue to be involved in all aspects of Harpers Ferry and its future.

You have done a great job. I wish you the very best.

AMERICA INVENTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 22, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1249) to amend title 35, United States Code, to provide for patent reform:

Mr. PENCE. Madam Chair, I rise in support of H.R. 1249, the America Invents Act, which is a carefully-crafted compromise that will modernize our nation's patent laws to allow for greater innovation, economic growth and job creation.

Years of hard work have gone into this bill. I would like to congratulate and thank Chairman SMITH and Rep. GOODLATTE for their leadership and diligence.

The Constitution vests in Article I, Section 8, clause 8, the power to Congress to "promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to . . . Inventors the exclusive Right to their . . . Discoveries."

Our patent laws were written nearly sixty years ago, and it is time to update them to account for changes in our modern economy. It is Congress's power and responsibility to do so, especially with the problems that are evident with the patent system today.

And not doing so will cost our country even more jobs. Patent reform is about jobs because intellectual property, like other forms of private property, is a pillar of economic prosperity. Part of creating a pro-growth environment in this country includes modernizing our patent laws.

I have heard about the need for modernization from countless Hoosier business leaders, patent holders and entrepreneurs. Indiana has a long tradition of leadership in the life sciences and medical industry. Indiana also has a robust university research system, growing tech industry and, of course, a manufacturing industry that grows more high-tech with each passing year.

These and many other sectors of the Hoosier economy will benefit from the reforms in this bill. When inventors and entrepreneurs are able to protect their inventions and speed

them to market, it creates jobs not only for researchers and inventors, but also for factory workers, distributors, sales associates, and marketing teams to name a few.

This bill will ensure that newly-issued patents will be strong, high-quality patents that have gone through rigorous review. It will modernize the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to reduce the current backlog of more than 700,000 patent applications, and it will ensure that the PTO, with proper congressional oversight, is able to retain the fees it collects to fund its operations. Finally, this patent reform bill will go a long way towards eliminating the lawsuit abuse that has become so prevalent in recent years.

Of personal interest to me, I am pleased that the bill before us incorporates the changes to best mode that I obtained during the 2007 patent reform debate and floor vote.

American patent law currently requires that a patent application "set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention" at the time the application is filed. But providing the best mode is not a requirement in Europe, Japan or the rest of the world and it has become a vehicle for lawsuit abuse.

In my view, the best mode requirement of American law imposes extraordinary and unnecessary costs on inventors. I have maintained since 2007 that best mode should be repealed in full, and I would continue to support a full repeal if possible today.

But, at the very least, I am pleased that the bill before us, like my amendments from 2007, only retains best mode as a specifications requirement for obtaining a patent. Once the examiner is satisfied that the best mode has been disclosed, the issue is settled forever. Going forward, best mode cannot be used as a legal defense to infringement in patent litigation or a basis for a post-grant review proceeding.

The America Invents Act will enable America to continue to be the world's leader in innovation. It will lay the groundwork for intellectual property protection that will help grow our economy and create jobs both in the Hoosier state and across the nation.

After so many years, I am encouraged that we are on the cusp of passing this bill out of the Congress and sending it to the president. I urge my colleagues to support the America Invents Act today.

HONORING PROFESSOR MEL BARON ON THE OCCASION OF HIS RECEIPT OF THE PINNACLE AWARD FROM THE AMERICAN PHARMACISTS ASSOCIATION FOUNDATION IN RECOGNITION OF HIS PIONEERING WORK TO ADDRESS THE PHARMACY NEEDS OF UNDERSERVED COMMUNITIES

HON. LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Professor Mel Baron of the University of Southern California School of Pharmacy upon his receipt of the Pinnacle Award for Individual Achievement by the

American Pharmacists Association Foundation (APhA).

Dr. Baron, who is now celebrating his 52nd year in the pharmacy profession, ranks as a practice pioneer, an educational futurist and a regional force in meeting the pharmacy needs of our community. He has been a visionary in establishing pharmacy as part of the solution in meeting the health-care needs of Southern California's 2.7 million uninsured residents. Dr. Baron is a recognized leader in providing expanded pharmacy services in safety-net clinics that increase the number of patients served while also providing better and more cost-efficient care. His pioneering effort to secure USC's first funding grant for clinical pharmacy practice in safety-net clinics earned the School of Pharmacy the APhA Pinnacle Award for Group Practice, the American Society of Health-System Pharmacists' (ASHP) Best Practices Award and the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's (AACCP) Transformative Community Service Award over the past few years.

Furthering his efforts to address the needs of underserved populations in Southern California, Dr. Baron has produced a series of Spanish and English fotonovelas (comic book-like pamphlets) on medication compliance, diabetes, folic acid, depression, dementia, pediatric asthma and childhood obesity. Recognizing the lack of culturally sensitive health information on these topics, Dr. Baron obtained grant funding to produce them. Through these materials, he has extended the reach of pharmacy expertise tremendously and offered vital information to the residents I represent in East Los Angeles. These fotonovelas have now been distributed across the country. In addition to the print versions, local actors have done theatrical readings of them at health fairs in Los Angeles. Currently, he is also leading an effort to produce a DVD series for prospective transplant patients and their families.

Earlier in his career, Dr. Baron worked in his own medical-building pharmacy. In the 1970s, he grew his business into a vibrant home-care pharmacy that met the pressing needs of patients struggling to live in a health-care environment with limited resources. At a time when home-care pharmacy services were in their infancy, Dr. Baron had the vision to use pharmacist expertise in the home-care setting to meet the needs of these patients.

Dr. Baron also approaches his teaching with excellence in mind. He originated externships for USC pharmacy students back in the 1980s—long before most pharmacy students were doing any clinical work in the early years of their curriculum. Dr. Baron recognized the wisdom of exposing pharmacy students to clinical settings early and often in their educational careers. Dr. Baron also has made it a priority to teach an annual course on leadership to pharmacy students.

Clearly, Dr. Baron has been at the forefront of the most pressing issues of pharmacy today. Through hard work, Dr. Baron's long and vibrant career has been marked by pioneering foresight and vision. In addition, his work has inspired students and served those in our community who are most vulnerable and in need.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to please join me in congratulating Dr. Baron on his receipt of the Pinnacle Award and in thanking him for his half-century of exceptional service to our community. His tireless leadership, in-

novation and inspiration have made a tremendous contribution to our community and to the nation, and I extend to him my best wishes for many more successful years ahead.

YORK RIVER WILD AND SCENIC RIVER STUDY ACT OF 2011

HON. CHELLIE PINGREE

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Ms. PINGREE of Maine. Mr. Speaker, the York River in Maine is the cultural and economic heart of the York River watershed community. Standing on the banks of the river, I heard from community members about what the river means to them and how they have pulled together to protect this waterway. I also heard from the community about how the York River needs additional protections from increasing development pressures. The bill that I am introducing today commissions a feasibility study which will provide a comprehensive overview of the river and will evaluate whether the York River qualifies as a Wild and Scenic Partnership River within the National Park Service's Wild and Scenic Rivers System.

Watching two York River lobstermen tie up their boat, I wouldn't have guessed that the York River area is on the northern fringe of the Boston megalopolis in terms of population and development pressures. The towns of York, Eliot, Kittery, and South Berwick recognize that without additional knowledge and management tools, the river's unique cultural, recreational, commercial, and natural resources will be threatened. Support for the York River Study Bill was the result of a partnership between the local environmental community, a local land trust, support from the state, and, most importantly, support from an entire community of Mainers with the foresight to recognize the value of the river to the business community.

The York River is located in southern Maine and runs 11.25 miles from the York Pond in Eliot to the mouth of the river harbor in the town of York. On its way from the land to the sea, this river passes by farms, old mills that date back to the 1600s, wharves and warehouses from the 1700s that tell the story of Maine's rich fishing heritage, public boat launches, working waterfronts, and recreational spots for lunching, fishing and kayaking. There have been concerted and successful efforts over the past ten years by the York Land Trust and the Mount Agamenticus to the Sea Conservation Initiative to protect land in the watershed. These efforts have included preserving historic waterfront access, preventing the subdivision of farms, and restoring habitat.

Listed as a Priority Coastal Watershed by the Maine Department of Environmental Protection, the York River watershed encompasses a wide diversity of habitats and ecological communities that support species including the wild brook trout, the Atlantic Salmon, the New England Cottontail, and Maine endangered species, such as the Eastern Box Turtle. Birders come to the York River to see exceptional varieties of birds including the threatened Harlequin Duck, which is seldom seen from shore anywhere in Maine except York County, as well as other species that call