

has distinguished herself as an elected official for the past 24 years. Mrs. Edwards has now retired from elective office but leaves a great legacy that will continue to enrich and strengthen the community for many years to come.

Mrs. Edwards' remarkable tenure included the development and construction of numerous County facilities as well as the expansion and development of critical emergency services including emergency disaster response, centralized communications, rescue services, and full countywide paramedic services.

Mrs. Edwards was a key leader in expanding recreation opportunities, improving services for seniors, enhancing cable television services, improving health care facilities and the County's road system. She has also been a strong and consistent supporter of economic development throughout the region, and a tireless advocate for improving education.

With her background in public education, Mrs. Edwards was a tireless supporter of funding for the Wilson County Public Schools and Wilson Community College. She also supported state and local bond issues for school and community college construction, which included the renovation of multiple schools and the construction of the Darden Middle School and the John W. Jones Elementary School.

Mr. Speaker, in addition to her countless gifts to our community, I have been blessed with her lifelong friendship, by which I have been enormously honored. Mrs. Edwards was married to the late James Edwards and continues to own and operate the family business, Edwards Funeral Home of Wilson. Mrs. Edwards has two adult daughters, Angela Edwards Jones (Tyrone) and Carla Edwards Williams (Daryl). She is also a proud grandmother and great grandmother.

I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the hard work, dedication and success of the Honorable Josephine Farmer Edwards on the occasion of her retirement from elective office.

HAITI EARTHQUAKE ANNIVERSARY

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, January 12, 2010, Haiti was devastated by the most powerful earthquake to strike that nation in over 200 years.

The wave of destruction to follow was unprecedented.

In just 35 seconds, one-third of the country had been directly impacted by the worst natural disaster to ever hit the Western Hemisphere.

Today, one year later, we mark the somber anniversary of this tragedy and honor those who lost their lives that day.

Remarkably, in the midst of such devastation, the people of Haiti have forged on.

And yesterday, I was honored to have the opportunity to travel to Haiti and visit with some of these men and women as they work tirelessly to rebuild their lives, their communities and their nation.

I was struck by their enduring resilience and inspired by their perseverance.

Sustainable recovery in Haiti will depend on strong leadership by the Government of Haiti, a concrete effort to stop corruption, and the implementation of accountability and transparency measures, as well as the involvement of the people of Haiti in the design and ownership of their future.

It will also be important going forward that there be a transition away from dependency on traditional U.S. government assistance and instead a renewed focus on innovative public-private partnerships and grassroots, civil society efforts.

To ensure that U.S. foreign assistance to Haiti remains transparent and effective, I also plan on introducing legislation to that end this Congress, calling for increased and sustained oversight over U.S. funding to Haiti.

Finally, though the official OAS report has not yet been released, it appears that certain changes will need to be made to ensure that the true will of the Haitian people in electing their future representatives is honored and respected.

The Haitian people deserve a leader who believes in effective, good governance and the rule of law.

And it is only in adherence to these principles, that Haiti's recovery may be successful.

FEDERAL FURLOUGH BILL

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, as a former small businessman and former state legislator, I am horrified at the unlimited ability of the federal government to deficit spend. Small businesses have to balance the books, or they go out of business. And unlike the spendthrift ways prevalent in this building, state governments generally have to balance their budgets.

Recently, at least 24 states, and nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ of a million workers, have undertaken a budget-cutting maneuver that I believe we should consider at the federal level: short term employee furloughs. These states, across the nation, along with city and county government counterparts, recognize that occasional worker furloughs are necessary to cut budgets and hold down spending. It also has the benefit of ensuring that federal workers are not sheltered from the realities of life in today's economy.

The federal government continues to grow, and continues to rack up debt. I would like to make the U.S. Government as cost conscious as the states. My legislation is a start. It will make Federal civilian employees subject to a non-consecutive two week furlough next year, correspondingly reduce appropriations for salaries and expenses for offices of the legislative branch, and provide a 10 percent reduction in pay for Members of Congress. An exception is provided for national security or reasons relating to the public health or safety, including effective law enforcement. This bill will save the federal government over \$5.5 billion.

Furlough Fridays and other such ideas are becoming a common occurrence for state and local governments. They present slight problems but they provide large solutions to the budget troubles we face. I believe that managed appropriately, with due allowance for

vital and national security implications, as specified in this bill, they can do the same for the federal government.

TRIBUTE TO CORONA CITIZEN OF THE YEAR PAT MILLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community of Corona, California are exceptional. Corona has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent to make their communities a better place to live and work. Pat Miller is one of these individuals. On January 15, 2011, Pat will receive a prestigious honor when the Corona Chamber of Commerce names her Citizen of the Year for 2010 at the organization's 96th Annual Awards and Installation dinner at the Eagle Glen Golf Club.

Pat Miller and her late husband, Roger, owned and operated the Thomas Miller Mortuary for many years before they turned over day-to-day operations to their son Chris and his wife Rhonda. The mortuary has been an integral part of the community of Corona, and has provided care and solace to many families who have lost loved ones.

In addition to her role as a business owner in the community, Pat Miller exemplifies the word "volunteer." She has spent her life donating her time and attention to various clubs, organizations and activities. In 1985, she served as the President of Soroptimist International of Corona, and remains a life member. Through Soroptimist she became involved with the Riverside County Coalition for Alternatives to Domestic Violence.

Thanks to the diligent efforts of Pat, and a group of core volunteers, the services provided by this organization have expanded tremendously. The organization is now known as the Corona Outreach office, and the facility has grown from one small shelter to a 45-bed facility. Pat also served on the Board of Directors and Advisory Board for many years. Her accomplishments did not go unnoticed, and Pat was awarded the Women Helping Women Award in 1985 and the Golden West Regional Award Program.

Additionally, Pat donated much of her time to volunteering with the school district as she raised her children, Chris and Stephanie. She has remained active member of the PTA, the Corona-Norco School District Advisory Committee, and now has a renewed interest now that her grandchildren are in school.

For many years, Pat served on the Corona Regional Medical Center Foundation Board and chaired the main fundraising black tie dinner several times. In fact, she is now in her 15th year serving on the Corona Regional Medical Center Governing Board of Directors.

Other organizations fortunate enough to have Pat's attention include the Women's Improvement Club of Corona, Navy League, Children's Home Society, Pink Ladies Hospital Auxiliary, Boys Club Auxiliary, The United Way, Catholic Daughters, Corona Chamber of Commerce and St. Matthew's Church.

In light of all Pat Miller has done for the community of Corona, the Corona Chamber of Commerce is honoring Pat as Citizen of the Year. Pat's tireless passion for community service has contributed immensely to the betterment of the community of Corona, California. She has been the heart and soul of many community organizations and events and I am proud to call her a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for her service and salute her as she receives this prestigious award.

INTRODUCTION OF THE NEW COLUMBIA ADMISSION ACT, THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUAL REPRESENTATION ACT AND THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA HOUSE VOTING RIGHTS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce three bills that provide different approaches for obtaining congressional representation and full democracy for the more than 600,000 American citizens who reside in the nation's capital and pay the full array of federal taxes that support the government of the United States, but have no voting representation in Congress. These bills are the New Columbia Admission Act, the District of Columbia Equal Representation Act (formerly titled the No Taxation Without Representation Act) and the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act. These are the first bills of our Free and Equal D.C. series—bills that address the missing rights to self-government and democracy that other American citizens enjoy—to be introduced in the coming weeks. I have introduced all three of these bills during different periods in the past. I introduce them today after listening to residents at the many Community Conversations I have held in each ward of the District since a dangerous gun amendment—which would have eliminated all of the District's gun laws and would have done much more—forced delay of the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act in April 2010.

These Community Conversations, as well as other constituent meetings and correspondence, have indicated that these three bills have significant support among D.C. residents. I introduce them today, a week after the new House majority eliminated the District's vote in the Committee of the Whole, despite a finding by the federal courts that this vote is constitutional. Recognizing that the House would not consider any approach to representation and full democracy for D.C. residents at this time, I am introducing bills that each had majority support in the District among residents during the years that each was under consideration. D.C. residents, in their quest for full democracy, have always embraced the approach that appeared most timely and possible. Because we are blocked from pursuing any approach at this time, I am introducing the bills that residents have indicated would have their continued support. These bills send a direct message to Congress that residents are undeterred in the pursuit of our rights, and the bills also will help ensure no weakening in the

momentum residents have built here and throughout the country over the past several years for full democracy. However, I have not included a bill to fully or partially retrocede the District of Columbia to the State of Maryland, ideas that also have been mentioned for many years. Few District residents have indicated support for retrocession approaches, and, in our experience, even fewer Maryland public officials and residents support them. It is inconsistent with the District's pursuit of self-determination to impose upon another jurisdiction without consent from that jurisdiction.

D.C. residents are entitled to nothing less than full and equal citizenship, which can only be achieved through statehood. Accordingly, the first bill I introduced when I came to Congress in 1991, the New Columbia Admission Act, would have made the District of Columbia the 51st state, the State of New Columbia. The New Columbia Admission Act would create a state from essentially the eight home-town wards of the District. However, the state would have no jurisdiction over the federal territory in the District of Columbia, consisting of most of the Washington that Members of Congress and visitors associate with Washington, DC, the capital of our country. The U.S. Capitol premises, the principal federal monuments, federal buildings and grounds, the National Mall and other federal property here would remain under federal jurisdiction, as elsewhere. Our bill provides that the State of New Columbia would be equal to the other 50 states in all respects, in that the residents of New Columbia would have all the rights of citizenship they are entitled to as taxpaying American citizens. New Columbia would have two senators and, initially, one House member.

The New Columbia Admission Act has received significant support in the House in the past. In 1993, we got the first vote on statehood for the District of Columbia, with nearly 60 percent of Democrats and one Republican voting for the New Columbia Admission Act. The Senate held a hearing on its companion bill, introduced by Senator Ted Kennedy, but declined to hold a markup in committee or to consider it on the floor. Soon thereafter, the District, which is the only U.S. city that pays for state functions, found it necessary to ask the federal government to take over the cost of some state functions, posing fiscal barriers to entry into the Union on an equal basis, and the Democrats lost control of the House. This temporary setback led me to introduce the second best option then available, a bill for Senate and House representation for D.C.

Today, I also introduce the District of Columbia Equal Representation Act, which would give the District of Columbia two senators and, initially, one House member. With statehood delayed, Senator JOSEPH LIEBERMAN and I introduced this bill for several years as the No Taxation Without Representation Act. The House, which was controlled by Republicans, did not act on the bill. The Senate held hearings and marked up the bill in 2002, but did not bring it to the floor.

Today, I also introduce the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, a bill for one House member, initially, for D.C. residents. In 2005, when I continued to be in the minority, then-Representative Tom Davis and I partnered on a bipartisan bill, the District of Columbia House Voting Rights Act, giving House votes to Democratic D.C. and Republican Utah. The D.C. House Voting Rights Act

marked the first time in decades that we achieved large House and Senate majorities for voting rights for D.C. residents, and brought the city closer than we have ever come to voting representation in more than two centuries. This bill likely would be law today had the gun lobby not insisted on adding an amendment that would not only have eliminated the District's gun laws, but also would have added measures making the nation's capital a virtually gun law-free jurisdiction.

In introducing these bills, we lay down a marker of our determination to never relent or retreat until we have obtained each and every right to which we are entitled, whether through the frustration and anguish of the incrementalism that Congress has always forced upon us or with the full and complete set of rights, which would be achieved through statehood. We will be watchful to both make and seize every opportunity to pursue our rights, regardless of who controls Congress. We accept no imposed limit on our equal rights as American citizens, and we will pursue them all until the day when there is no difference in citizenship between residents of the District of Columbia and other American citizens.

IN HONOR OF LENA BAKER
(POSTHUMOUSLY)

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, January 12, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lena Baker. Today, her family dedicates her tombstone, 65 years after she was laid to rest at the Mt. Vernon Baptist Church in Cuthbert, Georgia.

She was born June 8, 1900 near Cuthbert, in the small community of Cotton Hill where her family worked as farmers. Ms. Baker worked as a maid, cleaning houses and doing laundry to support her three children. She also was employed by Ernest B. Knight, a local gristmill owner.

On April 29, 1944, Ms. Baker was forced from her home by Ernest Knight and taken to the gristmill, where she was held against her will. According to court testimony, Knight brandished the iron bar that was used to lock the door. Ms. Baker, fearing for her life, attempted to leave and the two "tussled" over a pistol. During the struggle, the gun went off, killing Knight. Ms. Baker testified that she walked immediately to the house of County Coroner, J. A. Cox, and confessed to the accidental death of Ernest Knight.

Her trial convened on August 14, 1944 at the Randolph County Courthouse, which was then presided over by Judge Charles William "Two Gun" Worrill, who kept two pistols on the bench. With an unconcerned lawyer by her side, a jury of twelve Caucasian men—hardly a jury of her peers—found her guilty in a trial and deliberation that, together, lasted less than four hours. Judge Worrill sentenced Ms. Baker to be executed. However, Governor Ellis Arnall granted Ms. Baker a 60-day reprieve so that the Board of Pardons and Pardon could review the case.

In January 1945, the board denied clemency. She then was taken to Reidsville State