

I congratulate Alpha Delta Kappa International Honorary Organization for Women Educators on their 65 years of unparalleled success and wish them well and salute them as they embark on their next 65 years.

WORLD ALZHEIMER'S ACTION DAY

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about World Alzheimer's Action Day and am thrilled to see this disease receiving the attention it deserves.

I look forward to the day when a cure can become a reality for millions of Americans and their families who are living with Alzheimer's disease.

There is still much to be done to eradicate this disease, but today we can say we have the first ever National Alzheimer's Plan, which is a step in the right direction.

Throughout my time in Congress, a cure for Alzheimer's disease has been a top priority on my agenda.

As a member of the Alzheimer's Congressional Task Force, I will continue to work with my colleagues and advocate for research that will lead us to a cure.

As some of you may know, my father suffers from Alzheimer's so this fight is personal to me.

Thank you to all of you who are taking part in the fight against Alzheimer's. By working together, we can and will end this disease.

DISAPPROVING RULE RELATING TO WAIVER AND EXPENDITURE AUTHORITY WITH RESPECT TO THE TEMPORARY ASSISTANCE FOR NEEDY FAMILIES PROGRAM

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 20, 2012

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I would like to be crystal clear in my opposition to this terrible bill.

Instead of focusing on creating jobs or our nation's budget problems, this Congress is literally wasting time and resources. We are responding to an accusation that President Bush's advisor on welfare policy and a former Ways and Means Committee staffer said is just not true.

In 2005, 29 Republican governors including Mitt Romney requested increased waiver authority. The bipartisan National Governor's Association repeatedly asked for this same flexibility.

Let me be crystal clear—no one ever asked for or has been granted the ability to waive the TANF work requirement. There is a generation of Americans who watched their parents pull themselves up from poverty through education, work training, and child care support

and become proud providers. They support the work requirements in TANF; in fact we all do. It works, and no one is trying to change that.

Not only is rhetoric around this bill pants-on-fire-false, but it is also another attempt to attack practically every possible bipartisan, pragmatic solution offered by this administration.

Mr. Speaker, I urge every American watching this debate to check the facts, and I urge every one of my colleagues to oppose this bill. Let's do the people's work and stop wasting time.

TAIWAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize an important upcoming date—October 10, 2012—which marks more than 100 years since the founding of the Republic of China (Taiwan). The United States and Taiwan share a common vision of democracy and liberty. It is important that we take a moment and recognize the successes of this great friend and ally. Often through struggle, Taiwan has used the last 101 years to bring peace and prosperity to its people. A beacon of democracy in the Asia-Pacific region, President Ma and the people of Taiwan should be commended for living in peace and for implementing pro-growth policies that have led to economic prosperity. They are a model for the region and the world. We are fortunate to call Taiwan a friend and ally.

I also would like to congratulate Ambassador Jason Yuan, Representative of the ROC (Taiwan) to the United States, on his new post as Secretary-General of the National Security Council of Taiwan. I cherish the friendship with Ambassador Yuan and wish Ambassador and Madame Yuan the very best.

HONORING THE LIFE AND WORK OF HAL DAVID

HON. HOWARD L. BERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I'm joined by my colleagues Representatives LAMAR SMITH, JOHN CONYERS, HENRY WAXMAN, MARSHA BLACKBURN, and JERRY NADLER. We rise today to honor the life and memory of one of America's greatest musical treasures, Hal David. As a lyricist who teamed up with composer Burt Bacharach beginning in the late 1950s, Hal created an extraordinary body of hit songs which continue to touch the lives of countless people around the world.

Hal emerged from a humble immigrant family in Brooklyn. After serving in the Army's Entertainment Section during World War II, he began his songwriting career. He came to be the lyrical mastermind behind some of the 20th Century's most recognized and beloved songs. He composed the lyrics to such classic

hits as "Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head," "What the World Needs Now Is Love," "Always Something There to Remind Me," "Do You Know the Way to San Jose," "Don't Make Me Over," "Anyone Who Had a Heart," "The Look of Love," "Walk on By," "(They Long to Be) Close to You" and many, many more.

Hal said that a lyricist must learn "not to fall in love with his own lines." That may be true, but that hasn't stopped millions of music lovers like me, and others in every corner of the globe, from falling in love with them. Hal's lyrical genius earned him countless honors: four Academy Award nominations, with an Oscar for "Raindrops" in the movie Butch Cassidy and the Sundance Kid; a Grammy along with three songs in the Grammy Hall of Fame; and Gold and Platinum records. Additional accolades include induction into the Songwriters Hall of Fame and the Nashville Songwriters Hall of Fame, receipt of the Songwriters Hall of Fame Johnny Mercer and Visionary Leadership Awards, the Ivor Novello Award of the British Academy of Composers and Songwriters, and more. Just this past May, President Barack Obama presented the prestigious Library of Congress Gershwin Prize for Popular Song to David and Bacharach at a White House musical tribute.

Hal's work not only spans generations but also genres. He is the author of lyrics for the film scores of Alfie, What's New Pussycat, Casino Royale, The April Fools and Moonraker. His songs also appear in countless other movies, from Forrest Gump to Runaway Bride. Not limited to the screen, Hal's Broadway show, Promises, Promises, was nominated for a Tony Award and received a Grammy, and has enjoyed two successful runs on the Great White Way.

Hal's songs have been recorded by artists from across the musical spectrum, including Marty Robbins, Perry Como, Bobby Vinton, Gene Pitney, Dusty Springfield, Tom Jones, Herb Alpert, Jackie DeShannon, B.J. Thomas, Frank Sinatra, Sarah Vaughan, the Fifth Dimension, the Carpenters, Barbra Streisand, and, most unforgettably, Dionne Warwick.

Hal's notable achievements don't stop with his musical career. As ASCAP President and Chairman from 1980 to 1986 and as an ASCAP Board member for almost 40 years, Hal was a music industry leader and devoted much of his life to protecting the copyrights of music creators. He also led the Songwriters Hall of Fame as Chairman and CEO from 2001 to 2011, and was Chairman Emeritus at the time of his death.

Hal's philanthropic work in Los Angeles also made him a great asset to our community. He donated generously of his time and effort to charitable organizations. In addition, he and his wife, Eunice, were founders of the Los Angeles Music Center. In the fall of 2011, a fundraiser, Love Sweet Love, A Musical Tribute to Hal David, honored Hal's 90th birthday and benefited the Blue Ribbon Children's Festival and The ASCAP Foundation. It was the most successful ASCAP Foundation fundraiser to date, reflecting Hal's longstanding commitment to arts and music education.

Hal was a musical legend and one of the strongest advocates for music creators of the past century. He will be sorely missed, but thankfully, his songs live on.

NATIONAL INFANT MORTALITY
AWARENESS MONTH**HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, September is National Infant Mortality Awareness Month, established to highlight the tragedy of infant deaths across the nation and to raise awareness about programs that help save young lives and ensure our children are healthy. Infant mortality, the rate at which babies die before their first birthday per 1,000 live births, continues to be a key measure of the nation's health and a worldwide indicator of health status and social well-being.

Although the overall infant mortality rate (IMR) in the United States steadily declined for several decades, it has leveled off in recent years. Preliminary data indicate that infant mortality rate in this nation declined very slightly to 6.14 in 2010.

Unfortunately, this rate continues to be higher than the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) average and that of most European countries. While modest improvements in the infant mortality rate, along with a national and local focus on preconception health for women of childbearing age, provide welcome changes, much work remains to be done.

In Maryland, infant mortality continues to impact women and families at startling rates. For the second year in a row, the infant mortality rate in Maryland remained at 6.7. Though a drop from the 7.2 rate of 2009, the number of infant deaths in the state remains high. Of greater concern, is the disproportionate impact infant mortality has on some communities.

In 2011, the infant mortality rate for Prince George's County was 9.5, while in neighboring Montgomery County, the rate stood at 5.3. Though both counties have made significant progress in reducing infant mortality in recent years, our collective attention must continue to focus on making further gains. Of the state's five regions, the National Capital Area, comprising Prince George's and Montgomery counties, had the second-highest rate of infant deaths. Only the Eastern Shore Area experienced a higher rate at 8.9.

Across our nation, African American communities experience more than double the rate of infant mortality compared to other populations. In Maryland, the infant mortality rate among African Americans last year was 12.0, fully three times the rate among white infants. Despite efforts to address this disturbing gap, high rates of loss occur among African Americans of all income and education levels.

National Infant Mortality Month gives us an opportunity to raise public awareness and to educate women about ways they may reduce infant mortality. With good preconception health, as well as access to good health care during the mother's pregnancy and the early years of the child's life, women can work to lower the incidence of infant mortality. Research indicates that a number of federal programs may reduce the IMR. Programs such as the Maternal and Child Health Block Grant and Healthy Start are vital programs tasked with bringing awareness to factors that contribute to the nation's high IMR, including low birth weight, congenital abnormalities, and sudden infant death syndrome.

With the support of local organizations and services offered in the 4th Congressional District of Maryland, including the Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services and the Suitland Health and Wellness Center, we can advance a number of strategies to reduce infant mortality and help mothers and children live long and healthy lives.

I will continue to support and bring awareness to programs that increase access to health care and improve the quality of prenatal and newborn care to prevent the causes of infant mortality. As our nation recovers from these difficult economic times and families may experience gaps in health coverage due to job loss or financial instability, it is especially vital that we continue to support adequate funding for these programs. We need to ensure that our babies get a healthy start and are able to celebrate their first birthday and a lifetime of birthdays.

HONORING DOUGLAS
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**HON. SILVESTRE REYES**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. REYES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the achievements of Douglas Elementary School. Douglas was recently honored with the 2012 National Blue Ribbon award from the United States Department of Education for excellence in education.

The National Blue Ribbon School award honors both public and private elementary, middle and high schools where students achieve at high levels and also schools where the achievement gap is narrowing. Since 1982, more than 6,700 of America's schools have received this coveted award.

I want to personally congratulate the teachers, administrators, and staff of Douglas Elementary School for their commitment and dedication to our young students in El Paso. This year only 269 schools nationwide received the award, and all will be honored in a ceremony in Washington, DC. The Blue Ribbon validates the efforts of these schools in creating a positive and effective learning environment. These schools and their communities have achieved a degree of excellence of which they can justifiably be proud.

Douglas is a fine example of what can be accomplished when parents, teachers and administrators collaborate to prepare our students for a prosperous future. By emphasizing the importance of literacy, math, and science, Douglas is enabling a new generation of community leaders.

In times of economic uncertainty, we cannot lose sight of the paramount importance of our children's education, and I am honored to represent Douglas Elementary School.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE OUT-
STANDING WORK OF OUTLOOK
NEBRASKA, INC.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize—Outlook Nebraska, Incorporated—an organization that I've had the pleasure of visiting and seeing firsthand the positive impact they have in the lives of so many. This organization is part of the AbilityOne Program, which enables more than 50,000 Americans and 3,300 wounded warriors nationwide, who are blinded or severely disabled, to work and provide products and services to federal and commercial customers.

Today in America, seventy percent of blind and visually impaired working-aged adults are not employed. Opportunities provided by Outlook Nebraska and the AbilityOne Program have played an important role in bringing people with disabilities into the workforce. As one of Outlook's employees said to me, "They looked at me for my abilities—not my disability."

The AbilityOne Program affords Americans who are blind or disabled the opportunity to acquire job skills and training, receive good wages and benefits, and gain greater independence and a better quality of life. I applaud Outlook Nebraska and the work it does each day to open doors of opportunity for Americans who are blind or disabled.

A TRIBUTE TO HIS HONOR JUDGE
MICHAEL T. McSPADDEN—TEXAS
JUDGE

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, there are thousands of individuals who make it their life's work to make communities safer while holding criminals accountable for their actions. One of the best is Judge Michael T. McSpadden. I have known Judge McSpadden for what seems like forever. We served in the district attorney's office as prosecutors together. Judge McSpadden prosecuted criminals for 8 years in the Harris County district attorney's office under the leadership of District Attorney Carol Vance.

In 1982, Judge McSpadden became a Criminal District Court Judge in Harris County, Texas. He tried felony cases. Judges in Texas are elected on a partisan ballot and Judge McSpadden has been elected 8 consecutive times to the bench of the 209th Criminal District Court. We served as judges together and I witnessed his remarkable dedication to the law and justice. As a community, we are truly privileged to have such an extraordinary man answer the call to public service and as an individual, I am grateful to call Judge McSpadden a friend.

Judge McSpadden has served the citizens of Harris County, Texas for over 35 years. A graduate from the University of Oklahoma (though we don't hold it against him), he has worked diligently to rise through the ranks in