

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—JOSHUA MOTT

**HON. SAM JOHNSON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure and privilege to inform the Members of the United States House of Representatives that the students of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council (CYAC) from the Third District of Texas have completed a total of 500 community service hours, fulfilling and far surpassing the requirements of their assigned CYAC in the Community service project.

This year 46 students from public, private, and home schools in grades 10 through 12 made their voices heard by joining CYAC. As the Third District's young ambassadors to Congress, these bright high school students met with me on a quarterly basis to discuss current events and public policy. These impressive young people recognize an important truth: the heart of public service is found when giving back to the community. CYAC students volunteered their time and talents with over 30 organizations including Adopt-A-Highway, Habitat for Humanity, Meals on Wheels, Teen Court, and the USO, to name a few. As one student shared, "CYAC in the Community has allowed me to realize my calling to serve those in the U.S. Armed Forces." I am beyond thrilled that CYAC has helped students unleash their full potential and chase their dreams.

President George H.W. Bush once said, "A volunteer is a person who can see what others cannot see; who can feel what most do not feel. Often, such gifted persons do not think of themselves as volunteers, but as citizens—citizens in the fullest sense: partners in civilization."

With this statement as a benchmark, I am proud to congratulate the members of the 2010–2011 Congressional Youth Advisory Council for showing themselves to be outstanding young citizens of this nation. It is my privilege to submit summaries of their work to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD to be preserved for posterity and antiquity. To these young public servants, thank you, and keep up the great work! I salute you!

A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

I participated with my Boy Scout Troop in preparing over three hundred food boxes for the poor. We arrived at the headquarters of the "Food for the Families" around 8:30 in the morning. After re-arranging the boxes into three rows of seventy-five, we waited for the truck to deliver the food. Once the food arrived, we stacked it according to type. Vegetables of each type in their own category, hams in another, and so on. Once all the items were stacked, a team was created

for each pile to distribute the food in the boxes. Each box received a set number of each food. Twelve extra boxes, or "gleaning boxes" as they were called, were filled with the extra food. As soon as all the boxes were filled, the doors were opened and the people were allowed in. Each person who signed up for a box was also given a yellow ticket. Those waiting in line outside presented their ticket and were admitted in. A worker then escorted the individual with a box on a cart out of the building. Once their box was filled, the individual and worker walked to their car or house and delivered the box. This process continued until all the boxes were distributed. It was a wonderful experience.

—Joshua Mott

### SCHOLARSHIPS FOR OPPORTUNITY AND RESULTS ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 30, 2011*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 471, the private school voucher program for the District of Columbia.

This bill would revive the ineffective and inefficient D.C. voucher program. The bill authorizes \$100 million over the next five years for only 1.3 percent of students to receive vouchers in D.C.—with no offset for the funding.

I do not support any attempt to resume funding the D.C. voucher system using taxpayer dollars intended for public schools. We should be investing public dollars in public schools, not diverting critically needed resources to private institutions. Private schools are not held to the same standards as our public schools—including civil rights laws and accountability measures—and are not required to provide the same services, such as educating individuals with disabilities.

Vouchers take scarce resources away from our children and provide no accountability for our tax dollars. While the D.C. voucher program was in effect, multiple studies found that the students in the program were not performing better academically compared to other students in the District. In fact, the program was so poorly run that some students were allowed to use vouchers to attend unaccredited schools.

The Republican House majority made the largest cut to education in our history in their continuing resolution for Fiscal Year 2011 (H.R. 1) that passed the House. In the same bill, they proposed to fund the D.C. voucher system at \$15.5 million. Again, my Republican colleagues cut public education in all 50 states while reviving millions of dollars for vouchers for one percent of students in the District of Columbia.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to oppose H.R. 471 and any funding efforts for this failed program.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 225 for H.R. 1246, I am not recorded because I was absent. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on April 1, I missed rollcall vote numbered 213. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote 213, providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 1255) to prevent a shutdown of the government of the United States.

RECOGNIZING THE 43RD ANNIVERSARY OF THE DEATH OF THE REV. DR. MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR.

**HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the memory of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and to deliver a message from those of us who were young in Dr. King's time.

We cannot honor Dr. King without recalling the difficult and unfair world that he set out to change.

And we do not honor him by pretending that no civil rights challenges remain to be overcome.

It is also critical that we recall how well Dr. King understood that the challenges of civil rights and economic injustice are inextricably intertwined.

He understood that working people—of every background—are too often in a struggle just to survive.

Forty-three years after that tragic moment in Memphis, Tennessee, Americans of good conscience are still in an economic struggle for fundamental human dignity—and we are still in a national debate regarding what kind of nation ours will become.

And, in this ongoing struggle, Americans of Color are not alone in having our fundamental human rights denied.

According to an October 2010 report released by the Congressional Research Service, 3.7 million more persons fell below the poverty line in 2009 compared to the number below the poverty line in 2008.

• 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.

These 3.7 million people were pushed into poverty and left to suffer the consequences of a recession they did not create.

As a result, in 2009, a total of 43.6 million people had incomes below the poverty line—more than at any time since we began tracking this measure in 1959—9 years before Dr. King's death.

Within that figure, one in every five children in this country lived in poverty in this nation in 2009. This is a staggering and shameful figure.

Mr. Speaker, far too many Americans are being subjected to the most crippling segregation of all: the segregation from hope that is the inevitable result of poverty.

On the anniversary of Dr. King's assassination, we recall that he was struck down in Memphis while he was supporting a sanitation union's struggle for a living wage.

Dr. King understood that the struggle of workers to win their rights is part of the continuing struggle of labor for opportunity.

More than 40 years after Dr. King's death, this struggle continues—and the victories won years ago are at risk perhaps as never before.

Many are seeking to tear down American workers' most fundamental rights and to undo the advances that paved the paths that have carried so many to the middle class.

As we see that struggle unfold, I urge us to remember what we are fighting for.

As Dr. King often observed, the civil rights objectives of our time are not limited to the struggles of Black people or of any minority group.

Rather, we are engaged in a peaceful struggle to advance the human and civil rights of ALL AMERICANS.

Our mission—Dr. King's vision transported into our time—is to transform the “human rights” of all Americans into civil rights protected by law.

We are fighting, as our colleague and friend Congressman JOHN LEWIS has observed, for the rights that will enable all Americans to have jobs that provide them “the opportunity to realize their full potential as individual people.”

At a time when many low-wage jobs do not pay enough to enable a family to make ends meet, and at a time when people can work 40 or even 50 hours a week and still fall behind, we honor Dr. King's struggle by continuing his fight to create a just society where every person can fulfill the potential God has given to them.

And we continue that fight by ensuring that the hard-won rights of working Americans are seen as inviolable and as essential to the success of our entire nation.

I urge every American to join this fight.

RECOGNIZING THE 2010–2011 CONGRESSIONAL YOUTH ADVISORY COUNCIL FOR 500 HOURS OF OUTSTANDING SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY—ERIC PARKER

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OF TEXAS

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A copy of each submitted student summary follows:

As a representative for Sam Johnson's CYAC of the 2010–2011 year I decided to volunteer in my community by participating with Habitat for Humanity. Habitat for Humanity is a global, non-profit organization that seeks to shelter the homeless and poor by building comfortable homes with the help of volunteers from the surrounding community. I volunteered several hours from what would have been just another “lazy” Saturday afternoon to go to Wylie in an effort to help the organization with building a home. The organizers were very friendly and helpful in pointing me in the right direction and very clear and concise on instructions for the work that I would be tasked with. I found a hands-on approach to be the best way to contribute to my community and learned a lot from one evening with fellow charity workers. I was able to make a difference in someone's life by helping build shelter and contributing to society. I learned that community service is an overlooked part of life that when performed can cause a person to feel good in a way that can't be accomplished by common means. I look forward to working with Habit for Humanity again in the future.

—Eric Parker

CONGRATULATING THE MAROON GIANTS OF KALAMAZOO CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL

### HON. FRED UPTON

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. UPTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Maroon Giants of Kalamazoo Central High School on their second straight Michigan state championship win in men's basketball. These outstanding young men have worked hard for this accomplishment and have made their community very proud.

Winning a state championship is a remarkable achievement that few teams attain. Winning back-to-back championships is an incredible legacy that will live with Kalamazoo Central forever. The Maroon Giants and Coach Mike Thomas know what brought this second straight state title back to Kalamazoo—hard work. It was running that one extra sprint and shooting that extra free throw after practice that helped make the Maroon Giants champions. Nobody outworked the Giants, and nobody could beat them in the state tournament, and nobody had a greater following or more community support. The Giants truly lived up to their name on the court.

It is an honor to pay tribute to the entire Maroon Giants squad: Tyler Bell, Allie Buchanan, Tens Buchanan, TJ Buchanan, Jamaal Conger, Brandon Delk, Juwan Gamble, Lee Gardner, H'ian Hale, Quante Hill, JeRon Johnson, Mark Justice, Daquavion McCants-Wilson, De'tavia Moore, Darius Norman, Von Washington III, and Davarius Williams. I also want to recognize head coach Mike Thomas and assistant coaches Thomas Dillard, Anthony Stuckey, Matt Price, Brandon Williams, Tim Gleeson, Alan Lee and team manager Aminder Sohi. We salute all of you.

On behalf of all the residents of southwest Michigan, congratulations again to the Maroon Giants, Coach Thomas, and the entire Kalamazoo community—you are an inspiration to us all. It is Giant pride at its finest. Go Giants!

IN CELEBRATION OF THE TOWN OF MONSON'S 250TH ANNIVERSARY

### HON. RICHARD E. NEAL

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 5, 2011*

Mr. NEAL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to acknowledge the yearlong celebration of the town of Monson, Massachusetts' 250th anniversary. The town was founded by a small group of residents from Brimfield, Massachusetts, who petitioned for a town of their own. The first town meeting of Monson was held in 1760. When it was founded, Monson was a center for manufacturing in Massachusetts, with an abundance of mills powered by the water found in the nearby hills. Today, Monson is known primarily for their involvement in the arts, especially the theater and festivals.

To honor this historic occasion, the town of Monson held a yearlong celebration with different events held by members of the Monson Steering Committee and several non-profit organizations located in the town.

This yearlong celebration of the town's anniversary began in April 2010, and will conclude