

there is growing awareness that such threats are possible anywhere, many schools still have not developed safety protocols that would prepare them to maximize the prospects of preventing such tragedies or to effectively respond to them should they occur despite sound prevention efforts. The recent shooting at Old Dominion University is an unfortunate reminder of the need for this legislation.

Our nation's colleges and universities play a large role in the development of our next generation of leaders and we should assist them in their efforts to keep our campuses and our students safe. The Clery Act already requires schools to have safety plans in order to participate in the Title IV deferral student aid programs, however, currently there is no one place for schools to obtain reliable and useful information. It makes little sense to require the thousands of institutions of higher education to individually go through the cost and effort to develop comprehensive plans. Instead, they ought to be able to obtain guidance and assistance, including best practices, from a "one stop shop" like the Center.

The CAMPUS Safety Act will help institutions of higher learning understand how to prevent such tragedies from occurring, and how to respond immediately and effectively in case they do.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation to ensure that our institutions of higher education have access to the information necessary to keep their schools safe.

**HONORING THEODORE C. MAX,
M.D., WITH THE PRESTIGIOUS
ROSAMOND CHILDS AWARD FOR
COMMUNITY PHILANTHROPY**

HON. RICHARD L. HANNA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Theodore C. Max, M.D. Theodore C. Max recently received the honor of the prestigious Rosamond Childs Award for Philanthropy, presented by the Community Foundation of Herkimer and Oneida Counties, Inc.

Theodore C. Max has held a strong presence as a leading surgeon in the Utica area for more than 30 years. The author of numerous publications, he has presented at conferences across the country, and has been acknowledged in Who's Who in Medicine and Healthcare, and Who's Who in the World. A University of Rochester graduate and celebrated local physician, Theodore C. Max has received numerous awards, both for his professional and personal contributions to our society.

The Rosamond Childs Award for Community Philanthropy is awarded to individuals displaying an inspirational spirit of generosity and compassion. Theodore C. Max, M.D., exemplifies these values and his legacy is sure to leave a positive impact on generations to come. Community figures such as Theodore C. Max, M.D., must be recognized for the dedication and selflessness they display for their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in honoring Theodore C. Max, M.D., for his gen-

erosity and commitment to our community and the world.

HONORING SHERIDAN LEE

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. KILDEE. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise to pay tribute to Sheridan Lee of my district who died on June 9, 2011. We have lost a strong and vigorous supporter of human dignity and justice.

A lifelong resident of Genesee County, Sheridan spent 3 years in the Marine Corps. He returned to Flint and worked in the banking industry for 35 years, retiring from Bank One as Vice President of Commercial Loans. His first hand experience as the owner of the Hale Hat Shop helped him understand the struggles small businesses faced and he was very proud that he was able to help so many businesses in Flint.

For over 45 years, Sheridan was an uncompromising advocate for a better nation. While Sheridan was active in Michigan politics before 1968 his true leadership shined at the 1968 Congressional District Convention when as the Vice-Chair of the New Democratic Coalition he gathered a group that became known as the Kennedy-McCarthy Coalition and elected seven of the eight delegates to the National Democratic Convention, including myself. Sheridan was not satisfied with just saying or singing Kumbaya. He was not content with only sentimentalism. He was a persistent, tireless activist. Sheridan pursued justice unrelentingly. On October 14, 1969 Sheridan presided over the largest peace rally ever held in Flint, Michigan to protest the Vietnam war. Over 4000 citizens assembled at Wilson Park to express their anger over our nation's war policy. On that site today stands a statue of Gandhi, a monument to peace.

His political involvement was all encompassing. He was a great strategist and organizer but he contributed his physical labor to whatever was needed—from going door to door to assembling and distributing yard signs for the Kildee campaign and other Democrats. He helped drive dignitaries when they visited Flint including Secretary of Education Richard Riley during the 2000 campaign. As the former Treasurer of the Genesee County Democratic Party, Sheridan was recognized by the Michigan Democratic Party this year when they named him the Senior Citizen Volunteer of the Year at the annual Jeff-Jack Dinner. Indeed his telephone answering message gave no question as to his fervent political affiliation: "Hello. You have reached the Lee residence, the home of good Democrats."

In 2004, Sheridan and his wife, Maryion, formed the Progressive Caucus of the Genesee County Democratic Party. They started the Caucus to focus on educating the public about health care, the war, and other issues affecting the people of our country. They believe the public was getting a slanted view of issues and they decided to do something to correct it. They held numerous town hall meetings and seminars to give people an opportunity to express their views and hear a variety of opinions.

My wife, Gayle, and I appreciated their moral compass and enjoyed their warm friend-

ship. We broke bread together and enjoyed visiting them at their farm home. Family was very important to Sheridan. His son, Lindsey, Lindsey's wife, Beth, and their 3 children Teddy, Marlin and Freya; son, Lynn, his husband, Steve, and their daughter Addison; and daughter, Megan, are all politically active. Sheridan was very proud that he inspired his children to carry on his work in their own communities.

All who have shared Sheridan's friendship are better people because of that. I know that I am a better congressman but more significantly a better human being because of Sheridan Lee and his talented wife, Maryion.

**TRIBUTE TO PAUL M. DOWD AND
THE NAMING OF THE BASEBALL
FIELD AT WAHCONAH PARK IN
PITTSFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS
IN HIS HONOR**

HON. JOHN W. OLVER

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. OLVER. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to pay tribute to Paul M. Dowd for his longtime service to the City of Pittsfield, Massachusetts, and whose name will hereinafter be associated with the historic baseball field at Wahconah Park in Pittsfield.

Mr. Dowd first came to Pittsfield in 1966 as a pitcher for the Pittsfield Red Sox—having been signed by that organization in 1964—from his home state of Michigan, where he also attended Ferris State College. He has been a full-time resident of Pittsfield for the past 35 years. During that time, he has generously dedicated his time to the community.

Thirty years ago, Mr. Dowd founded the Berkshire County Chapter of the Jimmy Fund and remains active as its president. He was elected to the Pittsfield City Council for six years, served in the United States Marine Reserves, coached Little League baseball, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus, Elks Lodge, and American Legion. Mr. Dowd is well known in the community for his selfless and thoughtful commitment to improving the quality of life for children afflicted with cancer.

In recognition of his magnanimous service to the community and its children, the Pittsfield City Council and the Pittsfield Park Commission voted unanimously to name the baseball field at Wahconah Park as the Paul M. Dowd Field. Because of his outstanding commitment to the welfare of Pittsfield's citizenry, Mr. Dowd is most deserving of this high honor.

AMERICA INVENTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

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. MORAN. Madam Chair, I rise today to express my concerns about the Manager's

Amendment to the America Invents Act, H.R. 1249.

Specifically, I am troubled by language in the amendment that would weaken the ability of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to retain the fees it collects from inventors for use in improving the patent application process.

As reported by the Judiciary Committee, Section 22 of the underlying bill would establish a revolving fund at Treasury to collect all user fees from USPTO and restrict their use to only funding USPTO activities.

This section was necessary because Congress has habitually underfunded the Patent Office, siphoning more than \$875 million over the past two decades from fees collected from inventors to fund other discretionary programs.

This fee diversion has severely hampered the ability of USPTO to promptly process patent applications, leading to a current backlog of 1.2 million applications and an average pendency time of 3 years.

This is entirely unacceptable and a direct result of our decision not to provide full funding to the USPTO. Delays in processing patent applications drive up the costs and risks for inventors, harm our nation's global competitiveness, and literally stall the creation of jobs.

While I appreciate the efforts of Director Kappos over the past two years to reduce this backlog, USPTO will not be fully successful in this goal unless they are provided with the proper resources...resources, remember, they collect from the users of Patent Office services.

That is why I have concerns about a provision in the manager's amendment that would undermine this dedicated funding source, instead leaving USPTO funding up to annual appropriations.

While the amendment creates a specific fund for USPTO fees and contains promises that this funding will be made available only for activities at the patent office, there is no guarantee this pledge will be honored in subsequent Congresses.

I am concerned this modified language does not give USPTO the predictability in funding and access to fees that are necessary to ensure it best serves the innovation community.

Now, I understand USPTO has reluctantly agreed to support this compromise language, and I therefore plan to support the Manager's Amendment.

But we cannot let jurisdictional concerns here in Congress undermine the efficient functioning of the patent process.

I encourage my colleagues to support the Manager's Amendment as a necessary compromise to move this legislation forward, but I plan to remain vigilant on this matter to ensure the promises made in this Manager's Amendment are kept and that USPTO has ready access to the fees it collects.

SHENANDOAH NATIONAL PARK RESOLUTION

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce a resolution celebrating the 75th anniversary of the Shenandoah National Park.

The Shenandoah National Park is the crown jewel of Virginia's natural resources. Through

the Shenandoah National Park, I believe that we have preserved a vast, beautiful piece of land for the enjoyment of American families. Additionally, Shenandoah National Park is an exemplary example of the efforts of the United States Government and the Commonwealth of Virginia in preserving our country's natural resources.

Shenandoah National Park has a rich history and showcases the conservation work of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC). The park has been committed to adhering to these principles of stewardship and conservation, and thus allowing the legacy of the CCC to inspire many generations of Americans.

Additionally, Shenandoah National Park is the home of Skyline Drive, one of America's treasured byways. Skyline Drive winds along the crest of the Blue Ridge Mountains for 105 miles in the Shenandoah National Park. The 75 overlooks along the route afford travelers extraordinary vistas of the Shenandoah Valley and the Piedmont region in Virginia. No other road in the northeast provides access to 80,000 acres of wilderness.

What the Park's visitors take away from their visit to Shenandoah National Park and their drive along Skyline Drive is that the hills and valleys are directly connected to the character and aesthetics of the Park and its neighboring cities, towns, and counties. By conservative estimates, Shenandoah National Park has a \$70 million impact on the counties surrounding the park. The health of the Shenandoah's resources and the health of its neighbors will forever be entwined.

The 75th anniversary of the Shenandoah National Park is an important milestone. For 75 years the Shenandoah National Park has been a treasure for all Americans, but there are many stories waiting to be told. We must all be diligent to make sure that the Park's views and natural areas are around for tomorrow's visitors and for future generations to enjoy. I hope that we can continue to preserve the beauty of the Park, a world of beauty that can renew and bring peace to the spirit.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE FULSHEAR GIRL SCOUTS

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, on July 2, the Girl Scouts of Fulshear, Texas, in my congressional district, will gather for the Fulshear Freedom Feast, where they will commemorate the upcoming centennial of the founding of the Girl Scouts of America. It is with great pleasure that I join the Fulshear Girl Scouts in celebrating the 100th anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America.

The Girl Scouts of America were established in Savannah, Georgia on March 16, 1912 in order to provide young woman with an organization that would help them reach their full potential. From the very start, Girls Scouts' programs emphasized community service, personal and spiritual growth, positive values, leadership, and teamwork. Today, over 23 million American girls participate in Girl Scout programs such as field trips, sports clinics, community service projects, cultural exchanges, and environmental initiatives. Per-

haps the Girl Scouts' best-known project is the annual cookie sale, which not only raises funds for the Girl Scout's many projects, it helps girls across the national get practical business experience.

Participating in Girl Scouts helps young woman build confidence, develop new skills, learn about and explore career opportunities, help their communities, and make friendships that can last a lifetime. Therefore, Mr. Speaker, I encourage all my colleagues to join me in celebrating the Girls Scouts of America's centennial and in sending best wishes to the Fulshear Girl Scouts as they prepare for the Fulshear Freedom Feast.

AMERICA INVENTS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

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:

Ms. HIRONO. Madam Chair, I rise today in reluctant opposition to H.R. 1249, the America Invents Act.

In Hawaii, independent inventors and small businesses are at the forefront of the innovation that we need to strengthen our state's economic future. Year after year, small businesses have been responsible for the majority of net job growth nationwide. Congress must modernize and fully fund the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (PTO) to address the massive application backlog that stifles innovation and job creation.

However, I have heard from independent inventors and small businesses in Hawaii who express grave concerns about H.R. 1249. This bill's shift to a "first inventor to file" system could create a "race to file," allowing large corporations to use early and repeat filings to threaten independent inventors' and small businesses' rights.

Further, to speed up patent processing and job creation, the PTO must be able to use inventors' application fees for their intended use: processing patents. The PTO receives no taxpayer money, and is funded entirely by fees. I voted against the manager's amendment that diverts these user fees to the vagaries of the annual congressional budget process.

I also have concerns about Section 18 of the bill. This section establishes an administrative review process for financially related business method patents whose validity has been questioned. This review process is retroactive, and even previously awarded patents whose validity had been upheld by federal courts would be subject to challenge. This is unfair to inventors, who would have to defend themselves again for patents they have already been awarded and already defended in court.

Innovation and technology development is essential to growing Hawaii's economy of the future. For this reason, I support patent reform but cannot support the bill before us today.