

TRIBUTE TO THE UNIVERSITY OF  
MARYLAND TEAM WHO WON THE  
SOLAR DECATHLON 2011

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate a talented team of students from my alma mater, the University of Maryland, who this weekend won first place at the U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon 2011 here in Washington.

The U.S. Department of Energy's Solar Decathlon is a competition among collegiate teams to design and build solar-powered houses that combine affordability and appeal to consumers with energy-efficiency and design excellence. The University of Maryland team's house, WaterShed, was awarded first place in recognition of its innovative use of solar energy and water conservation, excellent design, and strong performance in daily competitions. In addition to winning the overall competition, the Maryland team also proved victorious in the Architecture Contest and tied for first with perfect scores in both the Hot Water and Energy Balance contests.

Over 200 students, representing a wide variety of disciplines including architecture, engineering, environmental science and plant sciences, contributed to WaterShed, making Maryland's victory a truly collaborative effort. By blending innovation and technology with sustainability and conservation, these students demonstrated the creativity, teamwork, technical knowledge, and determination that are essential as we work to revive our economy and regain our nation's place as a leader in high tech and sustainable manufacturing.

The hard work of the Maryland team, and the work of the 19 other teams involved in the competition, illustrate the goals of the Make It In America plan that my Democratic colleagues and I are pursuing. The Make It In America plan emphasizes support for American firms developing new clean energy technologies, creating jobs while investing in a more sustainable future. This competition, with its focus on both cost-effectiveness and energy-efficiency, is an excellent example of the approach we need to pursue to achieve our economic and sustainability goals.

I would like to recognize the work of student leaders Jay Chmielewski, David Daily, Leah Davies, Steve Erling, Isabel Enerson, Tamir Ezzat, Michael Feldman, David Gavin, Jeff Gipson, Newton Gorrell, Joseph Ijjas, Moshe Katz, Yehuda Katz, Lynn Khuu, Zachary Klipstein, Parlin Meyer, Jeff Rappaport, Matt Sickle, Evan Smith, Scott Tjaden, Kevin Vandeman, Nick Weadock, Allison Wilson, and Veronika Zhiteneva and faculty team members Mike Binder, Patricia Kosco Cossard, Amy Gardner, Brian Grieb, Dr. Keith Herold, Madlen Simon, Dr. David Tilley and Brittany Williams.

The University of Maryland team—including students, faculty, and professional mentors—should be congratulated for their impressive accomplishments, and I am proud to honor these exceptional individuals. I urge my colleagues to join with me in applauding this impressive feat, and I ask unanimous consent that the names of the team members, the extended team and the mentors be included in the RECORD following my statement.

Team Members: Ali Alaswadi, Benjamin Bates, Amy Chen, Brennan Clark, Linda Clark Michael Craton, Natalya Dikhanov, Eric Gellman, James Han, Justin Heil, Justin Huang, Erik Kornfeld, John Kucia, Allen Meizlish, Jeffrey Sze and Andrew Taverner.

Extended Team: Sahin Arikoglu, Alex Atahua, Rishi Banerjee, Justin Bare, Katherine Beisler, Jacob Bialek, Paul Bilger, Christopher Binkley, Ian Black, Andrew Bruno, Victoria Chang, Wen-Hui Chen, Ethan Cowan, Justin Cullen, Diana Daisey, Adam Davies, Aleron Dsilva, Mariam Eshete, Eric Faughnan, Ryan Fitch, Meredith Friedman, Holman Gao, Louis Gbone, Philip Geilman, Phil Geiman, Marisa Gomez, Karen Hillis, Ananya Hiremath, Vanessa Hoffman, Amy Hudson, Phil Jacks, Peter James, Eric Joerdens, Christine Kandigian, Jacob Kunken, Christopher Leung, Arik Lubkin, Christopher Luther, Ryan Maisel, Bracha Mandel, Maria Martello, Zachary Martinez, Abe Massad, Mark Matovich, Shakira Mccall, Kenneth Morgan, Christopher Myers, Zachary Nerenberg, Matthew Newman, Yuchen Nie, Albert Palmer, Daniel Perdomo, Robert Pettit, Chau Pham, Georgina Pinnock, Kaitlin Pless, Olga Pushkareva, James Ramil, Mark Reese, Raheena Rehman, Nicolas Roldos, Boateng Rosemond, Michele Rubenstein, Michael Satoh, Charles Schupler, Juliet Serem, Valerie Smith, Jacob Steinberg, Michael Taylor, Alexander Tonetti, Marcela Trice, Katherine Vocke, Nader Wallerich, Luxi Wang, Amy Weber, Sofia Weller, Christine Wertz, Kiley Wilfong, Christine Wirth, Fawna Xiao, Diane Ye, and Jesse Yurow.

Mentors: Deborah Bauer, Grant Baxter, Charlie Berliner, Dan Blankfeld, Joe Bolewski, Brian Borak, Erin Carlisle, John Cartagirona, Chris Cobb, John Coventry, Adam Eurich, Taz Ezzat, George Fritz, Julie Gabrielli, Aditya Gaddam, Jennifer Gilmer, Anne Hicks Harney, Maggie Haslam, Ray Hayleck, Joan Honeyman, Ming Hu, Adam Keith, Peter Kelley, Benson Kwong, Mike Lawrence, Dale Leidich, John Love, Kristen Markham, Evan Merkel, John Morris, Frank Plummer, Don Posson, Kristin Potterton, Tyler Sines, Niklas Vigener, Dan Vlacich, Fred Werth, Bill Wiley, Jay Williams, and Dan Zimmerman.

TO AMEND THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE TO QUALIFY HOMELESS YOUTH WHO ARE STUDENTS FOR PURPOSES OF THE LOW INCOME HOUSING TAX CREDIT

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, at any given time more than 1 million youth are homeless in America. In the midst of a recession where Federal, State, and local government budgets are being cut, needed services for these youth have all but disappeared.

Low Income Housing Tax Credits have helped fill this void and create private-public partnerships to build affordable low income housing. This housing has been invaluable in providing much needed shelter for those hit hardest by the recession. Unfortunately, a quirk in the law prohibits full time students, who were previously homeless from living in

these units. A homeless youth, who wishes to pursue full time education, must choose between education and remaining homeless. This is not a choice our youth should make, nor is this a policy America has ever supported.

Education has always been the cornerstone of American excellence and ingenuity. Even more, an education remains the best hope for homeless youth to escape poverty as adults. It is critical that we fix this defect in the law, and ensure that our youth are given every opportunity to reach their educational goals.

PALESTINIANS AT THE UN

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, while the Palestinians engage in political theater at the United Nations, the Israeli-Palestinian conflict gets no closer to resolution and the Palestinians get no closer to a real state. A Palestinian state can only come about through direct talks between Israel and the Palestinians. Instead of working toward peace, Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas is engaging in political theater that will leave the Palestinian people even more frustrated with the lack of tangible results.

I am pleased that President Barack Obama stood up at the United Nations General Assembly and told the world that "Peace will not come through statements and resolutions at the U.N." It was a brave speech that will make him less popular in many quarters, but it was the right thing to do.

America believes in a two state solution. Israel believes in a two state solution. The Quartet believes in a two state solution. But there is a big difference between a theoretical ideal and the nuts and bolts of defining a new country's borders, ensuring the security of its neighbors, and resolving open issues regarding refugees and water rights. And while Israel has conceded the right of the Palestinians to have their own state, the Palestinians have never acknowledged the right of Israel to exist as a Jewish state.

The fig leaf of an agreement between Hamas and the Palestinian Authority cannot hide the fact that the two factions remain at war with one another for control and that Hamas remains determined to erase Israel from the globe. They have managed to maintain an uneasy truce in order to secure international approbation, but it is unlikely to last. If Hamas wins the struggle or remains a significant element of the government without renouncing terrorism and its determination to destroy Israel, then the fledgling Palestinian state would be established with the intent of waging war on Israel. That is an unacceptable outcome, particularly if the UN, which was founded to promote peace, serves as the midwife to the new state.

What we are witnessing at the United Nations is nothing more than a popularity contest. And when it comes to a popularity contest, the Palestinians win. The Organization of Islamic Cooperation has 57 states. There is only one Jewish state.

UN recognition of a Palestinian State will yield few changes in the lives of most Palestinians. The most significant tangible result

would be an ability to bring cases against Israel in international legal bodies that are often hostile to the Jewish state. But ordinary Palestinians will soon realize that their lives are little changed. Their disappointment will further destabilize the region and leave us farther from a resolution to the conflict.

At the end of the day, the Palestinians' gambit will bring them no closer to peace, no closer to established borders and no closer to economic stability. It will, however, leave Israel more isolated, more vulnerable and less secure. I applaud President Obama and both the Democratic and Republican leadership of Congress for taking a principled stand against an unprincipled effort. Peace can only come from the bargaining table.

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CONGRATULATIONS TO TAIWAN  
ON ITS 100TH BIRTHDAY

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**HON. HOWARD COBLE**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mr. COBLE. Mr. Speaker, I join with many others to congratulate our good friends, The Republic of China (commonly known as Taiwan), on their 100th anniversary, which will take place on October 10, 2011.

Relatively speaking, America is not much older than Taiwan. The United States has only been around for 235 years, and like Taiwan, is young in comparison to many of the countries of the world. To the people of Taiwan, October 10th is revered as much as July 4th in the United States. As many remember, we had a huge celebration for our bicentennial in 1976.

Just to put in perspective how long ago the United States celebrated our 100th anniversary in 1876, our president was Ulysses S. Grant, Alexander Graham Bell made his famous first phone call to Watson, and the United States only had 37 states at the beginning of that year.

Just as we have progressed in our second 100 years, Taiwan has greatly changed in its first 100 years, as well. One of the most exciting changes is that Taiwan has become a full-blown democracy over the last 15 years having its first actual direct elections for president in 1996. Since then, Taiwan has had three successful transfers of power from one party to another, showing the fairness and legitimacy of its elections.

Taiwan is a beacon of democracy in Southeast Asia, and we look forward to our continued friendship for many years to come. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we offer our congratulations to Taiwan on its centennial celebration.

CONGRATULATING TAKEYSHA  
SHEPPARD CHENEY

**HON. STEVE STIVERS**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate TaKeysha Sheppard Cheney on being named the 2011 Empowered Woman of the Year by the Women Presidents' Organization. Her dedication to empowering women and helping girls reach their full potential is inspiring.

From her work in the State Legislature to her time as the Executive Director of the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus, Ms. Sheppard Cheney has been an active participant in public service and making Ohio a better place for families. Her efforts with the LEADER Institute, a leadership development program for girls, is to be commended.

She has further made a difference in Columbus by serving on the boards of the Salvation Army of Central Ohio; the Columbus Zoo and Aquarium; the Ohio Commodores; and ROX, which is an empowerment program for girls.

Today, Cheney is the founder, CEO and publisher of The Women's Book, a magazine that shares information and resources for women in Central Ohio. The publication focuses on the latest happenings for women and girls in Columbus, and she has successfully expanded her publication to Cincinnati and Cleveland.

I would again like to congratulate TaKeysha Sheppard Cheney for being the 2011 Empowered Woman of the Year. She has truly made a difference in the lives of women and girls in the Central Ohio area.

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REVEREND DOCTOR STEVEN D.  
RILEY

**HON. JOHN D. DINGELL**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mr. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate my dear friend, the Reverend Doctor Steven D. Riley, who was honored this past weekend for his 30th Anniversary as Pastor of Christ Temple Baptist Church in Ypsilanti, Michigan and his 40 years of teaching the gospel. A large and enthusiastic group of friends from all walks of life, leaders from the community, and people he touched throughout his life all gathered for a service to pay tribute to this wonderful local leader. The greatest message given that evening was seen on the faces of the audience whose love, gratitude, affection and respect for Reverend Riley's service to the church and his community radiated throughout the service.

He has led Ypsilanti and Southeast Michigan by his ministerial example and being steadfast in his mission to shape and mold the present into a better future. He has worked hard to ensure that residents in Southeast

Michigan have a friend in faith, are cared for, and have a roof overhead. For that, I would like to say on behalf of the people of Michigan's 15th Congressional District, thank you.

Reverend Doctor Riley has dedicated his career to spreading the gospel in Southeast Michigan. His commitment to serving others has helped my constituents lead healthier, more fulfilled lives. He has been a leader among the church-affiliated groups in Southeast Michigan. I want to thank him for his love of all people and for his tremendous friendship.

Mr. Speaker, I am told that Reverend Doctor Riley chose his career early in life. At the age of 11, he began ministering to his neighbors in Detroit, and stayed focused growing in the faith by earning a bachelor's degree in theology and philosophy. He felt called to continue learning more, going on to get a master's degree in theology and religious studies, and a doctorate of divinity degree along with a doctorate of humane letters.

Mr. Speaker, Reverend Doctor Riley is an honorable man who has done many great things for the citizens of Southeastern Michigan. I am honored to have him as friend. I ask that you and all of my colleagues join me in congratulating Reverend Doctor Riley for his tireless support, kindness and leadership to his community and to give him our best wishes for the future.

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INTRODUCTION OF THE SSI EXTENSION FOR ELDERLY AND DISABLED REFUGEES ACT OF 2011

**HON. JIM McDERMOTT**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, October 3, 2011*

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the SSI Extension for Elderly and Disabled Refugees Act of 2011. I introduced a similar bill on August 1. This modified version would grant a one-year extension of current law, which passed unanimously in both chambers of Congress in 2008 and was signed into law by President Bush (P.L. 110-328). Under this law, elderly and disabled refugees and certain humanitarian immigrants who are very low income may receive Supplemental Security Income (SSI) for up to 9 years before becoming citizens, to allow time for naturalization. The Senate unanimously passed this bill today.

Unfortunately, the current law expired on September 30, 2011. Without immediate passage of this bill, thousands of refugees will face serious hardship. This legislation will be completely paid for by collecting a \$30 fee on diversity visas through October 1, 2013. Excess funds would go to the Department of Treasury. Congressional Budget Office estimates that this bill would result in \$24 million in deficit reduction.

Mr. Speaker, this is a common sense bill that continues an existing law. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation.