

Westchester Land Trust have played a crucial role in protecting the beauty of our Hudson Valley; preserving biodiversity; and keeping our air, water, and public lands for future generations to enjoy.

Congratulations to the Hudson Highlands Land Trust and Westchester Land trust for their dedication and leadership in conserving land for the people of New York, and may they continue to enjoy great success in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANDER CRENshaw

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. CRENshaw. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, July 31, 2012 I unfortunately missed three votes on account of travel delays due to weather at Reagan National Airport. I realize the importance of the votes I missed and therefore would like to state for the record how I would have voted on the three bills that were before the House of Representatives on Tuesday.

First, I would have supported S. 679, the Presidential Appointment Efficiency and Streamlining Act. S. 679 would seek to reduce the burdens and improve the efficiency of the appointment process for executive branch officials.

I would have supported H.R. 828, the Federal Employee Tax Accountability Act. H.R. 828 would prohibit individuals who have "seriously delinquent" tax debts from being eligible for federal employment in the executive and legislative branch.

Lastly, I would have supported H.R. 3803, the DC Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act. As a co-sponsor of H.R. 3803, I whole heartedly support this measure that would prohibit abortion within the District after 20 weeks fetal age, unless the mother's life is endangered.

A TRIBUTE TO HONOR THE LIFE AND MEMORY OF DOROTHY RUMSEY MILLER

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Dorothy Rumsey Miller, a lifelong resident of Contra Costa County and native of Richmond, California, who passed away on July 8, 2012, at the age of 97 years old, surrounded by her devoted family after a long battle with Alzheimer's disease.

Dorothy Rumsey Miller is survived by four children, including our distinguished colleague in the U.S. House of Representatives, her son Congressman GEORGE MILLER III of California's 7th Congressional District, his wife Cynthia and three exceptional daughters, Laura Miller of Martinez, Gretchen Miller of Martinez, and Kat Miller of Mexico; four wonderful grandchildren, George Miller IV (Wendy) of El Dorado Hills, Stephen Miller (Kathleen) of Lafayette, Michael D'Aloisio and Sam D'Aloisio

(Barbara) of San Francisco and ten beautiful great-grandchildren and two nephews.

Dorothy Rumsey Miller was the daughter of Sea Captain John Rumsey and Laura Rumsey. She graduated from Richmond High School and attended the University of the Pacific.

She was an accomplished and dedicated artist, who for more than fifty years, painted with her Point Richmond artist group where her passion and love of arts and the water were expressed on her canvases.

As an entrepreneur she successfully opened and managed Rumsey's restaurant, and went on to be one of the proprietors of Mama's Mercantile, both in Martinez.

Dorothy was an avid reader of all books, including eastern and western spirituality. In her earlier days she volunteered at Loaves and Fishes, and the Special Olympics. As one of the original Women of the Waterfront, a group which helped develop the Martinez Waterfront Park, Dorothy's daily walks brought her great peace and solace throughout her life.

Dorothy's greatest joys were her children, her family, and her friends. The Miller home was always a safe haven and a warm gathering place for the young and old seeking her sage advice and loving ways. Through her wonderful wit, eccentricity, humor, counsel, and spirit she was able to share her wisdom and laughter with her children.

Dorothy was predeceased by her sister Laura Carey and her distinguished husband, State Senator George Miller Jr. who passed away in 1969, while serving California's 7th State Senate District. Senator Miller was a highly respected legislator, recognized for his warmth, vigor, vision, courage and tremendous accomplishments as Chairman of the Senate Finance Committee.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the entire House of Representatives to join my colleagues—Leader NANCY PELOSI; Representative MIKE THOMPSON; Representative DORIS MATSUI; Representative LYNN WOOLSEY; Representative BARBARA LEE; Representative JOHN GARAMENDI; Representative JERRY MCNERNEY; Representative JACKIE SPEIER; Representative PETE STARK; Representative MIKE HONDA; Representative ZOE LOFGREN; Representative SAM FARR; Representative DENNIS CARDOZA; Representative JIM COSTA; Representative LOIS CAPPS; Representative BRAD SHERMAN; Representative HOWARD BERMAN; Representative ADAM SCHIFF; Representative HENRY WAXMAN; Representative XAVIER BECERRA; Representative JUDY CHU; Representative KAREN BASS; Representative LUCILLE ROYBAL-ALLARD; Representative MAXINE WATERS; Representative JANICE HAHN; Representative LAURA RICHARDSON; Representative GRACE NAPOLITANO; Representative LINDA SÁNCHEZ; Representative JOE BACA; Representative LORETTA SÁNCHEZ; Representative BOB FILNER; and Representative SUSAN DAVIS—in extending our deepest condolences to Dorothy's children, grandchildren, great-grandchildren, nephews, and friends, as well as her caregivers who were so loving and dedicated to her over an extended period of time.

We celebrate Dorothy's life and her accomplishments, and we are proud to honor her memory in the House of the People. Our nation has lost a beloved citizen who made her community stronger and our country better.

HONORING SCHOOL DISTRICTS IN WEST TENNESSEE

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize schools in the Fayette County, Henry County, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, McKenzie Special, Milan Special, South Carroll County Special, and Union City districts. Each of these districts in West Tennessee earned the state's highest status of "exemplary" for their efforts to raise student growth and close achievement gaps during the 2011–2012 school year.

The Tennessee Department of Education recently received a federal waiver to replace the No Child Left Behind accountability system with its own. Tennessee's new accountability system recognizes students across the state have different needs and a one-size-fits-all approach doesn't always work. It measures growth and improvement based on a school's starting point of proficiency, rather than expecting all schools to meet specific proficiency targets each year.

To reach exemplary status under Tennessee's new accountability system, schools in the Fayette County, Henry County, Hollow Rock-Bruceton, McKenzie Special, Milan Special, South Carroll County Special, and Union City districts met the majority of their achievement and gap closure targets and ensured students moved forward or held steady in target areas. Attaining exemplary status shows these schools are truly making improvements and helping students learn.

On behalf of the United States House of Representatives, I commend the teachers and staff of these school districts for their hard work and commitment to improving public education for all students in Tennessee. Please join me in congratulating them on their success and achievements.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF KRISTINE J. MICHALSON TO THE CONSTITUENTS OF COLORADO'S FIFTH DISTRICT

HON. DOUG LAMBORN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LAMBORN. Mr. Speaker, it is with mixed feelings that I announce the departure of a valued member of my staff, Kristine J. Michalson. Words are not adequate to express how much she will be missed.

For the past four years, Kristine has professionally and enthusiastically served the constituents of the Fifth Congressional District of Colorado as my Legislative Assistant and Press Secretary. She successfully handled her duties with a wealth of knowledge of the legislative and procedural processes. Her dedication and work ethic will be very difficult to replace.

Beginning her career on the Hill as my Staff Assistant and Deputy Press Secretary, she faithfully carried out her duties and was promoted to handle a variety of issue areas. She has particularly aided me in the area of Foreign Affairs, focusing on Israel and the Middle

East. Because I am co-chair of two Israel caucuses, she has coordinated various briefings and meetings on my behalf.

Kristine graduated from Grove City College in December, 2007 with a Bachelor of Arts in History and certification in Secondary Education Social Science.

She is the daughter of Richard and Berit Michalson of Ramsey, New Jersey, and is sister to Jacob and Andrew. She has worked hard for the people of Colorado. Her conservative and Christian values are needed today more than ever. So while I will miss her and her contribution greatly, I know that she will provide great service to our country in the future. I truly believe God will bless her in her future endeavors.

THE KEEP AMERICA SECURE ACT

HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to take a bold step to keep America secure and rebuild our domestic electronics sector. Today I am introducing the “Keep America Secure Act,” legislation that directs the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to only purchase electronic components that are manufactured in the United States. These electronic components—including computer chips, communications devices, and guidance systems—are used in crucial defense and homeland security equipment. This bill is the perfect complement to our ongoing efforts to enhance “Buy American” requirements and to ensure that all DoD and DHS equipment be Made-In-America.

If we are to maintain the most advanced military force, with the most advanced weaponry, we must have a dedicated stream of domestically produced parts. Regrettably, today this simply is not happening. Our armed forces dependence on foreign parts has major security ramifications. From missiles to computers, much of our crucial defense and homeland security equipment relies on sophisticated electronic components to function. We must act now to eliminate our reliance on foreign electronic components in our defense systems.

In May 2012 the Senate Armed Services Committee concluded a yearlong investigation that found a substantial increase in the number of counterfeit electronic parts used in the production of sensitive military equipment. The Committee noted, “Our report outlines how this flood of counterfeit parts, overwhelmingly from China, threatens national security, the safety of our troops and American jobs.”

Furthermore, the SASC report found approximately 1,800 cases of counterfeit parts in U.S. Military Aircraft while noting that both defense contractors and the Department of Defense lack an adequate understanding of the depth and severity of the problem. My legislation will ensure that no counterfeit parts ever find their way into any U.S. military aircraft by requiring that these parts be made right here at home. And, for the first time, it will require the Federal Aviation Administration to formulate rules to ensure no counterfeit parts are making their way into passenger aircraft as well.

When Operation Iraqi Freedom began in March 2003, a Swiss company stopped shipments of a crucial guidance system component for U.S. smart bombs. Both these incidents could have resulted in U.S. forces being in harm’s way without necessary tools to defend themselves. Fortunately, neither incident caused threats to our troops, but they clearly demonstrate the need to protect our production supply lines from being cut, especially in times of war.

Similarly, during the first Gulf War, the United States was forced to turn to Japan—not once, but on three separate occasions—for essential parts in the production of the Patriot Missile.

Additionally, Mr. Speaker, as one who is very concerned about the state of domestic manufacturing, I strongly believe that the Keep America Secure Act will help re-ignite our high-tech sector. Between 2000 and 2010 the United States lost more than 5 million manufacturing jobs.

The Keep America Secure Act would help promote the remaining U.S. high tech firms. We need to rebuild the domestic electronic components industry, and this bill will help us do it.

We have spent the last ten years rebuilding Iraq and Afghanistan while continuing to neglect our weakening manufacture sector here at home. Congress must make a commitment to rebuilding our domestic manufacturing base and to ensuring that our courageous defenders continue to have the best equipment available. And as our economy suffers, let us give the manufacturing sector a needed shot in the arm. Unless Congress stands up and puts a halt to it we will eventually be at the mercy of any adversary who controls the manufacturing of our weapons or the critical components of our weapons.

Mr. Speaker, in the days to come, I will look to my like-minded friends, on both sides of the aisle, and say to my colleagues: let’s work together to keep America secure.

INTRODUCING TRANSPARENCY
FOR LETHAL CONTROL ACT

HON. SUSAN A. DAVIS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mrs. DAVIS of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Transparency for Lethal Control Act (TLC), legislation requiring the United States Department of Agriculture to publish clear and accessible information on animals killed through the Wildlife Services program of the Animal Health and Inspection Service.

The Wildlife Services program is responsible for intervening in situations when an animal is considered a threat or serious nuisance to humans. In some cases, animals are killed to fulfill this mission.

Efforts to gather adequate information regarding Wildlife Services operations have been difficult. The USDA has not made detailed data available to the public relating to where, why, how, and which animals have been killed. This lack of transparency and public reporting makes oversight impossible. The USDA could be acting inappropriately or recklessly and without this data, we can’t

know. That is why I am introducing legislation to require the USDA to publish kill data online by state, county (or other similar political subdivision), and municipality.

The killing of animals should not be a routine or reflexive government response. It should only be undertaken, if at all, after careful deliberation and under strict supervision. For that reason, the public and Congress need to have the opportunity for vigorous oversight to ensure that the USDA is acting appropriately and considering all cheaper and more humane alternatives.

Congress must improve oversight of the Wildlife Services program and ensure that the USDA is using tax dollars efficiently and appropriately. I urge passage of the Transparency for Lethal Control Act (TLC).

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PAIN-CAPABLE UNBORN CHILD PROTECTION ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 31, 2012

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to applaud, yes applaud, my Republican colleagues, who voted this week with the Democrats to reject the anti-choice legislation H.R. 3803 D.C., the 20 Week Abortion Ban Bill. This bill was rejected by a vote of 220 to 154.

Had it passed, H.R. 3803 would have contained no exception for rape or incest, for medically futile pregnancies, or for the health of the woman—forcing pregnant women facing medical complications to wait until their conditions become life-threatening before termination of the pregnancy becomes an option. Additionally, under this piece of legislation, doctors could face two years in prison and fines of up to \$250,000 for performing abortions and could be sued by their patients or their patients’ families.

This bill would have not only harmed women, but also is unconstitutional since this legislation absolutely goes against current law as established in 1973 by Roe v. Wade. Herein lies the irony of the bill, Republicans, especially those who are members of the Tea Party, constantly espouse their support and respect for the law, yet they conveniently forget the fact that Roe v. Wade is the law of the land. Trying to circumvent that law, which this bill attempted to do, is in fact unconstitutional.

My colleague Delegate ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON, who is the only duly elected representative for Washington, D.C. in Congress, was even denied an opportunity to testify during a hearing on this bill. Even the Republicans know that this bill is a travesty of justice!

No matter what a person believes about abortion, everyone can agree that we should reduce the number of unintended pregnancies and the need for abortions. Abortion should be a last option, not a form of birth control. In order to reduce the demand for abortion, we must provide our children with comprehensive sex education and access to safe and affordable health care and birth control.

Since the Republicans want to deny women their right to choose, why not do something so