

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### STATEMENT ON THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ILLEGAL TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

#### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, this week, once again, we commemorate the tragic anniversary of the 1974 illegal Turkish invasion of Cyprus. Thirty-seven years later, Turkey continues forcibly to occupy more than one-third of Cyprus with more than 43,000 troops. This amounts to almost one Turkish soldier for every two Turkish Cypriots. It is time for Turkey to withdraw its troops from Cyprus so that the island can move forward as one nation.

As co-chair and co-founder of the Congressional Hellenic Caucus, I have worked diligently with my colleagues in the Caucus out of our mutual concern for the continued division and occupation of Cyprus. We have 137 members today, making us one of the largest caucuses in Congress.

My Caucus co-chair, Rep. BILIRAKIS, and I passed a resolution in the House in the last Congress calling for the protection of religious sites and artifacts from and in Turkish-occupied areas of northern Cyprus as well as for general respect for religious freedom. And we continue to work, with the Caucus, to raise awareness of the Cyprus problem and the role the U.S. can play to support the negotiations.

Cyprus is playing a vital role in European affairs while also strengthening relations with the United States. It has joined with us on issues important to our own security, including the fight against terrorism and other international crimes. Ending the island's tragic division will pave the way to prosperity and peace throughout the entire region.

To date, Turkey has repeatedly ignored all U.N. Resolutions pertaining to Cyprus and has continued to occupy the island in complete violation of international law. Turkey has continued to do so despite the fact that it has been a member of the U.N. Security Council since January 2009. Turkey has also refused to abide by the Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in numerous cases, thereby continuing to violate the basic human rights of the Cypriot people. This is an outrage.

The current negotiations aim at reaching a comprehensive settlement of the Cyprus problem based on a bizonal, bicomunal federation with political equality, as defined in the relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions, with a single sovereignty, single citizenship and single international personality. The solution must reunite the island, its people, its institutions and its economy and safeguard the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all Cypriots and the withdrawal of Turkish occupation forces from Cyprus.

The United States and the international community must continue to provide support to this process. The people of Cyprus deserve

a unified and democratic country, and I remain hopeful that a peaceful settlement will be found so that the division of Cyprus will come to an end.

As Secretary Clinton remarked last year: "The reunification of the island is in the best interests of not only the people of Cyprus, but the region, and it could set an example for the international community as well."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I was unfortunately unable to cast a vote on rollcall 621 on the evening of July 21, 2011.

I strongly support the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and its mandate to protect American consumers and I would have voted NO on passage of H.R. 1315. The CFPB will provide families a level playing field upon which to shop for the full range of financial products.

The CFPB is the most accountable regulatory body in the world. And their work has already begun. Starting today, the CFPB credit card hotline is up and running, fielding complaints from American consumers and beginning to hold companies accountable. Consumers can reach them at 855-411-CFPB or online at [consumerfinance.gov](http://consumerfinance.gov).

Families will finally have a cop on the beat looking out for their interests. But American consumers should be forewarned, if you have a complaint, report it now. Because, as we speak, Republicans in Congress are doing all they can to take away your consumer protections.

### COMMEMORATING THE 350TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST SETTLEMENT OF STATEN ISLAND

#### HON. MICHAEL G. GRIMM

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Mr. GRIMM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the 350th Anniversary of the first settlement of Staten Island. Staten Island makes up most of the 13th District of New York and I am proud to call it home, and anyone who has ever lived on Staten Island or visited this unique place knows how wonderful it is. Deep in the heart of Staten Island and all her residents, lives an enthralling history, so rich with the American experience, as to rival the other boroughs of New York City and indeed every community across the nation.

Since before her founding, this island has been for many a place of tolerance, liberty, and justice. It was a new land that promised religious and political freedom more than a

century before the Founding Fathers immortalized those freedoms in the Declaration of Independence and the Constitution; the very same declaration that was first revealed to the British Troops in the American Revolution at none other than the Rose and Crown Tavern, which once stood at the corner of what is now Amboy Road and New Dorp Lane. It was here on Staten Island that His Majesty as well as the world first learned of the colonies' fearless declaration of their independence. Even before this, the first European settlers to set foot on this island in 1661 had one essential thing in common: they were all seeking freedom from violent persecution. Dutch, French, and Belgian Protestants, including Peter Billiou, Staten Island's most prominent early settler whose house still stands in Historic Richmondtown, found a haven of hope and peace on this gleaming gem amidst the Narrows. The island also served as a refuge for many other freedom fighters, most notable among them, Giuseppe Garibaldi, the Father of Italian Unification, who used his time as a resident of Rosebank to raise money and support to free the Italian people from imperial oppression.

This has come to be a defining aspect of the legacy of Staten Island. It is this borough that has come to exemplify so proudly the promise emblazoned on that beautiful Lady that lights the way of the Staten Island Ferry and in her younger years first revealed to my grandparents and many of your grandparents that they had finally reached the land where liberty lives and thrives. In the period between and after the two world wars, while much of humanity wallowed under communist and fascist regimes, countless men and women sought refuge here on Staten Island. Waves of immigrants including Italians, Irish, Greeks, Russians, Poles, Liberians, Sri Lankans and many, many more came to these shores in search of a better life for themselves and their families. "Give us your tired, give us your poor, give us your huddled masses yearning to be free" is a call that this island faithfully answered, and it has served us well—the culture of the island has been shaped by the vibrant, rich, and complementing cultures of the many diverse groups of people who proudly call this place home.

Three centuries ago in the early 1700's, a local schoolteacher quoted scripture when she remarked that Staten Island had already become a bustling community full of men and women from "All the nations under heaven." It is a mark of distinction that we continue to proudly display, however today, we consider ourselves all citizens of the greatest nation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me, and Americans from all different origins and backgrounds, in embracing one of the most central and meaningful things we all have in common, and that is the love and pride we have for our hometown of Staten Island. And of course, in wishing her a very happy 350th birthday, may she have many, many more.

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

## THE PASSING OF JOHN DOWLIN

**HON. JEAN SCHMIDT**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Mrs. SCHMIDT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember former Hamilton County Commissioner John Dowlin, who passed away on July 15th at the age of 81.

After spending 38 years at Procter and Gamble and 28 years as the Mayor of Sharonville, Ohio, John Dowlin served 13 years on the Hamilton County Board of County Commissioners.

Throughout his distinguished career, John became known for his principles, his work ethic, and especially his bow ties.

I had the opportunity to work with Commissioner Dowlin when I was in the state legislature, and I always found him to be honest and fair.

Commissioner Dowlin was the kind of person we should all strive to be, standing up for what he believed was right—even when others believed he was wrong.

He is survived by his loving wife, Sarah, four children, and nine grandchildren.

The world is a better place because of John Dowlin. May he rest in peace.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of a true public servant.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, due to family matters, I was unable to vote on consideration of H.R. 1315, the Consumer Financial Protection Safety and Soundness Improvement Act of 2011 on Thursday, July 21, 2011. I was also unable to vote on consideration of H.R. 2551, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 on Friday, July 22 2011.

Had I been present, I would have voted to support H.R. 1315. For the Amendments to H.R. 1315, I would have voted to support the Rigell Amendment. I would have voted to oppose the Jackson Lee Amendment #1, the Miller Amendment, the Jackson Lee Amendment #2, the Maloney Amendment, and the Motion to Recommit.

Had I been present, I would have voted to support H.R. 2551. For the amendments to H.R. 2551, I would have voted to support the Hayworth Amendment, the Broun Amendment, and the Stutzman Amendment. I would have voted to oppose the Watt Amendment, the Thompson Amendment, the Holt Amendment, and the Moran Amendment.

## IN RECOGNITION OF THE FIFTEENTH ANNIVERSARY OF PINNACLE TECHNICAL RESOURCES

**HON. PETE SESSIONS**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Pinnacle Technical Resources, Inc. on its fifteenth anniversary this year.

Located in Dallas, Texas, Pinnacle was born in a living room and quickly matured into an award-winning information technology staffing company. Under the leadership and vision of Chief Executive Officer Nina Vaca-Humrichouse, Pinnacle expanded nationwide and created over 20,000 jobs, consequently ranking six straight years as one of the fastest growing companies in its industry. In 2009, Pinnacle received the CIO 100 Award for its development of PROGATA, a proprietary industry-leading software tool.

Beyond their financial success, Pinnacle emphasizes social responsibility and actively encourages employees to contribute to the local community. Boy Scouts of America, United Way, Habitat for Humanity, and the Greater Dallas Hispanic Chamber of Commerce Foundation are among the many non-profit organizations Pinnacle supports. This year, Pinnacle also provided scholarships to thirty-two high school students to attend the Dallas Hispanic Youth Institute, a well-regarded summer symposium.

Pinnacle Technical Resources embodies the entrepreneurial spirit of America; a concept with humble beginnings that transformed into a fast-growing and nationally recognized company. Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in congratulating the staff and leadership of Pinnacle Technical Resources as they celebrate fifteen years of success.

## HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTERS

**HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, July 22, 2011*

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I wish to call my colleagues' attention to the Hudson River School of Painters, the first American school of painters that contributed to an appreciation of the American landscape and conservation of this country's natural beauty. At the time of its operation in the 19th Century, it was a significant achievement in American art and culture that commemorated American landscapes in a manner unseen before by American citizens and others around the world.

Recently, I had the distinct honor to unveil the first of a series of historic bronze markers along the Hudson River. These bronze markers are designed to indicate where painters put their easels in order to create a panorama and vista of the river itself. The historic bronze marker, created by Greg Wyatt, Director of the Academy of Art at the Newington-Cropsey Foundation in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, honor the sites where painters such as Jasper F. Cropsey, Thomas Cole, Frederic Edwin Church, and Asher Durand stood to create paintings reflecting their unique perspectives on nature. Additional sites are planned this coming year at Hook Mountain State Park and Newburgh, New York.

In light of this occasion, I would like to commend my colleague Representative MAURICE HINCHEY in his long record of support for both the rebirth of study of this first American school of painting, and for his determination to present to Congress and the American people the importance of the Hudson Valley to our cultural heritage.

I also would like to commend the Architect of the Capitol for displaying two paintings purchased by Congress after the Civil War from the famous 19th century Hudson River School painter Albert Bierstadt. They are entitled "Discovery on the Hudson" and "Entrance into Monterey," and are available for viewing in the Capitol Visitors Center. I urge all of my colleagues and their constituents to appreciate these wonderful pieces of art.

## LEGISLATIVE BRANCH APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

**HON. MARCY KAPTUR**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 21, 2011*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2551) making appropriations for the Legislative Branch for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the amendments that would reduce funding appropriated in H.R. 2551, the Legislative Branch Appropriations Act, 2012 for the U.S. Botanic Garden.

As you may know, George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and James Madison initially had the idea of starting a national botanic garden and helped to establish one on the National Mall in 1820. It is a keystone on our mall and belongs to the American people. The mission of the U.S. Botanic Garden is to demonstrate the aesthetic, cultural, economic, therapeutic and ecological importance of plants to the well-being of humankind. It is a national and global center for learning about how to sustain life on our planet, especially as climate changes and new challenges confront our society's plant life.

According to the Architect of the Capitol, approximately 1 million people visit the U.S. Botanic Garden each year. About 12,000 different plant accessions comprising more than 60,000 plants are displayed for exhibition, study, conservation and exchange with other institutions. The Botanic Garden is America's encyclopedia for sustaining production and life itself.

In addition to displaying some of the world's most rare and endangered plants, the U.S. Botanic Garden provides numerous educational opportunities through its partnerships, workshops, lectures, tours and demonstrations. Some specific education programs include the opportunity to earn a Certification in Botanical Art and Illustration, the Junior Botanist Program and several hands-on activities exploring plant materials. The Gardner instructs the next generation with partnerships across our nation.

Mr. Chair, we are still in the midst of the worst economic crisis since the Great Depression, and a series of odd weather events. The U.S. Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service reports that greenhouse, nursery and floriculture operations account for 2.5 percent of all U.S. farms but employ nearly 5 percent of hired farm workers. This sector has a sales value of \$16.6 Billion. It is a one-of-a-kind endowment America depends on.