

had a unique personal teaching style that inspired his students to engage with history and learn invaluable life lessons. A true patriot, Mr. Griffith served his country honorably in the United States Marine Corps and his reverence for our Constitution guided both his service to our nation and the community.

Mr. Griffith was remembered by students and colleagues alike as a truly world class story teller. By framing historical events in this unique context, he was able to reach thousands of students and instill in them a true and full appreciation of history and of the importance of historical events and documents. Mr. Griffith was also an ardent follower of politics, and he bestowed upon his students an appreciation for the importance of participating in American democracy.

Mr. Griffith was also a loving and committed husband, father and friend. He is survived by his wife, Sara Lynn, his three sons, Edward, Brett and Lucas, his two grandchildren, Nathan and James, and scores of friends, colleagues and students. To some, Wendell Griffith will be remembered as an inspiring teacher, to others as a true American patriot. To his family and friends, he will be remembered as a loyal and caring family man.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to honor the life of Wendell Griffith. My wife Vicki joins me in extending our most sincere condolences to the entire Griffith family.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. RALPH
POTTER

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise with sorrow today following the passing of Ralph Potter of Fayetteville, North Carolina. Mr. Potter was a proprietor of almost fifty restaurants in the Carolinas, beloved member of the community, devoted family man, dear friend, and effective public servant. Mr. Potter passed away on June 2, 2012 at the age of 75, and he will be dearly missed.

Ralph Potter grew up in Wilmington, attended New Hanover High School, and then enrolled at UNC-Chapel Hill, where he was the first in his family to graduate from college. He went on to earn his juris doctor from UNC School of Law, which he would later use to serve his community as the president of the state restaurant association. His strong work ethic and intelligence helped earn him the Methodist University's Entrepreneur and Businessman of the Year award, and his restaurants can now be found throughout North and South Carolina. Outside of business, Mr. Potter was devoted to his family, to his church and his community, and he will long remain a well-known and influential figure in Fayetteville.

Mr. Potter was very active in the American Hellenic Educational Progressive Association as a reflection of his proud Greek heritage, and supported education efforts through his such as the Ira Douglas Potter Memorial and Ralph M. Potter Scholarship Funds at UNC, as well as a scholarship fund at Salem College. He pushed for the creation of the first Cumberland County Public library, along with

his roles at the board of trustees of Fayetteville Academy and ARC of Cumberland County. He always worked hard to address community challenges in Fayetteville, and always did so with humor and kindness.

Mr. Potter was also recognized for his deep faith in Christ, and was active at Saints Constantine and Helen Greek Orthodox Church. There he taught Bible study, established the Paris and Potter Endowment Fund for the church, and became a godfather for the church at its consecration. We know today that he is resting at home in peace and joy with his Savior.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Potter was a personal friend of mine and I have the utmost respect for his integrity, business acumen and his strong commitment to church and community. May we never forget the goodness, humility, service, and character that defined his life. He is survived by his wife, Dena Fasul Potter, son Nicholas D. Potter, daughter Rebecca Cooke and numerous grandchildren, cousins, nieces and nephews. May God continue to bless all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

DEPORTATION EXEMPTION FOR
IMMIGRANT ALIENS

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, like many Americans, I was taken aback by the Administration's announcement last week that it would decline to enforce the law when it comes to the deportation of illegal aliens who were brought to our Nation as young children.

I believe that the president is wrong on this issue—as wrong as he can be.

We are a Nation of immigrants. We take pride in our immigrant roots. Southern West Virginia has a proud history of immigrant families and workers who migrated to the coal fields to live and work.

For every immigrant who came to this country legally, abiding by the process and respecting the law, this action is a slap in the face. For the immigration and border security officers, who are working and risking their lives to enforce the law, this announcement is a slap in the face. For the American workers who will be forced to compete for American jobs against immigrant aliens, this announcement is a slap in the face.

I share the frustration of many Americans in the stubborn refusal of the House Republican Majority in not taking action on critical legislation—a long-term surface transportation, budget and appropriations bills, and a host of expiring laws that run the gamut from tax breaks, to Medicare payments to our hospitals and health providers, to critical government programs; all of which are undermining confidence in the Congress as an institution and acting as deadweight on job creation and growth. To some extent, one could even argue the Congress has invited this executive action by refusing to act to strengthen our Nation's borders and immigration enforcement.

But, a chief executive's decision, to bypass the Congress and refuse to implement the law, is unacceptable. It may make for good

politics in some quarters of our Nation, but it sets a terrible and dangerous precedent.

The Constitution requires the president to enforce the law. It authorizes the president to recommend changes to the law. It does not—does not—permit the president to selectively choose which laws to enforce.

The Congress must disabuse the president and every future president of the notion that laws with which the executive branch disagrees can be ignored. More important than party, and more important than presidential politics, must be the upholding of the Constitution and seeing to it that the laws are faithfully executed.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE
OF WILLIE J. O'NEAL

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and service of Mr. Willie J. O'Neal who passed on June 12, 2012 at the age of 74. Mr. O'Neal, known to his family and friends as "Deacon Bill," was an esteemed member of the Northwest Florida community, a proud veteran, and a dedicated servant of God. I am humbled to commemorate his life.

Born in 1937, Deacon Bill enlisted in the United States Air Force, retiring at the rank of Chief Master Sergeant. Upon retirement from the Air Force, he continued to serve his country in the civil service. Earlier this month, Deacon Bill celebrated his 20th year as a deacon at Holy Name of Jesus Catholic Church in Niceville, Florida. He spent his days as a fixture at the Eglin Air Force Base Exchange (BX) ministering to countless people from his favorite booth at the BX Starbucks. Deacon Bill was a mentor to some, a minister to many, and a friend to all.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am privileged to recognize the life and dedicated service of Willie J. "Deacon Bill" O'Neal. My wife Vicki and I offer our prayers for his children, Monica, Steven, and Mark, five grandchildren, Melony, Ethan, Clare, Grace and Matthew, and their entire family. He will truly be missed by all of us throughout the community.

A TRIBUTE TO ALTON G.
"TUNNEY" BROOKS

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Alton G. "Tunney" Brooks, a long-serving coach and athletic director at Lumberton High School, my own alma mater. Coach Brooks was an irreplaceable mentor for many students in our community, a devoted family man, and a dear friend. Coach Brooks passed away on the morning of May 4, 2012, after a three-year battle with lung cancer, and he will be deeply missed.

Driven by a strong love for his community and a deep investment in its youth, Coach Brooks coached numerous sports during his

lifetime and served as the Lumberton High School Athletic Director. In this capacity, Coach Brooks was a valuable leader and role model, who pushed young athletes to achieve things they never thought possible and worked to shape their senses of integrity, character, discipline, and teamwork.

This dedication is evident through his many recognitions, as he was named to the N.C. Athletic Directors and N.C. High School Athletic Association's Halls of Fame. His legacy will also be remembered through the Lumberton High School football stadium, named in his honor, and through an endowment scholarship at UNC-Pembroke. Coach Brooks also received honors as a superior athlete himself—at Charles Coon High School, where he received all-state honors and won state championships, at Wake Forest University where he was team captain of the baseball and basketball teams, and on the national level in 1951, when he helped the U.S. win silver at the first-ever Pan American Games in Argentina as the catcher for the U.S. baseball team.

I knew Coach Brooks personally, not only as the father of my good friend, Richie Brooks, with whom I grew up with in Lumberton, and with whom I served on the Student Council at LHS, but also through his being the first Manager of Woodside Pool, which he and my father spent countless hours developing through Recreation Facilities, Inc. As President of the Student Body at LHS and as Manager of the Lumberton Pirates baseball team when I was in high school, I knew first-hand of Coach Brooks' leadership as our school's well-respected and dynamic athletic director.

As a Co-Founder and Co-Chairman of the Congressional Caucus on Youth Sports, I have a deep, personal respect for Coach Brooks' dedication to this cause. Over several decades, he has taught hundreds of youth in the Lumberton area valuable lessons and skills that have made a meaningful and lasting impact on their lives, and our community will always remain grateful.

Mr. Speaker, may we never forget the goodness, humility, and character that defined the life of Alton "Tunney" Brooks. May God continue to bless his three children, Debbie, Richie and John, all of his loved ones, the work he did, and the greatness that he inspired within all who knew him.

ENSURING SOUND SCIENCE IN AGENCY RULEMAKING AND RISK ASSESSMENTS

HON. DONALD A. MANZULLO

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Sound Science in Agency Rulemaking and Risk Assessments Act to help restore sound science and scientific integrity to the rulemaking process at our federal agencies.

On March 9, 2009, President Obama issued a Presidential memorandum directing the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) to require federal departments and agencies to develop procedures "for restoring scientific integrity to government decision making." To date, this worthwhile and sensible project has not been completed.

This bipartisan bill, which I am introducing with my colleague from North Carolina, Mike McIntyre, seeks to build on the President's initiative by codifying the requirement that the Director of OSTP require each agency to develop guidelines to maximize the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of scientific information used by federal agencies. This legislation requires appropriate peer review, the disclosure of scientific studies used in making decisions, and an opportunity for stakeholder input. The bill requires federal agencies to give greatest weight to information based on reproducible data that is developed in accordance with the scientific method. Further, it deems agency actions that do not follow such procedures to be arbitrary and subject to challenge by affected stakeholders.

Mr. Speaker, we all want the best science used in decisions made by the federal government. This bill will help accomplish that goal.

RECOGNIZING LONGWOOD STUDENTS WHO HONORED VETERANS

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the students, both past and present, of the Longwood School District in my district on Long Island for the completion of two major projects—the Longwood Veterans Walk and the accompanying Longwood Veterans History Project, which honor those men and women who have served this nation in overseas conflicts.

In tribute to the service our veterans have given to this country, a monument commemorating the service of former Longwood school students who served in the Gulf War, the Iraq War, and the continuing War in Afghanistan, has been constructed and will be dedicated on June 16, 2012, in Bartlett Pond Park.

This monument is the last in a series honoring the Longwood veterans from every war in our nation's history, dating back to the Revolution. The first, dedicated in 2007, created an enthusiasm for local history and the personal stories of these men and women.

Since then, the students of Longwood Junior High School have, using a variety of sources, conducted their own research to locate the names and lives of every Longwood veteran, an undertaking that resulted in six volumes of biographies. Through the generosity of the local community, sufficient funds were raised for the completion of this ambitious and moving project.

Mr. Speaker, I am deeply proud of this project and the students who have made it a reality. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I urge my colleague in the U.S. House of Representatives to join me in recognizing the inspiring civic duty demonstrated by these students who have honored our community's veterans.

A TRIBUTE TO MR. DEWAYNE CHARLES HESTER

HON. MIKE MCINTYRE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. MCINTYRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a tremendous public servant, Deputy Sheriff Dewayne Charles Hester, who served the people of Bladen County as a law enforcement officer for more than a decade. The Bladenboro community recently and unexpectedly lost this dear friend and beloved lawman, but his influence and compassion for the people he served will live on. I rise today to honor him and pay tribute to his memory.

Deputy Hester's career in law enforcement began in the City of Elizabethtown Police Department, and his hard work earned him the title of Sheriff's Deputy with the Bladen County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Hester was well-respected for his dedication to keeping the citizens of Bladen County safe.

Deputy Hester made a lasting mark on his community, our state and our nation. We all owe him a tremendous debt of gratitude, and we can best honor his memory by honoring his commitment to public service.

A man of faith, Hester was a member of Hickory Grove Baptist Church in Bladenboro. We know today that he is resting at home in peace and joy with his Savior.

As a Member of the Law Enforcement Caucus, I have been personally aware of Deputy Hester's commitment and service. Following the tragedy befalling our friend and colleague, Congresswoman Gabby Giffords, I benefitted from the professionalism, courtesies, and respect he showed as he provided protection for me during one of my "Conversations with the Congressman" meetings at the Town Hall in Elizabethtown. This was but one example of his answering the call of duty wherever and wherever he was needed.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in remembering a dedicated community leader, a friend to many throughout North Carolina and a wonderful husband, loving father, and dutiful son. Deputy Dewayne Hester will be dearly missed by his family—his wife, Tammie Hester; his daughters, Haley and Hannah Hester; his two brothers, Jamie and Kenneth; and his mother, Elfriede Hester.

Our thoughts and prayers are with them during this difficult time, and we will continue to remember him as an honorable man who gave his life in the line of duty.

CONGRATULATING MURDIC AND BEULAH BOWEN

HON. JOE WILSON

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 18, 2012

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, on July 3, 2012, Mr. and Mrs. Murdic and Beulah Bowen will celebrate their 70th wedding anniversary. Murdic and Beulah were married on July 3, 1942, in Columbia, South Carolina, and are longtime residents of the Elgin community in Richland County, South Carolina.

Together, the Bowens have contributed a great deal to their community, the State of