

those who have been impacted by the loss of such a great man. My thoughts and prayers are with Dr. Shirley's family and friends during this most difficult time. He was a tremendous individual who selflessly dedicated his life to helping all those around him, and he will be dearly missed.

UNITED HEALTH FOUNDATION'S
DIVERSE SCHOLARS PROGRAM

HON. ERIK PAULSEN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. PAULSEN. Mr. Speaker, as we work to modernize our Nation's health care system, it is critical to invest in the next generation of the health care workforce so that they will be properly equipped with the tools and capabilities to improve the quality and delivery of health care. United Health Foundation's Diverse Scholars Initiative has helped multicultural students reach their higher education dreams while inspiring them to pursue careers in health. I would like to congratulate this year's Scholars who are participating in United Health Foundation's Annual Diverse Scholars Forum on their academic achievements and their commitment to enter the health care workforce to create a more culturally relevant and effective health care system, particularly in underserved communities.

Rosilem Barclay, 7th Congressional District of Alabama, Birmingham, Alabama

Gwendolyn Wagner, 1st Congressional District of Arizona, Chino, Arizona

Karen King, 1st Congressional District of Arizona, Fort Defiance, Arizona

Angela Allen, 2nd Congressional District of Arizona, Surprise, Arizona

Marcus Marable, 3rd Congressional District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona

Paulette Lizarraga, 4th Congressional District of Arizona, Phoenix, Arizona

Lorraine Sophia Cuesta, 6th Congressional District of Arizona, Apache Junction, Arizona

Luz Marina Bradberry, 6th Congressional District of Arizona, Chandler, Arizona

Osvaldo Amezcua, 12th Congressional District of California, San Francisco, California

Jared Wigg, 17th Congressional District of California, Del Rey Oaks, California

Marizabel Orellana, 34th Congressional District of California, Downey, California

Isidro Landa, 35th Congressional District of California, Los Angeles, California

Jessica Gomez, 38th Congressional District of California, Montebello, California

Trang Vu, 40th Congressional District of California, Westminster, California

Melanie Castillo, 42nd Congressional District of California, Brea, California

Sydney Bailey, 4th Congressional District of California, Roseville, California

Izzybeth Rodriguez, 51st Congressional District of California, National City, California

Briana Truong, 5th Congressional District of California, Sacramento, California

Jillian Canete, 5th Congressional District of California, Sacramento, California

Chinsin Sim, 11th Congressional District of California, Stockton, California

Min Ju Lee, 15th Congressional District of California, Cupertino, California

Adrian Hernandez, 20th Congressional District of California, Bakersfield, California

Linda Sapien, 21st Congressional District of California, Fresno, California

Alice Yotat, At-Large, District of Columbia, Washington, D.C.

Lelia Uchuya, 19th Congressional District of Florida, West Palm Beach, Florida

Laura Martin, 25th Congressional District of Florida, Hialeah Gardens, Florida

Monica Fernandez Junco, 25th Congressional District of Florida, Miami, Florida

Gretchen Betancourt, 2nd Congressional District of Florida, Tallahassee, Florida

Arielle Watson, 13th Congressional District of Georgia, Marietta, Georgia

Sharmori Lewis, 3rd Congressional District of Georgia, Hampton, Georgia

Kristen-Kaye Goulbourne, 4th Congressional District of Georgia, Conyers, Georgia

Ashley Turner, 5th Congressional District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

Jesse DeMonte Andrews, 5th Congressional District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

Saba Tesfariam, 5th Congressional District of Georgia, Atlanta, Georgia

Brandi Turner, 7th Congressional District of Georgia, Duluth, Georgia

Carolina Gonzalez, 2nd Congressional District of Idaho, Pocatello, Idaho

Dave Cervantes, 15th Congressional District of Illinois, Champaign, Illinois

Charniece Martin, 2nd Congressional District of Illinois, Calumet City, Illinois

Sally Mei, 3rd Congressional District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

Shahrose Rahman, 5th Congressional District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

Stacey Pereira, 7th Congressional District of Illinois, Chicago, Illinois

Sophia Phuong Le, 1st Congressional District of Iowa, Davenport, Iowa

Aaron Alvarado, 2nd Congressional District of Kansas, Leavenworth, Kansas

Tracey Lynn Thomas, 6th Congressional District of Louisiana, Baker, Louisiana

Awawu Ojikutu, 4th Congressional District of Maryland, Hyattsville, Maryland

Andrea Leiva, 8th Congressional District of Maryland, Silver Spring, Maryland

Nelson Hernandez, 1st Congressional District of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts

Victoria Okuneye, 3rd Congressional District of Minnesota, Brooklyn Park, Minnesota

David Koffa, 5th Congressional District of Minnesota, Robbinsdale, Minnesota

Kimber Cain, 9th Congressional District of Missouri, Kirksville, Missouri

Aura-Maria Garcia, 13th Congressional District of New Jersey, Jersey City, New Jersey

Gene Wright, 3rd Congressional District of New Jersey, Willingboro, New Jersey

Sheridan Cowboy, 1st Congressional District of New Mexico, Albuquerque, New Mexico

Justine Correa, 2nd Congressional District of New Mexico, Laguna, New Mexico

D'Ayn DeGroat, 3rd Congressional District of New Mexico, Crownpoint, New Mexico

David Martin, 15th Congressional District of New York, New York, New York

Elizabeth Fuentes, 16th Congressional District of New York, Bronx, New York

Jing Lin, 5th Congressional District of New York, Flushing, New York

Maria Zaida Beltran, 7th Congressional District of New York, East Elmhurst, New York

Francisco Narvaez, 4th Congressional District of New York, Floral Park, New York

Stephanie Odom, 1st Congressional District of North Carolina, Macon, North Carolina

Diego Motta, 11th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Scranton, Pennsylvania

Alicia Henriquez, 1st Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

Milan Davis, 2nd Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Elkins Park, Pennsylvania

Rochanne Johnson, 6th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, Bala Cynwyd, Pennsylvania

Hector Colon-Rivera, At-Large, Puerto Rico, San Juan, Puerto Rico

Adrienne Harris, 5th Congressional District of Tennessee, Nashville, Tennessee

Abigayle Banda, 10th Congressional District of Texas, Elgin, Texas

Marisela Alejandra Soto, 12th Congressional District of Texas, Fort Worth, Texas

Julia West, 16th Congressional District of Texas, El Paso, Texas

Ana Diaz, 20th Congressional District of Texas, San Antonio, Texas

Laura Bordallo, 20th Congressional District of Texas, San Antonio, Texas

Vincent Job, 25th Congressional District of Texas, Austin, Texas

Megan Gingoyon, 2nd Congressional District of Texas, Humble, Texas

Jennifer Duran, 6th Congressional District of Texas, Mansfield, Texas

Elzary Asberry, 9th Congressional District of Texas, Houston, Texas

Joanne Lane, 9th Congressional District of Washington, Federal Way, Washington

SECURING MARITIME ACTIVITIES
THROUGH RISK-BASED
TARGETING FOR PORT SECURITY
ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 26, 2012

Mr. CONYERS. I rise today to provide some additional views on H.R. 4251, the "SMART Port Security Act." I strongly support many of the provisions in this bill, which will streamline and strengthen our Nation's port security. In particular, I am pleased to see that this bill makes needed reforms to the Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) program by streamlining and reforming the process of enrolling, issuing, and renewing worker credentials. This legislation will spare workers the financial and procedural burden of renewing their application until the Department of Homeland Security issues a final rule on biometric readers and implements the infrastructure needed to make the program fully functional.

I want to express my concern about the possible consequences of Section 114 of the bill, which would create a new pilot program aimed at accelerating the deployment of medium-sized unmanned aircraft along the northern border. While improving our Nation's surveillance capabilities along our border is a laudable goal, law enforcement and border security officials have a responsibility to ensure that any use of drone technology in domestic airspace does not unnecessarily or illegally invade the privacy of ordinary citizens who happen to live close to the border.

This legislation and the recent reauthorization of the Federal Aviation Administration are both components of a significant recent legislative effort aimed at significantly loosening

regulations and other legal barriers that have, until now, limited the deployment of drones domestically. Before this technology is deployed along the border and elsewhere within the United States, Congress must put in place common sense protections that ensure that the privacy and due process rights of Americans are protected. For example, drones should not be deployed for open ended surveillance or law enforcement purposes. If a drone will intrude on reasonable privacy expectations, a warrant should be required. Legal protections should be put in place that clearly outline how personally identifiable information is collected and retained by a drone program. The process by which our country develops these policies and protections should be transparent and include all stakeholders.

This technology has the capacity to dramatically change the character of public life in our country. We must ensure that a legal structure is put in place that will allow us to reap the benefits of this technology, while still preserving the freedoms and values that make our country great.

INTRODUCING THE SES REFORM ACT OF 2012

HON. JAMES P. MORAN
OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Senior Executive Service Reform Act of 2012. To put it simply, this bill will make the Senior Executive Service more attractive to senior General Schedule employees by reforming SES compensation, improving SES career management, reforming the SES hiring process, and increasing diversity within the SES.

Today approximately 64 percent of the nearly 7,100 Senior Executives will be eligible to retire by 2016. According to officials at the Office of Personnel Management (OPM), there are insufficient numbers of candidates to replace outgoing Senior Executives. The Senior Executive Service is not broken, but needs reform to continue to attract, retain, develop and reward our nation's most talented civil servants.

Although Senior Executives can earn more at the upper ranges, lower-level Senior Executives have significant pay overlap with upper-level GS-14 and 15 employees, who receive locality and overtime pay. Pay compression, as the phenomenon is known, reduces the attractiveness of joining the SES, where employees work longer hours and are more susceptible to being geographically relocated.

To address pay compression, this bill would provide an automatic pay raise equal to the annual average GS pay raise for any SES that receives a "fully successful" rating. Additionally, this bill would allow Senior Executives to count performance awards and bonuses towards their High-3 annuity calculation. Each reform is intended to alleviate pay compression, making the SES more financially attractive for high-performing GS employees.

Mr. Speaker, more attention needs to be given to ensuring that Senior Executives receive continuing professional development throughout their careers. This bill will require each agency to establish onboarding pro-

grams for newly appointed Senior Executives. Agency programs must include an overview of the mission, priorities, strategic plan of the agency and the roles and responsibilities of the new appointee.

To improve the hiring process, agency heads will also be required to advertise vacancies for a sufficient period of time to allow a larger pool of applicants to apply. The bill will reduce the exhaustive amounts of paperwork that needs to be submitted into a more manageable process that will allow agencies to provide timely notification to applicants regarding the status of their application.

Finally, I am proud that this bill will require each agency to create plans to increase diversity within their agencies. The plan, which will need to be updated biennially, will maximize the opportunities for the appointment of minorities, women and individuals with disabilities to the SES.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to introduce the SES Reform Bill of 2012 with my colleagues Representatives GERRY CONNOLLY and CHRIS VAN HOLLEN, who have been such great leaders on federal employee issues.

RECOGNIZING THE OUTSTANDING PUBLIC SERVICE CONTRIBUTIONS OF RETIRING ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS OFFICIAL MARIE MCCULLOUGH

HON. MARK S. CRITZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. CRITZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to celebrate the distinguished career of a devoted public servant, steadfast patriot and personal friend of mine. On June 30, 2012, Marie McCullough will transition into retirement after 29 years with the Army Corps of Engineers and over 33 years as a federal government employee. Marie has spent the last three-plus decades strengthening our communities and inspiring public trust in government.

Marie began her career in the federal government with the IRS. From there, she went to work for the Army in Nuremberg, Germany as a Payroll Liaison Clerk and Lead Military Personnel Clerk. In 1983, Marie joined the Army Corps of Engineers. She worked in the Corps' Pittsburgh District office for several years in a number of different capacities before joining the Programs and Project Management Branch in 2007. While working in Project Management, she adeptly managed several critical Environmental Infrastructure Programs, including the Section 313 South Central Pennsylvania Environmental Infrastructure Program. Under Marie's stewardship, this program—which was created by my mentor and predecessor, the late Congressman John P. Murtha—provides grant funding for numerous water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection projects.

Marie managed more than 30 projects involving over \$28 million during her 5 years in Project Management. Furthermore, when the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) became law in 2009, she managed \$8.5 million of additional funds to further assist our communities throughout southwestern Pennsylvania.

Through her energetic and agreeable personality, Marie has served as a skilled com-

munity liaison for the Army Corps of Engineers and has done a great deal to improve southwestern Pennsylvania's environmental infrastructure and resource conservation capacity. The impact of her outstanding work will undoubtedly continue to be felt throughout our region for years and years to come.

Mr. Speaker, we should all strive to emulate the passion and skill Marie has exhibited throughout her long and successful career in public service. I wish her the best of luck as she begins a new chapter in her life.

HONORING SHAUNTIERA DOUGLAS ON THE OCCASION OF HER NA- TIONAL TITLE

HON. STEVEN R. ROTHMAN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to recognize Ms. Shauntiera Douglas, a resident of Garfield, New Jersey, and a fine young scholar-athlete on the occasion of her earning a national title at the New Balance Nationals Track and Field Championship. Ms. Douglas, a senior at Garfield High School, placed first in javelin at Nationals on June 15th and 16th.

Inspired by the memory of her niece, Destynne, Ms. Douglas has achieved great recognition in athletics in both Track and Field and basketball. Shauntiera was named "Female Athlete of the Week" by the Bergen Record this past February for her leadership and performance on Garfield High School's girls basketball team, in addition to numerous accolades in her main sport, javelin.

Ms. Douglas won her first javelin state championship this past year at the New Jersey State Meet of Champions, throwing 150 feet and 3 inches. Her championship is Garfield High School's first javelin state championship and only the second track and field championship in the history of the school.

Shauntiera's most important honor, however, came just one month ago at the New Balance National Track and Field Championship in North Carolina, where she threw 148 feet 7 inches, a full 9 inches further than her next competitor, to capture the national championship, beating out the previous record-holder. This high honor is a fitting finish to an impressive, undefeated season.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate Shauntiera on her state and national championship titles. Her accomplishments on the field demonstrate her commitment to her team, her love of her sport, and her determination to succeed. I join with all of my constituents in New Jersey in honoring her achievements and wishing her continued success in her athletic and academic endeavors.

OBAMACARE

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 27, 2012

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, since its creation in 2009, a majority of patients in this country have been united behind