

equipment and carrying on the proud tradition of the Rock Island Arsenal has been demonstrated in every position he has held. Under his leadership, production rates at the Arsenal have gone up, prices have been reduced, and the Arsenal was able to meet the needs of our troops more quickly. Fortunately, Mike's retirement is not the end of the family legacy on the Island his—son Ryan began as a pipe fitter at the Arsenal and currently works at Army Contracting Command-Rock Island.

On behalf of all of my constituents, I would like to thank Mike for his years of service to Rock Island Arsenal, the United States Army, and our nation. I know I join his colleagues, friends, and loved ones in wishing him well in his retirement.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. MARIO DIAZ-BALART

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. DIAZ-BALART. Mr. Speaker, due to a family medical issue, I was unable to cast the following votes. If I had been present, I would have voted as follows:

Rollcall vote 913—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 914—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 915—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 916—I would have voted "no"  
 Rollcall vote 925—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 926—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 927—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 928—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 929—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 930—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 931—I would have voted "no"  
 Rollcall vote 932—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 933—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 934—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 935—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 937—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 938—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 939—I would have voted "yes"  
 Rollcall vote 940—I would have voted "yes"

#### COMMENDING TIME WARNER CABLE

### HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Time Warner Cable for its dedication to keeping citizens informed about what is going on in Washington. The better informed our citizens are, the better it is for our democracy. As our founding father Thomas Jefferson wrote in 1789, "Whenever the people are well-informed, they can be trusted with their own government."

At a time when news coverage budgets are being cut, I applaud Time Warner cable for expanding their presence in Washington, DC with the opening of a new bureau.

I have always been a champion for transparency in government. News coverage is one of the ways that sunlight is shined into government operation. This increased presence will lead to a more informed citizenry, and I congratulate Time Warner Cable for making this investment in democracy.

#### HONORING BILL BUCHANAN OF KSHN IN LIBRARY

### HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to share with all of you an American success story built on hard work and an overflowing community spirit.

Bill Buchanan is one of the newest members of the Texas Radio Hall of Fame. He got there the old fashioned way—he went to work everyday to keep his community both informed and entertained and his peers honored him for it.

Let me tell you a bit about Bill. He didn't get his start in Texas radio. He started making his way selling appliances in Kentucky and working part-time as a radio sports announcer and writing copy for the Indianapolis Star.

He then packed his bags and headed south landing at KGTV in Georgetown, Texas where he started making a name for himself selling radio commercials.

In 1977, he got the news that would change his life forever. He learned that a radio station was for sale in Liberty. He bought what was then KPXE and put down roots in Liberty. In the last nearly quarter century, he's made the switch to the FM dial and kept providing Liberty County with "music mixed with things that matter."

Engineering publications and even Readers Digest took note of the station's "split-channel" innovations.

Bill remains very hands on at KSHN and many people in Liberty still talk about how his coverage of The John Hebert Distributing Fire was heard around the world and how KSHN has been in lifeline in floods and Hurricanes Rita and Ike.

Bill Buchanan and KSHN are a huge part of the community of Liberty. The Texas Radio Hall of Fame is lucky to have Bill Buchanan because he keeps local radio local by refusing to let his station be simply a jukebox.

#### STATEMENT BY CONGRESSMAN JOHN B. LARSON AND EULOGY DELIVERED BY SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE HONORING THE LIFE OF GOVERNOR BRUCE SUNDLUN

### HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, December 16, 2011*

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, Bruce Sundlun was a remarkable man and an outstanding public servant. His daughter Kara and son-in-law Dennis and their children are constituents of mine. I was fortunate to be chatting with Senator SHELDON WHITEHOUSE, who was recalling his life. Senator WHITEHOUSE delivered the eulogy for Governor Sundlun, and on behalf of Congressman JIM LANGEVIN and DAVID CICILLINE, it is my honor as Democratic Caucus Chair to submit these thoughtful and poignant remarks for the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

EULOGY FOR GOVERNOR BRUCE SUNDLUN AS DELIVERED BY U.S. SENATOR SHELDON WHITEHOUSE  
 What a man. What a life.

Bruce Sundlun's accomplishments—as a record-breaking athlete, as a resourceful war hero, as a superb lawyer, as a successful business entrepreneur, and as political leader of our state—would each on their own be significant. You could probably write a book about each. Together, packed all into one energetic life, it makes Bruce Sundlun one of the most accomplished and remarkable men in our state's history.

And that's not even counting five marriages, four children, three unsuccessful runs for governor, two dead raccoons, and one long escape on the loose, behind enemy lines.

There's really just no way to fit it all in.

Let me step into my role as a Sundlun staffer, and ask you to think just of his brief four years as governor. Hit (on Day One of his administration) by an unprecedented bank failure affecting 300,000 Rhode Islanders, AND by the worst budget deficit in state history, AND by an implosion of the state's entire worker's compensation system, AND with the urgent need to restore ethics in government, Bruce was the man for that moment, and swung into his customary decisive action.

The budget was promptly and fairly balanced and the whole budget process improved.

Inventive solutions to repay the depositors and clean up the RISDIC mess were found and implemented, and those at fault were made to pay—over a hundred million dollars.

His worker's compensation reform moved the state from an embarrassment to a model, moving what was then the business community's worst problem completely off the problem list for now going on 20 years.

As a problem solver, he had no peer.

And that alone would be pretty extraordinary. But there was that ethics gap. So Bruce wrote Executive Order 91-One, the ethics executive order that succeeding governors renewed virtually unchanged. He reformed our Ethics Commission. He changed the way we appoint judges, to reduce the politics. He changed the way we fund elections, with a public finance plan and donor limits. Through an intense storm of legal and political opposition, he opened up the pension records; putting an end forever to backroom special pension bills. He got our State Police nationally accredited.

He even cleaned up the Capitol literally!

All that was extraordinary—but still not enough.

In the worst economic times the state had seen since the Depression, with a shrinking budget, he decided to extend universal health care to children—and started the program that became Rite Care. Against immense opposition, he built our new airport terminal. He embarked on the Westin Hotel, the Convention Center, and the Providence Place Mall. He finished the Jamestown Bridge and built the Expressway. And even that's not the end of it.

It was an amazing burst of activity. I will bet that almost every Rhode Islander, almost every day, is somehow touched by something Governor Sundlun did.

And through it all, he drove his staff crazy. He was irrepressible, impatient, imperial, unscriptable, combative, frustrating, willful, constantly threw caution to the winds, impossible to keep up with—he drove us nuts.

And we loved him.

We loved him because he was bold and brave, and was warm-hearted and trusting and generous, and because he was willing to throw caution to the winds to do what was right. We loved him because he never once had us make excuses or try to shift the blame.

That was not his style. "Never complain; never explain."

We all remember his Bruce-isms:

"Always touch base with those concerned before taking action."

"How fast would you get it done if the Russians were in South Attleboro?"

"When you've won, stop talking, close your briefcase and leave."

"Message to Garcia."

"Who, what, where, when; don't bother me with why."

The phone calls, at all hours, that began with no "hello" and ended with dial tone.

The road shows known to his staff as "Dome on the Roam", or more precisely, "Bruce on the Loose."

And sometimes just that big foxy grin.

We saw that his qualities of friendship and loyalty had an almost physical force; that he had your back even if you made mistakes (no one ever was thrown under the bus); and that he was a better friend the more the chips were down.

Politics is full of fair weather friends; Bruce Sundlun was your stormy weather friend. Politics is full of people who take tiny cautious steps with their finger up constantly testing the winds; Bruce stepped boldly down the path he thought was right, even if that meant stepping right in it.

People wonder what lives on after they die. Well, Bruce, we do. And every one of us has been changed: made better, and stronger, harder-working and more resourceful, by your vibrant elemental force in our lives.

We've gone on to be judges and lawyers, to run state and federal agencies, to become Senators and councilmen and Lieutenant Governors, banking leaders and senior partners in national accounting firms, but none of us ever will be more proud of anything than the simple title: "I was a Sundlun staffer."

Soozie and Marjorie, Tracey and Stuart and Peter and Kara: Thank you. Thank you for sharing your husband and father with our state. For those who loved and were changed by him, I thank you. For those who knew and were touched by him, I thank you. And for those who never knew him directly, but whose lives are better today because of what he did, I thank you.

As I close, I want to take you back to a scene from that wonderful movie I saw as a kid, "To Kill A Mockingbird." As you'll recall, Atticus Finch takes on the courageous but unpopular defense of a black man wrongfully accused of rape. At the end of the trial, Atticus's daughter Scout—proper name Jean Louise—is up in the gallery of the courtroom, with the black townspeople, who aren't allowed down on the regular courtroom floor. The courtroom floor empties, but they remain, and slowly stand. As Atticus packs his papers together, closes his bag, and walks out, an elderly man leans down to the little girl and says, "Stand up, Miss Jean Louise. Your father's passing."

At the end of this service, as Bruce is taken to his gravesite after 91 years of a life well and fully lived, we will all stand up. And rightly so. A governor will be passing.

FELLOWSHIPS FOR UNDERGRADUATE TRAINING AND USEFUL RESEARCH IN ENERGY-RELATED SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING, AND MATHEMATICS FIELDS ACT OF 2011

### HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. INSLEE. Mr. Speaker, today I introduced the FUTURE STEM Act. This legislation

will give undergraduate students opportunities to expand both the breadth and depth of their education in multidisciplinary science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) fields in real world research settings from National Labs to businesses. An American workforce that is highly skilled in STEM fields is necessary for the United States' economic competitiveness and job creation in innovative industries.

Industries that drive Washington state and our nation's economy, such as health care, biotechnology, information technology, manufacturing, aerospace, transportation, construction, and energy efficiency and clean technology, all need career-ready STEM-trained graduates to remain competitive and cutting-edge. In fact, workforce projections for 2014 by the U.S. Department of Labor show that 15 of the 20 fastest growing occupations require significant science or mathematics training to successfully compete for a job. Yet, despite our high unemployment rate, the U.S. is falling behind in STEM graduates and many of these job openings are not being filled by American workers. The U.S. Department of Education reports that America now ranks 20th internationally in our share of graduate degrees awarded in engineering, computer science, and mathematics.

We need focused programs to ensure that the next generation of high-tech workers is prepared to enter the strongest STEM-related industries in Washington state and across the nation. The FUTURE STEM Act seeks to address these problems by exposing students to STEM fields as undergraduates, getting young people early experience in professional settings.

The FUTURE STEM Act establishes a pilot undergraduate student fellowship program to award competitive grants to partner institutions to provide student work experience that will overall improve education and training in support of STEM fields. Under the grants, students will engage in a 10-week fellowship and be placed in real research settings at community colleges, universities, businesses, National Laboratories, and other research settings. The fellowships will pay \$4,500 to the student for a ten-week project, plus up to \$2,000 reimbursement for housing and travel expenses. An additional \$3,500 per project is reserved for equipment, instrumentation, and other educational and training materials needed for the project; supporting outreach efforts to recruit students; encouraging collaboration between government, industry, and academic partners; and assessing the activities funded under the Act. These allowances are on par with existing fellowship programs.

Industries such as aerospace, solar power, and advanced biofuels would be eligible to compete to host STEM students in the pilot program. In Washington state, students could be employed at Boeing, Washington State University, Everett Community College, Pacific Northwest National Laboratory (PNNL), or at countless other locations. PNNL's Energy and Environment Division currently employs some undergraduate and community college students as interns and I am told that they would be eager to employ more under the program created by this Act.

All of America's students deserve the opportunity to pursue a STEM career. According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, STEM fields are expected to add 2.7 million new jobs

by 2018, yet women and minorities are vastly underrepresented in those fields. In a survey of female and minority chemists and chemical engineers, 77 percent said significant numbers of women and minorities are missing from the U.S. STEM workforce because "they were not identified, encouraged or nurtured to pursue STEM studies early on." For that reason, this legislation will give preference to students from groups that have been historically underrepresented in STEM fields.

It is crucial that we support, promote, and encourage students to pursue pathways toward careers in STEM fields. The FUTURE STEM Act will facilitate an overall improvement in STEM education and help prepare our nation's students for a high-tech future, while helping to maintain and improve our global excellence in science and technology. I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, which will help to ensure America has the high-skilled STEM workforce that is necessary to increase our global competitiveness.

### REMEMBERING AND HONORING OFFICER PETER FIGOSKI

#### HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize and honor New York Police Officer Peter Figoski, who made the ultimate sacrifice on December 12th. Peter Figoski will be remembered as a man of service to his country. A 12-time decorated NYPD veteran from West Babylon, Officer Figoski was a loving father to four daughters and a respected member of his community. There is no question that he will be greatly missed by the New York police community and by the many others he touched. The 200 officers that lined up outside the Jamaica Hospital Medical Center to salute their fallen colleague is a true testament to that. I am proud that Officer Figoski was my constituent.

As the son of a New York police officer, I understand the selfless and vital role played by our first responders. They put their lives on the line day in and day out to keep us safe. My thoughts and prayers are with the family and loved ones of Officer Figoski. In closing, I would also like to commend his partner, Officer Glenn Estrada, for risking his life to bring the killer to justice. I yield back.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 16, 2011

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on Monday, December 12, 2010, I requested and received a leave of absence for the rest of the week.

For the information of our colleagues and my constituents, below is how I would have voted on the following vote I missed during this time period.

On rollcall 927, To strengthen Iran sanctions laws for the purpose of compelling Iran to abandon its pursuit of nuclear weapons and