

Additional organizations supporting the legislation include: Mission: Readiness, a bipartisan group of retired generals advocating education for military preparedness; Fight Crime: Invest in Kids, a bipartisan organization of criminal justice leaders who understand the importance of early education in preventing delinquency and crime later; and Mental Health America of Hawai'i because the bill calls for identifying and responding to emerging behavioral challenges of all young students.

Gary Kai of the Hawaii Business Roundtable, whose members believe very strongly in the importance of early childhood education, has pointed out that research shows that the highest rate of return for investments in human capital occurs in a child's earliest years. That's why he says "this education initiative will help to prepare children to succeed when they get to kindergarten and to be successful throughout their entire school career. Our businesses need the best educated workforce possible and they realize that our children must be able to compete internationally."

I encourage my colleagues to support the Continuum of Learning Act.

A TRIBUTE TO DR. MARK GLADSTEIN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Mark Gladstein for his ongoing ability to serve his community by providing advanced health care options.

Dr. Mark Gladstein is a founder and a medical director of Brooklyn's leading pain management facility, Pain Institute of New York. He is offering his community an expert team of personnel that have completed over 4000 procedures per year—retaining the recognition of being the fastest growing, advanced, and most diverse pain management practice in New York. With locations in Brooklyn and Queens, Dr. Gladstein's practice serves over 2,500 patients from all five boroughs as well as outside of New York City and all walks of life, ethnicities and religious backgrounds.

Being in practice for over 8 years, Dr. Gladstein has gained the trust and respect of the community by providing the most advanced care in the field. Their patients receive quality care in an accredited state-of-the-art office and ambulatory surgery facility. To this end, the entire skilled staff follow one simple philosophy: pain is an individual struggle and requires a unique and personal approach to manage. This approach allows Dr. Gladstein and his staff to personalize their attention to patients in a unique way.

Over the past years, Dr. Gladstein's achievements have been recognized by his peers and patients alike. He is a recipient of multiple Patient's Choice Awards, Consumer Research Council of America Awards as well as multiple teaching awards.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the many accomplishments of Dr. Mark Gladstein.

HONORING THE HUDSON RIVER SCHOOL OF PAINTERS

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, in 1996, President Clinton signed into law a bill that I authored establishing the Hudson River Valley National Heritage Area. One of the key priorities of the National Heritage Area is to preserve and appreciate the rich heritage and scenic beauty of the Hudson Valley and to highlight its contribution to both New York and the nation through the contributions of the Hudson River School of Painters, America's first school of art.

Now, thanks to the Architect of the Capitol, anyone who visits the U.S. Capitol and Capitol Visitor Center can enjoy two famous paintings by Albert Bierstadt, one of the major 19th century Hudson River School painters, entitled "Discovery of the Hudson" and "Entrance into Monterey." These large paintings were originally purchased by the U.S. Congress after the Civil War and were displayed prominently in the Capitol until recently taken down to facilitate renovations. The re-hanging of these paintings is a major event for a rebirth in the study and appreciation of the Hudson River School of Painters. I encourage all members in the House and Senate to view these magnificent American landscapes and recommend to their visiting constituents that they do the same.

The Hudson River School of Painters captured the beauty and clarity of American landscapes, and not only painted throughout the Hudson Valley and in my state of New York, but created idyllic scenes never before viewed. The school's roots are based in the works of Thomas Cole and his contemporaries Asher Durand and Frederic Edwin Church, as well as Jasper F. Cropsey, who became world-renowned for his depiction of American splendor in his painting "Autumn on the Hudson" (1860), and for his visit with Queen Victoria on one of his many trips to Europe. George Inness, who was born in my district, documented the expansion of the Delaware, Lackawanna, and Western Railroad and Albert Bierstadt was celebrated for his portrayal of many Western mountain ranges, so much so that Mt. Bierstadt in Colorado was named in his honor. Thomas Moran's famous works were used to support the creation of Yellowstone National Park, and these paintings helped inspire the eventual creation of the National Park Service. Many of the painters in the Hudson River School, including Church, Bierstadt, John Kensett, and Sanford Gifford served in advisory roles in the founding of the Metropolitan Museum of Art in New York in 1870.

Mr. Speaker, it is also with great pleasure that I join with my colleague from New York, Representative ELIOT ENGEL, in supporting the placement of a series of historic bronze markers along the Hudson River honoring the sites at which the Hudson River School of Painters created their works of art. These bronze sculptural markers were created by Greg Wyatt, Director, Academy of Art, Newington-Cropsey Foundation, and will be placed at Hastings-on-Hudson, Hook Mountain State Park, and in my district in the City of Newburgh. The bronze

text of each marker reads: "This monument is dedicated to the memory of the Hudson River School, a fraternity of landscape painters who worked in New York City in the 1800s and celebrated American as well as foreign scenery in their works. Among these painters of the Hudson River School were Thomas Cole, Asher B. Durand, Frederic E. Church, John F. Kensett, Sanford R. Gifford, and Jasper F. Cropsey." Today, their major works are seen in museums great and small, where they glorify the nation's original resource and its enduring responsibility: the land.

Mr. Speaker, there will be a series of speeches and statements by my colleagues highlighting the contributions of each of the Hudson River School of Painters and the impact they had on their districts, and to America. The beauty of these paintings depicted a growing interest in American landscape and an effort to conserve and protect what I consider the first environmental movement in America in the 19th century. Please join with me in recognizing and appreciating the Hudson River School of Painters.

A TRIBUTE TO CELAL SECILMIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. Celal Secilmis for his ongoing ability to serve his community through public service and education.

Mr. Secilmis was born in Sarikamis, Turkey in 1953 and was raised in Mersin, Turkey until his early adult life. After graduating from Istanbul Academy of Economic and Commercial Sciences in 1974, he went on to complete a Graduate Certificate Program at Istanbul University, Institute of Business Economics.

Mr. Secilmis has had a life in academia—deciding to move to America in 1975 after winning the Turkish Government Scholarship to do doctoral studies in the United States. Under this scholarship, Mr. Secilmis attended Georgetown University for a Masters Degree in Management, and then received an MBA degree from LIU.

Mr. Secilmis continued his dedicated studies at City University of New York's Graduate Center in Financial Economics with emphasis on "Agency Theory: Bonding and Monitoring Costs." Upon completion of his graduate studies, he worked as a professor of finance at Baruch College, CUNY, until 1995. Mr. Secilmis had started his own business, but shortly returned to the academic arena to fill the role of adjunct professor, which is his current profession.

In addition to being an adjunct professor, Mr. Secilmis also serves as the CEO and President of CEL Group of companies: Seckin Management, CEL Management, Semerica Trading, Inc., ATA Marketing Co, Inc., and ATA Construction USA, Inc. Mr. Secilmis is also the current President of Turkish American Chamber of Commerce and Industry, as his term expires in 2012.

Mr. Secilmis is happily married to Olcay Soyman and together they have two sons Seckin and Ata and a daughter, Deniz who is married to Adam Beaulieu.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and success of Mr. Celal Secilmis.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO MS. BARBARA JENSEN'S 27 YEARS OF SERVICE TO OUR NATION

HON. C.W. BILL YOUNG

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. YOUNG of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Ms. Barbara Jensen for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to the United States of America. Ms. Jensen will retire after 27 years of distinguished service to the Nation, both as an Army officer and as an Army Civilian.

Ms. Jensen began her service as a Medical Service Corps officer. She served honorably for 21 years, commanding troops and serving as a Logistician, Commodity Manager of the Army's critical medical supplies and equipment at Fort Carson, Colorado, Fort Lewis, Washington, Tripler Army Medical Center, Hawaii, and overseas in Germany.

Ms. Jensen was assigned to ever higher levels of responsibility because her experience and reputation as a skilled leader, manager, and advisor grew. As the Director of Logistics for the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, she played a key role in enabling the Institute to provide world-class, life-saving diagnostic consultations. Her leadership also supported the innovative scientific research conducted at the Institute, while providing an opportunity to educate military and civilian pathologists, physicians, and various medical and scientific professionals.

Ms. Jensen became a liaison to Members of Congress and advised Army leadership on Congressional interest items and legislation. With the Army Staff in the Pentagon, she provided legislative analysis on Congressional actions affecting Army programs. She led numerous Congressional staff visits and ensured that Members of Congress and their staff were supplied with critical, time sensitive information to afford deep understanding of the Army's medical research programs. She became the advisor to the Army's Surgeon General and his staff on legislation affecting military health care, thereby helping to ensure continued Congressional support for medical innovation and the finest medical care for our Service Members.

Ms. Jensen retired from the United States Army in 2004, receiving the Legion of Merit

award for her superb service. Afterwards, Ms. Jensen became a civil servant with the Department of the Army in 2005, returning to use her vast talents and expertise to serve her country once again.

As an Army Congressional Legislative Liaison, the Army entrusted Ms. Jensen to provide accurate assessments to Capitol Hill and to effectively communicate the Army's priorities. She earned the trust and confidence of the Members of the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Subcommittees, Congressional Staffers, the Office of the Secretary of Defense; Director, Army Staff and other service legislative activity directors.

Ms. Jensen most recently served as the Deputy Chief of Congressional Operations Division, Army Legislative Liaison. Ms. Jensen was an instrumental member of the legislative team, collecting information Congress needed to enact authorizations and oversee the Department of the Army. Her advice was heeded by Army leaders to include the Secretary of the Army, the Chief of Staff, the Under Secretary of the Army, the Vice Chief of Staff, and the Sergeant Major of the Army.

Ms. Jensen has continued to remain passionate about Soldiers, their Families, and ensuring quality of life for Service Members matches the quality of their service. She has made a real and lasting impact through her numerous contributions toward gaining Congressional trust, confidence, and advocacy for the Army.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of a grateful Nation, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Ms. Barbara Jensen for her extraordinary dedication to duty and service to this country throughout her distinguished career in the United States Army, both in uniform and as a Civilian. We wish her all the best in her well-deserved retirement.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. JAMES AURORA

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Mr. James Aurora for his exceptional service to his community and the youth.

James Aurora is a third generation of owners of the now famous Sonny's Collision Specialists in Queens, New York. This renowned business has been serving the Brooklyn community for 60 years and has gained a distinct reputation for quality customer service.

Mr. Aurora has built an operation that employs 25 professionals that offer clients guaranteed personal attention. In the years that Mr. Aurora has been operating Sonny's Collision Specialists he has never known any unsatisfied customers. Every customer of Sonny's has only experienced top notch service in the most expeditious manner.

Jimmy Aurora knows the importance of giving. Sonny's is not only a staple in the community for their expertise in auto body collisions, but they are famous for their giving spirit. Mr. Aurora on a yearly basis has sponsored cricket teams, baseball leagues, and boys' clubs, along with donating thousands of dollars towards autism awareness and the American Cancer Society. He has not only provided a necessary service to his community but he has found the means to give more to those in dire need.

Mr. Aurora lives by the company's motto: "Perfection is not an accident." Jimmy proudly represents his heritage and family legacy by ensuring that Sonny's Collision Specialists continues to be a leader and trendsetter in auto body collision work.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and accomplishments of Mr. James Aurora.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, August 9, 2011

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, August 1, I missed a rollcall vote. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on No. 691.