

to the Capitol for a tour. Every time I've met Taylor, I've left inspired by his courage and dedication, and I know we all can learn something from his cheery demeanor in the face of such odds.

Mr. Speaker, I'd also like to enter the full text of a poem by Albert Caswell that was written for Taylor, titled "Greater Than Gold" into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD. Taylor is truly an American hero.

GREATER THAN GOLD—IN HONOR OF AN AMERICAN HERO, E5 TAYLOR JOHN KRULL MORRIS, THE UNITED STATES NAVY

GREATER THAN GOLD

Greater!
Greater than gold!
All in our lives to be told!
All in ones heart we can mold!
All in our moments now so to behold!
All in what we so hope to all know!
All in ones life,
that which forever so glows!
Forever so glows!
As is "MIGHTY MO!"
Are such things to be found,
as are all as so!
That which are but far much more precious
than gold!
Precious than gold!
To Have and To Hold . . .
To Have and To Hold!
As upon our world,
as your gifts to us Taylor you now so bestow!
So bestow!
As have all of our American Heroes!
Heroes!
All in what our children must all now know!
As is such so!
As is such so!
Something, that is far much more greater
than gold!
Something, that could so launch a thousand
ships as is so!
Something that so leads men into battle,
yet not to know!
While, living on the very edge of death . . .
while there all so!
As time and again,
as Taylor you so chose to so stand!
As something so very special,
to have and to hold!
To have and to hold!
That which so brings such tears,
to even the Angels eyes as is so!
As is so!
As from you Taylor,
of what I now know!
What is far greater than gold!
As from that first moment on,
when I so walked into your hospital room so!
With that smile on your face!
I knew in an instant,
oh what a man of such splendor and grace!
As stood before me so!
So!
As all in that moment,
as I so looked into courage's face!
As all of those tears,
I could not so hold,
and would not so erase!
Yea, Greater Than Gold!
As it was all in that moment Taylor I want
you to know,
when you so taught me the true greatness of
the human race so!
And what is far much more Greater Than
Gold!
As I so looked so deep down into your very
soul!
As your fine heart so all out to me so glowed!
So glowed!
To have and to hold!
To have and to hold!
To carry with me now,
as I grow old!
As you so taught Taylor,

so taught me there so!
Like the corn fields of Iowa,
your heart has so grown!
All in what is far much more greater than
gold!
Greater Than Gold!
And what we so hold in our hearts is but The
Greatest of All of Those!
As it was you Taylor who so chose to so live,
and would not let go! Let go!
And yet that even without legs,
as still you stood so!
And that even without arms,
all of our hearts still you can hold!
Still hold!
Far greater than gold!
Greater than Gold!
As now Taylor,
to me you have so showed!
That The Greatest of All Things,
is but what so lies in one's soul!
In one's soul!
So deep down inside of our hearts,
all in what we so hold!
As now,
it's all ahead full . . . The Navy's Crown
Jewel!
As you so recover even in that hospital bed!
For you have mountains to climb,
all in your time!
As you even make The Navy Seals,
say "Taylor you are my hero!"
And you've got places to go!
And hearts to so heal,
as they so watch you all so!
And people to so inspire,
for you will not ever so tire wherever you go!
As you So Teach,
and So Beseech Us . . . and all of those!
All in that one fine thing that we all must
now know!
That what lies in one's heart and one's soul,
is but Far Much More Greater Than Gold!
Greater Than Gold!
Yes arms and legs we all need,
but we can get by!
But, without a heart and a soul . . .
we will so surely die!
And in Heaven you need not arms nor legs!
And Taylor,
that's where you are going one day!
To look into our Lord's eyes as so!
Yes, Taylor . . .
by God you were Taylor Made so!
To have and to hold,
to have and to hold!
For you Taylor,
and what's in your heart is Far Much More
Greater Than Gold!
Yea, "Mighty Mo" what's in your soul!
Is Far Greater Than Gold!

Albert Carey Caswell, 2012

IN RECOGNITION OF BRICE W.
HARRIS

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the service of Brice Harris, as he retires from his position as Chancellor of the Los Rios Community College District. Throughout his remarkable 16 years as chancellor, Mr. Harris has skillfully guided the district on a steady path leaving a lasting legacy across the Sacramento region. I ask all of my colleagues to join me in honoring this remarkable Sacramentan.

Chancellor Harris joined the Los Rios Community College District in 1996. He had been serving as the President of Fresno City Col-

lege and spent time in the leadership positions with community colleges in the Midwest. One of his many remarkable accomplishments as Chancellor was the oversight and accreditation of the district's fourth college, Folsom Lake College, which is a wonderful addition to the Sacramento region serving more than 9,000 students to date. Furthermore, his concern for students' ability to access a quality education, led him to fight to keep fees low in a time of budget cuts, encouraged light rail and public transit access to the district's colleges and led to efforts to pass local bond measures to expand Los Rios facilities.

Under his leadership, the district began to create programs to meet both the needs of the local workforce and students transferring to the state's four year college system. Understanding the need for more nurses and healthcare professionals, Chancellor Harris formed the HealthForce program, which has strengthened and expanded the Los Rios' nursing programs. He then went on to create GreenForce, which encourages students to enter into, and train in, the growing clean technology fields. These initiatives exemplify Chancellor Harris' forward thinking approach to education and his unwavering drive to help students succeed.

Chancellor Harris has been an outstanding member of the Sacramento community. He was honored by the Sacramento Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce as "Sacramentan of the Year" and named "Humanitarian of the Year" by United Cerebral Palsy of Sacramento and Northern California. In addition, he has served as chair of the Sacramento Area Commerce and Trade Organization and of the Northern California World Trade Center. Chancellor Harris was also an active participant on the Crocker Art Museum Board of Directors.

Mr. Speaker, as Chancellor Brice Harris prepares to retire I ask my colleagues to join me in wishing him continued good fortune in his future endeavors. Chancellor Harris has stood as an instrumental force behind the strengthening of Sacramento's education system and workforce, and we all are thankful for his efforts.

THE FEDERAL RESERVE
TRANSPARENCY ACT (H.R. 459)

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, the Federal Reserve is by charter and design an independent central bank. At the same time, because ours is a system of checks and balances, the Federal Reserve's operations are governed by congressional mandate and subject to strict accountability and oversight.

Specifically, the Federal Reserve has for many years been audited by the Government Accountability Office (GAO), as well as independent, third-party firms. Additionally, pursuant to the Humphrey-Hawkins Act, the Chairman of the Federal Reserve testifies before both chambers of Congress twice a year. Minutes of the Federal Reserve's Open Market Committee are made public 6 weeks after its meetings occur, and the Fed publishes updated balance sheets on its website weekly.

Moreover, the recently enacted Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform law further enhanced the Federal Reserve's transparency by expanding the types of audits GAO must conduct and by mandating disclosure of transactions at the Federal Reserve's discount window.

In light of these facts, the issue in H.R. 459 is not whether the Fed should be audited. It already is. Instead, what is at issue in this legislation is whether the Fed's internal deliberations concerning the formation of monetary policy should be made public. This is the equivalent of asking whether Supreme Court justices' pre-decisional debate should be made public—and it is a bad idea for the same reason. It would have a predictably counterproductive and chilling effect on that debate and ultimately undermine the Fed's independence. Time and time again, history has shown that central banks whose decision-making falls under the influence of short-term political considerations quickly lose all credibility with the public and with the credit markets. This cannot be allowed to happen.

It's ironic that most, if not all, of the information proponents of this legislation cite to justify its enactment is in the public domain because of the transparency measures that are already in place. Indeed, many advocates of H.R. 459 are avowedly less interested in striking the right balance between independence and accountability at the Federal Reserve than they are in abolishing the Federal Reserve altogether—or in ending the Federal Reserve's dual mandate to achieve both stable prices and maximum employment.

I am in neither camp. I support an independent Federal Reserve pursuing its congressionally directed dual mandate, subject to strict oversight and accountability—and that is why I oppose this bill.

HONORING HARRIET TRUDELL ON HER 80TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SHELLEY BERKLEY

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Ms. BERKLEY. Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life and achievements of Harriet Trudell of Las Vegas, Nevada on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

Harriet was born on August 22, 1932 in St. Petersburg, Florida, into a family passionate in their beliefs of the Democratic Party and its principles.

In 1948, 16-year-old Harriet had a life-changing experience when she accompanied her father to the Democratic National Convention where he was an alternate delegate. Hearing Hubert Humphrey's civil rights speech during the convention had a great impact on Harriet's life, and she returned home to Florida passionate for the cause of equality and began a lifelong quest for social change.

Throughout every decade since, Harriet has been a force to contend with, fighting for fairness and equality for all.

During the early 1950's, Harriet organized unions for the state AFL-CIO in Florida.

In 1962, Harriet moved to Las Vegas with her husband and two children where she continued her passion for equality.

In 1965, Harriet marched with Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. and other civil rights activists

from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, raising the awareness of voting rights of African-Americans.

Coming full circle from her attendance at the 1948 Democratic National Convention, Harriet served as the Southern Nevada Director of Hubert Humphrey's 1968 presidential campaign.

During the 1970's, Harriet was active in the League of Women Voters, National Organization for Women (NOW), and the Clark County Women's Democratic Club. She fought passionately against segregation in the Clark County School District, for welfare rights and for the ratification of the Equal Rights Amendment.

In March 1971, Harriet marched down the Las Vegas Strip in support of opportunity for the disenfranchised.

Harriet served as Southern Nevada Aide for Governor Michael O'Callaghan from 1974 to 1978 and as the Foreign Affairs Aide for Congressman Harry Reid in Washington, D.C. from 1983 to 1986.

In addition, throughout her extraordinary career, Harriet has been an advocate for Operation Life, served on the board for NOW, and been a lobbyist for the Feminist Majority Foundation in Washington, D.C.

Fifty years after Harriet's initial foray into national and state politics, she was a driving force in NOW's "Elect Women 2000." While serving as Campaign Director in Louisiana, she traveled throughout the State, and was successful in tripling the number of women elected to the Louisiana State Legislature.

Presently, this remarkable woman serves as the Political Director for the Nevada State Democratic Party.

As the Representative for Nevada's First Congressional District, it gives me immense pride to honor Harriet Trudell of Las Vegas, Nevada, and I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the accomplishments of this incredible woman on the occasion of her 80th birthday.

CURRENT SITUATION IN THE REPUBLIC OF GEORGIA

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 2, 2012

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, on March 26, 2012, I introduced H.R. 4258, the Republic of Georgia Democracy Act of 2012. I introduced this bill in response to the growing acts of repression by the Government of Georgia against the Democratic opposition there in the run-up to the October 2012 parliamentary election.

After reviewing reports from the region and meeting with members of the opposition, I became worried that the parliamentary election would be viewed as illegitimate if the situation did not change.

I offered H.R. 4258, which threatened termination of the tens of millions of dollars the United States gives Georgia each year in assistance—including millions for democracy promotion—in the event of illegitimate elections, in an attempt to demonstrate to the ruling regime the cost of stealing the election.

I regret to report that the situation is getting worse.

The United Nations, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), and the European Union have all raised concern. Even Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has publicly called for free, fair, and competitive elections, but the Georgian government does not seem to be listening.

For more than two decades, successive administrations and my colleagues in Congress have worked hard to expand democracy in the post-Soviet world. We did so believing that the former Soviet states would be more stable and more economically prosperous if governments were more responsive to the will of the people.

This is especially true in Georgia, where the United States has invested considerable financial resources and political capital in an attempt to create a model democracy in a complex region.

These investments are now at risk. The Georgian government is succeeding in creating an atmosphere of intimidation and fear, handicapping the opposition's ability to operate and access the media and voters, and taking steps to ensure victory before election day.

The United States can ill afford to stand aside and watch democracy in Georgia unravel.

If another round of illegitimate elections occurs, there will be more instability, including the possibility of peaceful protests and a violent government response, which has been the historic norm.

This would threaten key American interests, including democracy promotion, energy security, stability in the Caucasus, relations with Russia, and operations in Afghanistan.

I have included a recent article that highlights the Georgian government's efforts to repress the democratic opposition. The article from the Economist notes that only 38% of Georgians think their country is a democracy and that this election could be on course to a political crisis.

If things continue on their current track, there are few scenarios where this election will be seen as legitimate.

The United States should take steps now to prevent a potential political crisis that would arise just before the U.S. presidential election. I would encourage the Obama Administration and my colleagues to communicate clearly to the Georgian government the importance of free, fair, and competitive elections and that Georgia's relationship with the United States cannot survive a stolen election or subversion of democratic principles.

Like a canary in the coal mine, I will do my best to continue to warn my colleagues of this looming disaster and provide regular updates. I hope the United States acts before it is too late.

[From the Economist, Jul. 13, 2012]

GEORGIAN POLITICS—BLOOD FEUD

(by G.E. Tbilisi)

Georgian democracy in trouble? The government claims that the "Russian-influenced opposition" could subvert Georgia's parliamentary elections in October this year. In contrast, Bidzina Ivanishvili, the founder of Georgian Dream, an opposition party, complains of systematic discrimination at the hands of an increasingly authoritarian regime. New polling results show that only 38% of Georgians think that Georgia is now a democracy, compared with 49% in February.