

has happened in this case, it is highly suspicious that the prison officials are unable to find police escorts to take him there.

Although our own State Department officials are finally acknowledging that Mr. Ostreicher's due process rights are being violated, they continue to seem hesitant and uncertain about what action to take on his behalf. The State Department was invited to testify at yesterday's hearing, but indicated that they were not available to do so this week. I look forward to arranging a follow-up hearing at the earliest possible date when they are prepared to discuss their efforts in this case.

Since undertaking my own advocacy efforts on Mr. Ostreicher's behalf in early June, I have received reports about several Americans who are imprisoned overseas and who are being denied their fundamental due process and human rights. Out of a sense of obligation to do all I can to help Mr. Ostreicher, but also to assist other U.S. citizens in similar situations, I am introducing legislation that will hold accountable those foreign government officials who are responsible for the violation of due process and human rights of imprisoned Americans.

This legislation is entitled the "Justice for Imprisoned Americans Overseas Act" or "Jacob's Law." It is premised on the principle that foreign government officials responsible for violations of fundamental due process and human rights of imprisoned U.S. citizens, as well as their immediate family members, should not have the privilege of traveling to the United States while our citizens unjustly languish in their prisons.

The bill would prohibit the issuance of a visa and deny entry to any foreign government official who is violating, or failing to fulfill a responsibility to uphold, the rights of an imprisoned American. The legislation would also deny entry to such officials if the American dies from any cause while in prison. These visa and entry prohibitions would likewise apply to these officials' immediate family members.

Entry to the U.S. would be denied only when an American's fundamental rights are being violated. Americans who violate the legitimate laws of foreign countries must accept the consequences of their crimes. But the United States cannot stand by and simply "monitor" the case when our citizens are being held hostage contrary to international human rights standards.

I would emphasize that already under current law, 22 U.S. Code Section 1732, the President must demand the release of any citizen who has been unjustly deprived of his liberty by or under the authority of any foreign government, and to undertake appropriate means to obtain the release of such citizen. This legislation provides the State Department with a tool that it should welcome in order to help it fulfill this responsibility.

We were privileged to have with us yesterday two attorneys who are representing Mr. Ostreicher in the Santa Cruz courts. I would like to thank them for coming all the way from Bolivia to participate in this hearing on Mr. Ostreicher's behalf. We also received an update about the case from Mr. Ostreicher's wife, Ms. Miriam Ungar, and his daughter, a constituent who resides in my district in New Jersey, Ms. Chaya Weinberger. Finally, I would like to express my appreciation to Mr. Stephen Moore, a retired FBI special agent

who has spent considerable time and effort investigating Mr. Ostreicher's case and who interrupted his book tour in Washington State in order to join us yesterday.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE OF MAJOR GENERAL ANTHONY G. CRUTCHFIELD

HON. MARTHA ROBY

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mrs. ROBY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Major General Anthony G. Crutchfield, Commanding General of the United States Army Aviation Center of Excellence, upon completion of his tour of duty at Fort Rucker.

Since August 2010, when Major General Crutchfield took command of the United States Army Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker, he has demonstrated a deep personal commitment not only to his troops, but also to their families and the surrounding community.

Major General Crutchfield's mastery of the area of Army aviation is well known, and his vision for the future of his branch has had a direct positive impact in the Army. But, equally important, Major General Crutchfield's well-known dedication to his soldiers is, perhaps, his most honorable attribute. Further, his devotion to the success of his soldier's training, performance, and morale illustrates his proven leadership among those who dutifully serve.

When Major General Crutchfield took command of Fort Rucker, there was an untenable backlog of would be pilots waiting to begin training. As one of his first directives, he challenged his staff to find a solution to this vexing problem. Despite counsel from many that this was an unreasonable task, the backlog has been eliminated. Such actions exemplify his "can do" attitude. The entire Army Aviation community has benefited as a result.

Always thinking about military families, Major Crutchfield would not accept that, despite the growing population on base, Fort Rucker was not scheduled to receive a new commissary until 2016. Through his efforts, Fort Rucker and its families will enjoy the benefits of a new commissary in 2013. However, this pales in comparison to his other efforts in support of military families. As an example, Major General Crutchfield would often participate in story time with children of deployed family members. To think that a man of this magnitude would make time in his busy schedule to spend with the children of deployed soldiers, on more than one occasion, speaks volumes about his genuine concern for his military families. It also says a great deal about his character as a man.

Major General Crutchfield has also built solid relationships with the Fort Rucker civilian community throughout his command. He took time to meet members of the community, and worked hard to get to know them personally. Most recently, after undergoing a coaching change at Enterprise High School, Major General Crutchfield spent some time with the football team and offered a motivational speech to those young adults. Such actions are typical of his efforts to bond with the community and will have a lasting effect on those student athletes for years to come.

Major General Crutchfield's tour as Commander of the United States Army Center of Excellence and Fort Rucker is a textbook example of our great military leaders. From his dedication to his troops and their families to his unwavering support of the local community, his leadership and commitment to excellence contributed significantly to our nation's defense.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, I am pleased to recognize the significant impact Major General Crutchfield has had on Fort Rucker and the surrounding community. My congressional staff, my husband Riley, and I each offer Major General Crutchfield and his wife Kim our most heartfelt gratitude for their service to our Nation and wish them fair winds and following seas as they move on to their new duty station at Camp H.M. Smith in Hawaii.

HONOR FLIGHT ALASKA RECOGNITION

HON. DON YOUNG

OF ALASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. YOUNG of Alaska. Mr. Speaker, I rise on behalf of a grateful Alaska Congressional Delegation, state, and country, to welcome four heroes to our nation's capital. On September 27, 2012, four World War II veterans are coming on an Honor Flight from Alaska to visit the World War II Memorial here in Washington, D.C.

The Honor Flight program was started in 2005 to provide national transportation to D.C. for veterans who might otherwise never see the memorials built in their honor. Initially run entirely by individual volunteers, the program has grown into a non-profit network of volunteers, organizations, and airlines that work together to extend this amazing opportunity to those who most deserve it.

The four veterans on this Honor Flight are World War II veterans: William Joseph Nuggett, Army Air Force; Louis Elmer Fessler, U.S. Army; Marc Stella, U.S. Marine Corps; Robert J. Ingram, U.S. Navy.

Mr. Speaker, these four veterans from Alaska join over 81,000 veterans, from across the country, who have traveled to our nation's capital since 2005 to visit and reflect on memorials built in their honor. This Honor Flight was made possible through generous public donations and contributions from those who wish to honor these heroes.

We truly can never repay the debt we owe the soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines who put themselves in harm's way to protect our freedom. The sacrifices made by these heroes—and the families they left behind—are truly incredible. These servicemen returned home with heavy burdens and scars from war, and still helped our nation rebuild and achieve unprecedented prosperity. Their honor, courage, commitment, and sacrifice brought freedom to much of the world, and allowed us to enjoy the freedoms we cherish today.

Please join me in thanking these Alaska veterans for their selfless dedication, commitment, and service to our great nation. God bless America and these brave men.

A TRIBUTE TO TIFFANY
JOHNSTON**HON. TOM LATHAM**

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Ms. Tiffany Johnston of Graettinger, Iowa for being named a national recipient of the 2011 Teacher Mentor Award from the National Association of Agricultural Educators. Ms. Johnston is one of only six individuals nationwide who received this great honor.

Over the past six years, Ms. Johnston has been educating high school students at Graettinger-Terrill High School as well as Iowa's new agriculture teachers through the Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators New Teacher Program. Ms. Johnston's passion has reinvigorated our state's agricultural education through updated methodology and countless hours of dedication.

During the 2010 Iowa Association of Agricultural Educators Summer Conference, Ms. Johnston teamed up with fellow Iowa agricultural educator, Tara Fastert, to help other new teachers in the profession. Together they would help develop a new teacher program to provide teachers with more resources and ideas for their lesson plans, as well as introduce them to cutting-edge online resources to assist in further professional networking. Ms. Johnston's work to establish partnerships within an agricultural education program, starting at the local level, has culminated to her nationwide recognition through the Teacher Mentor Award.

Mr. Speaker, the commitment Ms. Johnston has shown to Iowa's agriculture, educators, and students is unparalleled. Her efforts embody Iowa's proud traditions of quality education and hard work, and it is an honor to represent Tiffany in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating her on this remarkable achievement and will wish her continued success in educational excellence.

TRIBUTE HONORING THE 109TH AN-
NIVERSARY OF THE ILINDEN UP-
RISING**HON. BILL PASCRELL, JR.**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. PASCRELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 109th Anniversary of the Ilinden Uprising. On August 2, 1903, the Macedonian people rose together to fight for their freedom. Today is a cause for true celebration.

The Ilinden Uprising's ideas were rooted in the ideals of the American and French Revolutions. The Macedonian people fought for an independent state, whose people would enjoy civil liberties and be free in their pursuit of happiness.

Macedonia's forefathers fought bravely for the Macedonian nationhood, and their dream became a reality in 1991, when the Republic of Macedonia became free, independent and sovereign.

I would also like to take a moment to congratulate the Macedonian-American commu-

nity in my district, in New Jersey, and throughout the entire United States on the progress their homeland has achieved. Today marks the Anniversary of a huge step towards an independent Macedonia, and I am happy to support the Republic of Macedonia as it continues to move forward on its path to full NATO membership.

I am always pleased to recognize and commemorate historic occasions such as this one. As a proud member of the Congressional Caucus on Macedonia and Macedonian-Americans, I again commemorate the 109th Anniversary of the Ilinden Uprising in Macedonia.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join our colleagues, all Macedonian people, and me, in recognizing the 109th Anniversary of the Ilinden Uprising in Macedonia.

JOB PROTECTION AND RECESSION
PREVENTION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. LAURA RICHARDSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, August 1, 2012

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to H.R. 8, the Job Protection and Recession Prevention Act of 2012. I oppose this bill because it extends the 2001 and 2003 Bush tax cuts to millionaires who do not need it, have not requested it, and at a time when the nation cannot afford it.

The extension of this 2001 tax policy would keep the rates of all tax brackets at a reduced level. While this reduced level would keep more funds in the hands of American families, it provides for a disproportionate distribution of the tax burden on different income levels. These reduced rates give a greater break to the incredibly wealthy, placing unfair monetary responsibility on the middle class.

The extension of this tax policy also maintains a lower rate on capital gains, and taxes dividends at the same rate as capital gains instead of as ordinary income. In addition, this extension lowers the estate tax. Lower rates on such incomes further burden the middle class, as they further relieve the incredibly wealthy from their duty to give back to this country. As a result of these policies, the average income tax cut for households making more than \$1 million a year would be over \$74,000 in 2013.

Concurrently, as a result of H.R. 8, some of the tax cuts for working families which were adopted in 2009 would be allowed to expire, and eligibility for the Earned Income Tax Credit and the Child Tax Credit will be reduced. This bill also ends the American Opportunity Tax Credit, 85 percent of the benefactors of which made less than \$100,000 a year. These actions will effectively raise taxes on 25 million middle- and low-income households by an average of \$1000.

The conversation surrounding our nation's tax policies has focused on ensuring that tax cuts for the middle class are extended. It has been made clear, on both sides of the aisle, that this is imperative not only to helping American families get back on their feet, but also to the continuing recovery of the United States economy.

Unfortunately, my Republican colleagues are determined to use these middle class tax

cuts as leverage to make sure that the Bush-era tax cuts for the wealthy are extended. They use top-down economics as the argument for the validity of these cuts—that they help to restore our economy and reduce the unemployment rate, because the individuals earning incomes in the top two percent are “job creators.” Contrary to this claim, the facts demonstrate that fewer than 35 percent of small business owners make over \$250,000 a year. Allowing the Bush tax cuts for the upper class to expire would not affect the vast majority of “job creators” in the American economy, but it would help relieve the tax burden of working families.

Mr. Speaker, I oppose H.R. 8 not only because the policies included within it would inflict an unbalanced tax burden on working families, but also because it will prevent this Congress from helping to reduce America's budget deficit. My colleagues across the aisle consistently claim they are committed to reducing our deficit, yet they have fought to pass this bill, extending Bush's tax cuts for the wealthy. If we were to let these cuts expire, our deficit could be reduced by \$50 billion in 2013 alone. Simply stated, the tax plan laid out in H.R. 8 will not raise adequate revenue to fund our national priorities or repay our debt.

Instead of arguing over tax cuts for those individuals who don't need our help, this Congress should be working across the aisle to create a fair, comprehensive tax reform that unburdens our working families. The conversation should be focused on continuing to rebuild our economy and reduce our deficit, not give handouts to the wealthy few. When a bill that outlines real, fair tax reform comes up for consideration on the Floor, I will support it.

Mr. Speaker, it is for these reasons that I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing H.R. 8, the Job Protection and Recession Prevention Act of 2012.

RECOGNIZING MARK DAVIS FOR 45
YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE AIR-
LINE INDUSTRY IN SEATTLE**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Mark Davis of Auburn, Washington, for forty-five years of dedicated service to the airline industry.

In 1967, Mr. Davis began working on the ramp for Northwest Airlines, with a propeller-driven Lockheed Electra. Over the next 45 years, he served in a variety of capacities for his company. These included time as a ramp agent, cleaner, working in the commissary, fueling aircrafts, serving at the post office and, finally, as a freight runner.

At a special ceremony, Mr. Davis received a pin commemorating his 45 years of service. Delta Cargo leaders and employees surprised him by unveiling a ramp tug personalized with his name, employment date and years of service.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Mark Davis for a long career of service to the airline industry in Seattle, Washington. Employees like Mark make companies, our economy, and our country thrive.