

IN HONOR OF AVA BERRY TURNER
ON THE OCCASION OF HER RE-
TIREMENT

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dedicated individual, a proud veteran, and an exemplary civil servant, Ms. Ava Berry Turner. She is retiring after almost thirty-five years of dedicated service to her country.

Ms. Turner has served her country in a number of ways over the last four decades. In 1974, she enlisted in the U.S. Army, where she rose through the ranks to serve as a Supply Sergeant. She honed her excellent communication skills in the Army and became an Army communications specialist. She was honorably discharged in 1980, and then went on to pursue academic endeavors, utilizing benefits under the GI bill.

In 1982, she enrolled at the North Carolina Central University in Durham. She graduated Magna Cum Laude in 1985, majoring in Public Administration, with a minor in Business Administration, and then began work at the Internal Revenue Service. She rose through the ranks of the IRS, starting her career as a Revenue Officer and advancing to the position of Bankruptcy Specialist. From there, she became Assistant Problem Resolution Officer, then Problem Resolution Officer. She was appointed to serve as the Local Taxpayer Advocate for the State of Arizona, then promoted to the national headquarters of the Taxpayer Advocate Office in Washington, DC, where she was the Manager in Systemic Advocacy, followed by appointment as the Manager in the office of Low Income Tax Payer Clinics.

Using her exceptional communication and management skills, she now serves as a Senior Program Analyst in Technical Analysis and Guidance. Her colleagues describe her work as outstanding, and her accomplishments are the result of years of hard work and dedication to her chosen profession.

There is no doubt that her service will continue, even into her retirement. She will be greatly missed by her colleagues at the Internal Revenue Service. It will be difficult to replace her, but her incredible work ethic is an inspiration to those who have served with her.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to stand before you today to congratulate Ms. Ava Berry Turner on her retirement and to thank her for her many years of distinguished service to our nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I am recorded as voting "aye" on rollcall vote No. 344; this was inadvertent. I intended to vote "no," as I do not support Congressman HUNTER's amendment (#12) to H.R. 1540. Amendment #12 would create a five-year pilot program to provide school vouchers set at \$7,500.00 to dependent children with special

needs for the purpose of attending a public, private, or charter school of choice.

Because I oppose this initiative, I ask the record to reflect my intention to vote as follows:

1. On rollcall No. 344, I intended to vote "no." Hunter Amendment (#11) to H.R. 1540.

INTRODUCTION OF THE EXPE-
DITING AGRICULTURE THROUGH
SCIENCE (EATS) ACT

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to discuss an issue of great importance to family farmers and agricultural businesses. The world's population is predicted to be 9.1 billion by 2050, greatly straining the world's food supply. Family Farmers across this country will lead the world in the production of a safe, secure food supply. In order for tomorrow's agriculture community to meet the need of an ever growing population, we must have a clearly defined timetable for agriculture's biotechnology approval process, while ensuring the safety of our environment. This reason for this is simple; it is the law of supply and demand. As demand for food rises, more efficient, higher yielding crops, which are more resistant to weeds and pests will be needed to feed 9.1 billion people. Providing a defined timetable for the approval process of agriculture biotechnology will provide certainty to make decisions and encourage companies to make investments in biotechnology products, which in turn will create jobs and provide the United States with the ability to meet the world's food needs.

The Plant Protection Act of 2000 (7 USC §7701 et seq.) as amended, directs the Animal Plant and Health Inspection Service (APHIS) to regulate biotech organisms and plants in order to ensure no biotech product poses a risk to the environment. However, the regulatory uncertainty created by APHIS not following their own timetable hinders job creation and stifles innovative agriculture breakthroughs that will lead to a safer, more secure food supply. That is why I am proud to introduce the Expediting Agriculture Through Science Act, otherwise known as the EATS Act, which clearly defines the amount of time to approve or deny a petition for non-regulated status for biotech crops. Countries throughout the world are developing and implementing biotech crops that produce more and cost less. In today's global economy, Congress must act quickly to ensure family farmers in the United States maintain their superiority in the biotech field and continue to compete globally.

A clearly defined timetable to approve a petition for biotech crops allows businesses to plan and invest in the biotech field while maintaining the protections needed to ensure any biotech product introduced into the environment poses no threat to the environment. The EATS Act will simply codify the current time limit in §340.6 of the Federal Code of Regulations, which is currently 180 days. Under current agency practice, APHIS is not following the 180 day time limit for approval or denial of the petition. The EATS Act gives APHIS 180

days to approve or deny a petition for non-regulated status with an additional 60 days if needed to ensure the safety of our environment and compliance is met before deeming the petition approved.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues in the House (and Senate) to support me in passing the EATS Act in order to ensure the agricultural community can compete globally and meet the food supply needs of the world.

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF FIRST
HOSPITAL IN JOHNSON CITY,
TENNESSEE

HON. DAVID P. ROE

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. ROE of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 100th anniversary earlier this month of the construction of the first hospital in Johnson City, Tennessee. Johnson City Memorial Hospital opened on May 10, 1911, as a 10-bed facility in a white, wooden-framed house. High demand for medical care would lead to larger facilities, culminating with Johnson City Medical Center.

Today, JCMC serves 29 counties and a population of more than 1.1 million people in four states with its Level 1 trauma program, the region's top heart program, a comprehensive cancer center, the region's state-designated perinatal center, and Wings Air Rescue.

This facility, and the evolution of health care in Northeast Tennessee, illustrates the effect of consumer demand on health care, and its power to improve it. It did not take a 2,000 page bill for this network to evolve. Instead, medical professionals and members of the local community did what was necessary to meet changing needs. I congratulate Johnson City Medical Center on its 100 year anniversary, and wish it further success in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JESSE L. JACKSON, JR.

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. JACKSON of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, from Wednesday, May 25 until Thursday, May 26 at 3 p.m., I was unavoidably detained in Chicago, Illinois for personal reasons, and missed recorded votes for H. Res. 276, and H.R. 1540, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012.

If present, I would have recorded my votes as the following: on rollcall vote 341 "no"; on rollcall vote 342 "no"; on rollcall vote 343 "aye"; on rollcall vote 344 "no"; on rollcall vote 345 "aye"; on rollcall vote 346 "aye"; on rollcall vote 347 "no"; on rollcall vote 348 "aye"; on rollcall vote 349 "aye"; on rollcall vote 350 "aye"; on rollcall vote 351 "aye"; on rollcall vote 352 "aye"; on rollcall vote 353 "aye"; on rollcall vote 354 "no"; on rollcall vote 355 "no"; on rollcall vote 356 "aye"; on rollcall vote 357 "no"; on rollcall vote 358 "aye"; on rollcall vote 359 "no"; on rollcall vote 360 "aye"; on rollcall vote 361 "aye"; on

rollcall vote 362 "no"; on rollcall vote 363 "no"; on rollcall vote 364 "aye"; on rollcall vote 365 "aye"; on rollcall vote 366 "aye"; on rollcall vote 367 "aye"; on rollcall vote 368 "aye"; on rollcall vote 369 "aye"; on rollcall vote 370 "aye"; on rollcall vote 371 "aye"; on rollcall vote 372 "no"; on rollcall vote 373 "aye"; on rollcall vote 374 "aye"; on rollcall vote 375 "no."

HONORING GEORGE H. STROHSAHL

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of an American hero and my friend, Rear Admiral George H. Strohsahl. RADM Strohsahl passed away on Sunday, May 22, 2011. Over the course of his life, his vision and dedication to Naval Base Ventura County (NBVC) and the Ventura County community at large were greatly inspiring. It is truly an honor to pay tribute to him today.

Admiral Strohsahl's Navy career spanned 39 years starting as a Midshipman at the Naval Academy in 1955 and finishing as the Commander for the Naval Air Warfare Center, the Research, Development, Test and Evaluation organization of Naval Aviation with 10 installations across the country and over 25,000 employees. During his career he flew jet attack aircraft from aircraft carriers in both the Pacific and Atlantic fleets which included two tours of combat flying in Vietnam and command of an A-6 squadron. He was the Air Boss on USS *Nimitz* and played himself in the popular Kirk Douglas movie "Final Countdown."

He was the director of the Tactical Air Analysis office in the Pentagon which was part of the McNamara systems analysis team known as the "Whiz Kids." He was Program Manager for the F/A-18 Hornet Family of aircraft which was and still is the largest aircraft acquisition program in the Navy. He commanded the Pacific Missile Test Center at Point Mugu from 1988 to 1990 and as senior Naval officer for the South Central California area was active in many civic organizations in Ventura County at that time.

Over the years, I have worked with RADM Strohsahl on many issues that affect Naval Base Ventura County. I particularly appreciated his leadership during our fight against the Base Realignment and Closure Commission process. His testimony before the 2005 Commission was instrumental in minimizing the amount of technical work being removed and job loss from our base. He was a steadfast advocate for the Navy and worked endlessly to ensure others understood the importance of our military.

RADM Strohsahl was married for 44 years to the late Marvalyn Fiske. They raised three children, one of whom resides now in Ventura with her husband and family. He is blessed today to be married to Mary Anne Vernallis of Newbury Park whose late husband, Sam, was a long-time associate of George's in the Navy and a well-respected civic leader in Ventura County. Together, George and Mary Anne share 5 children and 8 grandchildren.

I know I speak on behalf of the entire Ventura County community when I say RADM

Strohsahl will be greatly missed. His commitment and hard work on behalf of NVBC and our community at large will be felt for generations to come. While his resume is tremendously impressive, he might best be known by his family, friends and co-workers as a generous, patriotic and altruistic man. It is a great honor to pay tribute to his life.

THE NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 25, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1450) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2012 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chair, I was pleased to support Mr. LANGEVIN's Amendment #49 to H.R. 1540, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2012 earlier today. In the 111th Congress, I supported substantially similar language, H.R. 4900, offered by Representative Watson and approved by the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

I agree with President Obama that the "cyber threat is one of the most serious economic and national security challenges we face as a nation." Given the increasing connectivity between information systems, the Internet, and critical infrastructure such as our electrical grid, telecommunications systems, and financial systems, we must be able to defend these systems against cyber attacks from any origin.

Cyber threats and attacks against information systems have continued to grow in both volume and intensity in recent years. Statistics from the United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team indicate that the number of reported cyber incidents at federal agencies has increased over the last five years from approximately 5,000 in fiscal year 2006 to more than 41,000 in fiscal year 2010.

Mr. LANGEVIN's amendment represents an important step to help secure our nation from cyber attacks by codifying multiple policy recommendations made by the Obama Administration, public-private sector working groups, and the Government Accountability Office. I am pleased to support these efforts, and I look forward to working with Mr. LANGEVIN and the rest of my colleagues in the House and Senate to develop a comprehensive legislative proposal to strengthen our nation's cybersecurity.

I am also pleased that the Obama Administration released its initial legislative proposal on cybersecurity last week. The proposal represents the start of a serious bipartisan discussion on cybersecurity legislation, and I look forward to participating in those conversations.

HONORING THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN ON "REPUBLIC DAY"

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Republic of Azerbaijan in celebration of the 93rd anniversary of Republic Day on May 28th. Later this year, Azerbaijan will also celebrate the 20th anniversary of its freedom from the Soviet Union and the beginning of diplomatic relations with the United States.

Located at the crossroads of Western Asia and Eastern Europe, Azerbaijan was established in 1918 becoming the first democratic and secular republic in the Muslim world before being incorporated into the Soviet Union in 1920. The country regained its independence in 1991.

The U.S. and Azerbaijan have developed a strong relationship through the opening of Caspian energy sources for development by American companies, which has also allowed the country to emerge as an essential player in global energy security. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan pipeline project has become a vital part of delivering Caspian Sea resources to the U.S. and our partners in Europe, and serves as a prime example of the development of the South Caucasus region. Most notably, in 2009 nearly one quarter of all crude oil supplies to Israel were provided by Azerbaijan, and the country emerged as a leading potential natural gas provider for the U.S. supported Nabucco pipeline.

Azerbaijan has continually assisted the United States on matters of international security, supporting and participating in operations in both Kosovo and Iraq as well as being actively engaged in Afghanistan. In addition to recently doubling its military presence in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan has regularly facilitated landing and refueling operations for U.S. and NATO forces in the region. Furthermore, Azerbaijan offered strong and immediate aid to the United States directly following the devastating events of 9/11.

Again, it is my distinct pleasure to honor the Republic of Azerbaijan in celebration of the 93rd anniversary of Republic Day, and to recognize the valuable bilateral relationship between the United States and Azerbaijan.

CELEBRATING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE FIRST INDIANAPOLIS 500

HON. MIKE PENCE

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 26, 2011

Mr. PENCE. Mr. Speaker, Memorial Day Weekend means many things to Americans. It is a time to remember those who have taken up arms on our behalf and did not make it home. It is also the unofficial start of summer. But to Hoosiers and race fans across the country, this weekend also means that it is time to head to the Indianapolis Motor Speedway for this year's Indianapolis 500.

For just over one hundred years, the center of the auto racing world has been located in