

where Dr. Fitts testified during court proceedings, arranged transportation for Black students to desegregated schools, and enrolled his own son as one of the first African American students at Morehead Avenue Elementary School.

In addition to his civil rights leadership, Dr. Fitts has served as a public health educator for Chapel Hill, N.C.'s District Health Department, professor and Chair of the Department of Health Education at NCCU, and as a consultant to the World Health Organization. His résumé is filled with notable board positions, and his extensive work spans the tenure of every Executive Director of the NAACP from Walter White in the 1930s to Kwame Mfume in the 1990s.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Howard Monroe Fitts, Jr. on this unique honor of being recognized as a Freedom Fund Honoree by the Durham Chapter of the NAACP. His lifelong contribution to his community and country cannot be overstated.

H.R. 6429

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today, with many of my colleagues, I voted to oppose H.R. 6429 introduced by Rep. LAMAR SMITH. While I strongly support creating a STEM Visa program, and cosponsor Rep. LOFGREN's H.R. 6412, the Attracting the Best and the Brightest Act of 2012, the bill brought to the floor today was a partisan, unserious approach to a serious question. It was a last-minute suspension bill designed to fail. It unnecessarily raises questions about its application and divides Congress when it should bring us together.

We need serious comprehensive immigration reform. Legislation that creates a STEM Visa program should be low-hanging fruit that builds momentum toward this goal. H.R. 6429 however, creates unnecessary divisions. Not only will it never be enacted into law but it sets us back on both this issue and the larger goal of immigration reform.

IN HONOR OF THE CITY OF
LAKEWOOD

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the City of Lakewood, Ohio. Also known as "The City of Beautiful Homes," Lakewood is an exemplary community within Northeast Ohio.

Lakewood is one of Ohio's most diverse and culturally rich cities. It is home to several art galleries, Winchester Music Hall and the Beck Center of the Arts. Additionally, both Malley's Chocolates and Aladdin's Eatery are based out of Lakewood, Ohio.

Lakewood has been named as one of the best cities to live in by This Old House Magazine and Scene Magazine. It was listed among the best suburbs in the U.S. by Travel & Lei-

sure Magazine. It was named the "Best Place to Raise Your Kids 2010" by Business Week.

Today, the City of Lakewood is home to more than 52,000 residents who are led by Mayor Mike Summers. Mayor Summers, who had previously served as a Councilman, has been serving as mayor since 2010. There are seven members on the City Council: Tom Bullock, David Anderson, Shawn Juris, Mary Louise Madigan, Brian Powers, Monique Smith and Ryan Nowlin.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the City of Lakewood and all of its residents.

IN HONOR OF THE IBEW LOCAL 481
ON THIS 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF
THE CIRCLE OF LIGHTS

HON. ANDRÉ CARSON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. CARSON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 481, whose generous contribution of time and talent has helped to make the Circle of Lights the premier holiday event for central Indiana for the past fifty years.

On the Friday after Thanksgiving, the remarkable transformation of Indianapolis's signature landmark, Monument Circle, into the world's largest Christmas tree symbolizes the beginning of the holiday season for Hoosiers. The extraordinary efforts of IBEW Local 481 have helped to make the Circle of Lights one of the largest public events in central Indiana.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating IBEW Local 481 for their outstanding contributions to this awe-inspiring holiday event. The Circle of Lights simply would not be possible without their expertise and generous support. My wife, Mariama, my daughter, Salimah, and I eagerly await the lighting of the world's largest Christmas tree in the company of Hoosiers from all across the Great State of Indiana.

SUPPORTING TEAM USA AND THE
U.S. OLYMPIC COMMITTEE

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, in the summer of 2012, we, as a nation, watched with pride as Team USA competed in the Olympic and Paralympic games in London, England. With over 200 nations competing in 300 events, the Olympic Games once again demonstrated the capacity of international sports to captivate and inspire us all through friendly competition, sportsmanship, solidarity, and fair play.

Team USA was well-represented, with 530 Olympians and over 245 Paralympians, each of whom served as an example to all of us with their unyielding commitment to excellence. Their years of dedication paid off handsomely, as Team USA finished first in the overall Olympic medal count with 46 gold, 29 silver, and 29 bronze medals, and fourth in the Paralympic medal count with 31 gold, 29 silver, and 38 bronze medals.

I would especially like to point out the courage and fortitude put forth by so many Paralympians. Although they might not get the same television coverage as the Olympics, the Paralympics showcases some of the finest talent this country has to offer. Some of these world-class athletes are also wounded warriors who served in our military and fought for our country with honor and distinction. I have been pleased to work with the U.S. Olympic Committee and my Congressional colleagues to provide adaptive sports programs to injured service members, helping to speed their recovery time, bolster their self-confidence, and vastly improve their quality of life.

Olympian or Paralympian, all members of Team USA put forth their best effort at the Summer Olympics. They have trained their entire lives for the honor and privilege of representing the United States in international competition. Their achievements are extraordinary, and we are proud of all they have accomplished.

To honor the hard work and unparalleled success of Team USA and the U.S. Olympic Committee, I have proudly joined my fellow co-chairs of the Congressional Olympic and Paralympic Caucus to introduce H. Res. 780, a resolution in support of the goals and ideals of the Olympic movement.

The Olympic movement is a testament to the power of international competition to unite us in common spirit and a reminder to all that we can achieve our dreams with courage and determination. I congratulate Team USA for their success and thank the U.S. Olympic Committee for their continued dedication to achieving a better world through athletics.

HONORING ST. JOSEPH HOSPITAL

HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate St. Joseph Hospital on being recognized as a Thomson Reuters Top 100 Hospital.

Founded in 1947 by the Felician Sisters, St. Joseph Hospital has proudly served community members from the Bangor area for three quarters of a century. St. Joseph is committed to wellness promotion and holistic healing by providing healthcare services which embody compassion, competence and community. It is this commitment that has helped them secure the Reuters Top 100 Hospital designation.

The Thompson Reuters 100 Hospital study evaluates performance in a variety of areas, including patient safety, average patient stay, expenses, medical complications and patient satisfaction. St. Joseph was chosen from nearly 3,000 U.S. hospitals for demonstrating high-quality patient care and overall organizational excellence.

St. Joseph Hospital, under the umbrella of St. Joseph Healthcare, is a 112-bed acute community hospital. They provide a comprehensive range of health care services, including primary care, specialty services, diagnostics imaging and screening, outpatient and inpatient surgery. The Hospital is consistently recognized for its quality of care and patient satisfaction scores. In addition to this

praise, the St. Joseph's commitment to providing low cost care reinforces the organization as an indispensable piece of the greater Bangor community.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating St. Joseph Hospital, and their parent organization St. Joseph Healthcare on their designation as Thomson Reuters Top 100 Hospital.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DAVID WEBSTER GREENER WAY TO WORK DAY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize September 25, 2012, as the Cleveland Metropolitan Bar Association's (CMBA) 4th Annual "David Webster Greener Way to Work Day," and to remember David Webster, legal scholar, litigator, entrepreneur, and environmentalist, who died at age 46 from cancer on March 13, 2009, but whose achievements were many in his short life.

David Webster overcame alcoholism at a young age and went on to sponsor others in recovery. He accomplished much and saw life as an adventure. At Case Western Reserve School of Law, he graduated magna cum laude and was an editor of Law Review, where he met his wife Beth.

Upon graduation from law school, David became a commercial lawyer with broad experience, in matters involving banking, commodity trading, securities, technology, real estate, intellectual property, and his passion, environmental law. Merging his knowledge of commodity trading and environmental law, he founded INHALE, which later became the Clean Air Conservancy, an organization which worked within the manufacturing economy and the commodities market to reduce air pollution by acquiring and retiring pollution allowances. Outside Magazine dubbed the Clean Air Conservancy one of the 10 best small environmental non-profits.

David Webster was an aggressive litigator who took on music giant Sony and won a judgment of more than \$5 million for the late Cleveland music producer Steve Popovich over credit for Meatloaf's hottest album, "Bat out of Hell." He was a founding partner of the law firm Webster & Dubyak and was also actively involved in the Cuyahoga County Bar Association, the Federal Bar Association, and the American Bar Association. He was a driving force behind the merger of the Cuyahoga County and the Cleveland Bar Associations and was the President-elect of the merged CMBA at the time of his passing.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing Tuesday September 25, 2012 as the 4th Annual David Webster Greener Way to Work Day. The CMBA encourages us to find a greener way to travel to and from work, whether through public transportation, biking, walking or carpooling. The CMBA will honor David's memory with a noon luncheon at the CMBA to recognize law firms and offices for their commitment to implement sustainable practices, reduce waste, and shrink their carbon footprints. Please join me in honoring the memory of David Webster by joining

with the CMBA in taking action to protect our environment.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOAN RECHNITZ AND BOB RECHNITZ

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Joan Rechnitz and Bob Rechnitz for their work in preserving New Jersey's pristine natural habitats. Their work with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation has been instrumental in helping to ensure that all New Jerseyans are able to enjoy the picturesque beauty of our county and State for generations to come.

Over the past 35 years, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation has worked to protect over 6,500 acres of land in Monmouth County. Joan and Bob Rechnitz have long been strong advocates and supporters of the foundation and the environment, which includes Bob's tenure as a member of the foundation's advisory board, and Joan's time as a board member of Monmouth County's "Friends of the Parks" organization. In addition to Joan and Bob Rechnitz's work with the Monmouth Conservation Foundation and "Friends of the Parks," both have been actively involved in promoting the arts in Monmouth County. In 1994, Joan and Bob Rechnitz founded the Two River Theater Company in an effort to provide Monmouth County residents with educational and community programs aimed at promoting the appreciation and advancement of arts. Joan and Bob Rechnitz's work through the Two River Theater Company, the Monmouth Conservation Foundation, and Monmouth County "Friends of the Parks" has resulted in a greater appreciation of the environment and the arts. It is my pleasure to join the Monmouth Conservation Foundation in honoring their work in showcasing and promoting the appreciation of art in nature and nature in art.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in leading this body in recognition of Joan and Bob Rechnitz for their work in artistic and environmental advocacy. I would like to extend my appreciation and gratitude for their work on behalf of Monmouth County, and I look forward to hearing of their future successes and endeavors.

COMMEMORATING THE 100TH YEAR OF THE LAKE COUNTY RAILROAD

HON. GREG WALDEN

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Mr. WALDEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and commemorate the 100th year of the Lake County Railroad, a 55-mile stretch of track connecting the neighboring communities of Alturas, California and Lakeview, Oregon.

Since its completion in January 1912 as part of the Nevada-California-Oregon Railway, this rail line has been a vital economic lifeline to the region, transporting Lake County's abundant agricultural and natural resources to markets around this great nation and the world.

The arrival of the NCO Railway was heralded at the time as "the most important epoch in the history of Lakeview and Lake County." Despite the limitations of its narrow-gauged tracks, the railroad spurred the growth of the livestock, mineral, and timber industries, brought in scores of new settlers, and turned a dusty frontier town into a vibrant community. Along with a passenger depot which still stands today, the railroad ushered in a building boom that saw the construction of a new opera house, high school, and even a sewer system.

In 1927, the line was sold to Southern Pacific, which quickly converted it to standard-gauge operations. As a result, Lakeview changed from a commercial center to an industrial hub containing up to ten lumber mills and remanufacturing plants. For nearly 60 years, rail-related trade in the region thrived as millions of board feet of ponderosa pine were carried to market via railcar.

With the beginning of the demise of the timber industry in the Northwest in the early 1980s, Southern Pacific announced plans to abandon the line. Recognizing the economic impact abandonment of the line would have on communities served by the railroad and appreciating its historic significance, Lake County purchased the line in 1986. In 1996, the county took over direct operations and established the Lake County Railroad.

Today, timber shipments have largely been replaced by loads of perlite, but the importance of the line has never been more pronounced. Reliable transportation brings industry and jobs, especially in rural Oregon.

While it has not been an easy task, the business and government leaders of Lake County have maintained and strengthened the Lake County Railroad with a tenacity and dedication that rivals those who first established the railroad. I am proud to have personally supported, advocated for, and been deeply involved in their many efforts to fuel this economic engine. And I will continue to do so.

On October 6, Lake County, Oregon, and the Town of Lakeview will celebrate the Centennial of the Lake County Railroad. Ten years ago, I had the pleasure of being on hand, with my son, to share in the community's previous celebration of the line. While unfortunately I cannot be there again to mark this momentous occasion, this record honors those efforts of my good friends in preserving the history of and building a future for railroads in America.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Lake County Railroad on 100 years of excellent service.

RECOGNIZING NATIONAL WORK AND FAMILY MONTH

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, September 21, 2012

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the month of October as National Work and Family Month.

As we strive to move our economy forward, we need to ensure that we are building an economy that works for everyone, including America's working families.

And as a mother of young kids in a household with two working parents, I know all too