

that there are great medical centers such as SRMC should we ever require medical assistance. I'd like to commend the doctors, nurses, administrators, and volunteers who make up the impressive team at SRMC on their stellar performance in the brief amount of time since the hospital's inception, and I look forward to following the continued service of the great folks at the Spotsylvania Regional Medical Center in the future.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I was not present for rollcall vote 73. Had I been able to vote, I would have voted "yes" on the Motion to Concur in the Senate Amendment to H.R. 347.

IN CELEBRATION OF AMERICA'S BLOOD CENTERS' 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. WALLY HERGER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. HERGER. Mr. Speaker, America's Blood Centers is North America's largest network of community-based, independent, non-profit blood centers. I congratulate ABC on its half-century anniversary and applaud its continued mission to help member blood centers serve their communities.

BloodSource is the blood center in Northern California. A regional, non-profit organization, BloodSource provides blood and services in ten counties within California's Second Congressional District and sixteen other counties in the state. In my district, BloodSource operates two major regional blood centers and one community donor center. Every day BloodSource conducts multiple blood donor drives to assure a safe and plentiful blood supply for the people who receive care in thirteen hospitals I represent.

I am proud to be a BloodSource blood donor and honored to represent 90,000 BloodSource blood donors. I have had the privilege of sponsoring BloodSource blood drives for several years. I applaud the efforts of BloodSource to make certain that every patient has the blood and blood components needed, wherever and whenever the need.

I join BloodSource in celebrating the 50th anniversary of ABC. Together with its members, ABC provides half of the American and a quarter of the Canadian blood supply to more than 150 million patients who receive care in 3,500 hospitals and healthcare facilities across North America. The work of ABC members impacts all of us.

Congratulations to America's Blood Centers. Because of their work, lives are being saved in cities and towns across the nation.

IN RECOGNITION OF DALE MINAMI

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Dale Minami who today is receiving the 2011 Silver Spur Award from San Francisco Planning and Urban Research (SPUR). This award recognizes a lifetime of civic achievement of a San Franciscan.

Mr. Minami is one of the country's pre-eminent attorneys recognized for his civil rights leadership. He is best known for heading the legal team in *Korematsu v. United States*, the legendary Supreme Court case that overturned the wrongful criminal conviction of Fred Korematsu who refused internment during World War II.

Mr. Minami is a personal injury attorney with Minami Tamaki LLP and has made significant contributions to the advancement of the rights of Asian-Americans. Minami is a co-founder of the Asian Law Caucus, the Asian-American Bar Association of the Greater Bay Area, the Asian Pacific Bar of California and the Coalition of Asian-Pacific Americans.

Other landmark decisions he was involved in include *United Filipinos for Affirmative Action v. California Blue Shield*, the first class action employment lawsuit brought by Asian-Pacific Americans on behalf of Asian-Pacific Americans; *Spokane JACL v. Washington State University* which established an Asian American Studies program at the Washington State University; and *Nakanishi v. UCLA*, a claim for unfair denial of tenure which resulted in the granting of tenure after multiple hearings and widespread publicity over discrimination in academia.

Mr. Minami has been involved in the judicial appointment process and in public policy. He was a member of the California Fair Employment and Housing Commission and chaired the California Attorney General's Asian Pacific Advisory Committee. He served as a commissioner on the California State Bar Association's Commission on Judicial Nominees' Evaluation and Senator Barbara Boxer's Judicial Screening Committee. President Clinton appointed him chair of the Civil Liberties Public Education Fund in 1996. Mr. Minami specializes in personal injury and entertainment law and has represented well known clients such as Kristi Yamaguchi, Philip Kan Gotanda and Steven Okazaki. He is counsel to the Asian American Journalists Association and has also represented many of San Francisco's best known faces on television, including Sydnie Kohara, Lawrence Karnow, Vic Lee, Heather Ishimaru and David Louie.

He received his B.A. in Political Science from the University of Southern California in 1968 and his J.D. from Boalt Hall School of Law at UC Berkeley in 1971. He was admitted to the California Bar in 1972. In 1982, he was admitted to practice in the U.S. Supreme Court.

Among his many awards and recognitions, Mr. Minami received the American Bar Association's 2003 Thurgood Marshall Award, the 2003 ACLU Civil Liberties Award, and the State Bar President's Pro Bono Service Award. A dormitory at UC Santa Cruz was named Queen Liliuokalani-Minami Dormitory. Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me

to acknowledge Dale Minami's extraordinary work and lasting contributions to justice and equality in the Asian American community and our community at large.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$15,438,518,062,690.37. We've added \$4,811,641,013,777.29 dollars to our debt in 3 years. This is \$5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNITION OF LESLIE LEWIS

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Leslie Lewis. A native of the Bronx, New York, Mr. Lewis is an outspoken highly respected advocate for the community.

Mr. Lewis was born and raised in the Bronx, New York but eventually spent a large part of his life in Scarsdale, New York. In Scarsdale, Mr. Lewis raised his two sons, Robert and Mark. Mr. Lewis first moved to Brooklyn in 1982, when he settled into a home on Wyckoff Street—between the Gowanous Housing Projects and the Wyckoff Housing Projects. Shortly after moving there, he joined the precinct community council.

Mr. Lewis worked for 30 years in the exhibition business, becoming president of the Greyhound Exposition Company in the process. Along with national trade shows, Mr. Lewis maintained his concern for minority areas. He developed his "Job Power" concept as a way to bring employers to unemployed urban minorities. This concept was recognized by then President Nixon, who transformed it into the modern day job fair.

These experiences led Mr. Lewis towards recognizing his talent for bringing the concerns of regular people to their elected officials. Upon moving to Brooklyn, he developed a relationship with the district attorney's office in an effort to improve community relations. In his capacity of police liaison, as well as council president of the 84th Precinct, Mr. Lewis serves as a switchboard between Borough President Markowitz, the Brooklyn district attorney's office, the police and his 2.5 million constituents.

Mr. Lewis gathers complaints from the public and then communicates them to the police, making sure that something gets done about them. Crime has seen a dramatic decrease in the 84th Precinct. Since 1990, it's gone down over 90%, according to NYPD statistics. Because of efforts of community leaders like Mr. Lewis, Brooklyn neighborhoods have a high

quality of life, are more walkable and real estate is more valuable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Leslie Lewis for his lifelong effort to bring additional resources into our local institutions, communities and neighborhoods, and helping to improve employment opportunities for needy Brooklyn residents.

HONORING THE SERVICE OF
REVEREND LAWRENCE A. DAVIES

HON. ROBERT J. WITTMAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Mr. WITTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a man who has made an unforgettable mark on his community over the last fifty years. Since becoming Pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site) on March 4, 1962, Rev. Lawrence A. Davies has lived a life full of dedicated service, guiding his church and his community through five decades of struggle and success. Rev. Davies will retire from his post on March 4, 2012, 50 years to the day after he began his tenure.

A native of Houston, Rev. Lawrence A. Davies was elected to City Council shortly after arriving in Fredericksburg, and in 1976, he became the city's first African American mayor. During the 20 years he spent as mayor of Fredericksburg, Rev. Davies led the city through many economic development projects, including revitalizations of the city's downtown and the establishment of the city's first low-income housing complex. His tenure also saw the creation of a regional public transit system that successfully provided low-cost transportation to citizens.

Rev. Davies' service has extended to his private exploits as well. Having been directly impacted by the tragic effects of sickle cell anemia on his family, he and his wife, Janice, have worked tirelessly to increase attention of and advocacy for the victims of this debilitating disease. Rev. Davies also founded Citizens United for Action, a group that promoted civic activism, racial tolerance, and voter education, and his guidance and leadership in the city undoubtedly helped to preserve peace during the Civil Rights era. He has served on numerous boards during his time in Fredericksburg, including the Mary Washington College Board of Directors, the Rappahannock Area Community Services Board, and the Virginia Department of Transportation.

As pastor of Shiloh Baptist Church (Old Site), Rev. Davies has served as an anchor of his community over the last fifty years. Under his leadership, the church has flourished, with continued growth in membership and a focus on the development of innovative ways to help the homeless and provide community outreach. I have worshipped with Rev. Davies and his congregation on multiple occasions, and his insightful, energetic sermons are full of spiritual encouragement and inspirational teachings. Rev. Davies' contributions to the Fredericksburg area since his arrival in 1962 have impacted the entire fabric of the region, and I greatly admire his selflessness, faith, and compassion for his fellow citizens. As he celebrates his retirement with friends and family on March 4, I wish him many years of happiness. I know that he will continue to set the

standard for selfless service in Fredericksburg for many years to come, and I look forward to our continued friendship.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELMER "BOB"
EASTMAN

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Sergeant Elmer "Bob" Eastman for his 29 years of service with the South San Francisco Police Department. He will be missed by his fellow officers who praise him as a go-getter, team player, leader, master detective and trainer.

Sergeant Eastman started at the South San Francisco Police Department as an officer in May 1982 and was promoted to sergeant in February 1998. He served as a special agent with the San Mateo County Narcotics Task Force and was a founding member of the San Mateo County's North-Central Regional SWAT Team.

He remembers 1998 as one of the best times in his life. He weighed 219 pounds. To get on the SWAT team he had to lose 50–60 pounds—and he did by running with a buddy every single day.

Sergeant Eastman's perseverance is matched by his optimism and sense of humor. He came close to being killed in the line of duty twice, once in a shootout on El Camino Real, the other time when a suspect in a drug case tried to run him over with a car, or as he puts it, "Bob's on the hood."

From 1992–95, he worked as an undercover agent in San Mateo County. He says he bought any drug imaginable and looked like Charles Manson. His wife was not fond of that look. In fact she banished him to the back of the church in those days.

Sergeant Eastman volunteered for 16 years as the original drill instructor for the county's Peninsula Explorer Academy and he was the president of the South San Francisco Police Activity League from 1987 to 1989.

He was born in New Jersey in 1958, but spent his childhood in Sydney, Australia. He attended Ku-Ring-Gai High School before transferring to Menlo-Atherton High School when his family moved to the Bay Area in 1974.

Before he started his career in law enforcement, Sergeant Eastman served as a First Lieutenant in the U.S. Army National Guard.

Sergeant Eastman and his wife Kerry will celebrate their 25th wedding anniversary next year. They have two children, David and Janelle. In his retirement he will no doubt enjoy more time with his family and friends and find ways to keep his quick wit and creativity engaged.

He applies the same optimism he has applied to his work to his life. Faced with serious health challenges, Sergeant Eastman says life is wonderful and he is going to live every day to the fullest.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor Sergeant Elmer "Bob" Eastman for his decades of dedication to public service and for keeping the residents of South San Francisco safe.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 3630,
MIDDLE CLASS TAX RELIEF AND
JOB CREATION ACT OF 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, February 17, 2012

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, as the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology, I want to provide an explanation of a key provision in the spectrum title of H.R. 3630, the recently enacted Middle Class Tax Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012, which promotes competition and ensures a vibrant wireless marketplace.

Section 6404 enables participation in a spectrum auction if a person "complies with all the auction procedures and other requirements to protect the auction process established by the Commission" and "meets the technical, financial, character, and citizenship qualifications that the Commission may require under section 303(1)(1), 308(b), or 310" of the Communications Act, or would meet those qualifications by means approved by the Commission prior to the grant of the license.

A similar provision was included in the version of H.R. 3630 passed by the House in December, however, the Conferees made three important modifications. First, they added the requirement that an auction participation must comply with "auction procedures and other requirements to protect the auction process." This ensures that the FCC can ensure the integrity of each auction.

Second, they added a requirement to ensure the FCC has the authority to design auction rules, such as divestiture plans, and require a winning bidder's compliance prior to the grant of the license.

Third, and importantly, the Conferees added language stating that none of the limitations on the FCC's ability to prevent a person from participating in an auction "affects any authority the Commission has to adopt and enforce rules of general applicability, including rules concerning spectrum aggregation that promote competition." This provision is critical to ensuring that the FCC can meet its statutory obligation to ensure competition in the wireless marketplace by avoiding an excessive concentration of licenses through auction-specific rules.

I'm pleased the Conferees saw fit to balance the original House language with this savings clause. As Americans increasingly depend on wireless services for both voice and data, this legislation makes substantial new spectrum available for auction and ensures that the FCC—by rulemaking—can adopt rules enhancing competition, consumer choice and innovation.

HONORING THE NEW HAVEN FREE
PUBLIC LIBRARY AS THEY CELEBRATE
THEIR 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 28, 2012

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to join community