

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

leaders, literacy advocates, and the many members of the New Haven Free Public Library as they gather to celebrate the organization's 125th Anniversary. This is an extraordinary milestone for this very special City landmark.

Following the passage of legislation authorizing its establishment and with a funding allocation of only twelve thousand dollars, the New Haven Free Public Library opened its doors on February 21, 1887 offering twenty-six newspapers and eight periodicals to its first patrons. By June of that same year, circulation of the Library's thirty-five hundred volumes began—and they have gone strong ever since.

Libraries are an integral part of our communities. Most of us can remember that unique feeling of holding your first library card and checking out your first book. Over the course of time, libraries became central gathering places for community members—in fact, in many towns across the country libraries are still home to town meetings and social gatherings. The New Haven Free Public Library is no different.

Housing scores of volumes from biographies to fiction, science to current events, libraries have always been a place where adults and children alike can allow their imaginations to run wild. Over the course of its 125-year history, the New Haven Free Public Library has not only been home to a growing collection of literary work, but within its walls the doors of opportunity have been opened to many. Literacy programs, computer learning classes, and many more innovative programs and services have been offered to support the members of our community.

The New Haven Free Public Library represents the very best of our community. That they are celebrating their 125th Anniversary—that the community has always ensured its availability to its citizens—is testament to its special place in all of our lives. It is part of our past, present and future and I am proud to join all of those gathered today in celebrating this very special occasion. I have no doubt that the New Haven Free Public Library will continue to serve our community well for generations to come.

## STATEMENT ON H.R. 2117

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2012*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I voted against H.R. 2117, the "Protecting Academic Freedom in Higher Education Act." This bill infringes on the duties of the Department of Education and it undermines efforts to reduce fraud and waste within the federal financial aid system.

The legislation would prohibit the Department of Education from issuing regulations regarding the definition of a credit hour and regulations requiring institutions of higher education to comply with the state laws in which they offer educational services. In effect, it undermines efforts to demand accountability in the federal financial aid system. There is a clear federal interest in establishing consistent definitions for a credit-hour, the underlying unit used to determine federal financial aid benefits.

In addition, requiring institutions of higher education to continue to register with the state where they teach distance or correspondence classes will help ensure that basic accountability standards are being met. We have a responsibility to taxpayers to ensure that the institutions receiving support through the financial aid system are in compliance with state laws. This bill restricts the Department of Education's attempts to reduce fraud and waste within the financial aid system, and makes it difficult to ensure that our financial aid systems support the institutions that are effectively educating tomorrow's workforce.

The institutions in my district will benefit from a more fair financial aid system, as it will ensure long term viability of the system and protect their students' access to the very important financial aid benefits.

## IN RECOGNITION OF STEVEN W. WALDO

**HON. JACKIE SPEIER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, February 28, 2012*

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Brisbane City Councilmember Steven W. Waldo for his 18 years of service to the people of Brisbane. During his four terms as the Mayor and five terms as the Mayor Pro Tem,

Steve used a keen and analytical mind on every issue that he confronted. He has the rare skill of bringing discussions to a vote.

I met Steve in 1989 when he first ran for City Council and have witnessed his years of tireless dedication to our community and to public affairs on the San Francisco Peninsula. He personifies the can-do attitude of the residents of Brisbane who love their small town.

Steve has been a driving force in maintaining Brisbane's character and the quality of life for all residents. He has worked hard to balance Brisbane's thriving economy with the preservation of the town's natural beauty.

Steve deeply appreciates the pristine open space on San Bruno Mountain. One of his long-lasting accomplishments was the preservation of over 3000 acres of open space to protect the endangered Calippe Silverspot and Mission Blue butterflies. The City Council revised the design for 37 single-family homes on the Northeast Ridge after weeks of public input and discussions with the council and the planning department. It was the first time a community in the United States had developed a habitat conservation plan, HCP, and it served as a model for an amendment to the Endangered Species Act.

In the early 1990s the town was proposing to build a city hall in the center of town. Steve advocated successfully to create a community park instead. Today that park is a popular location for picnics and concerts that are bringing the community together.

Around the same time a proposal for a casino on Sierra Point didn't sit well with Steve. He campaigned against it and the proposal was soundly defeated.

Steve is also an enthusiastic and tenacious advocate for education. He has fought for the local schools and worked closely with the school district to ensure that future generations had access to quality education.

Steve, a native of Palo Alto, graduated cum laude from Harvard College in 1970 and earned a law degree from Hastings College of Law in 1974. He worked for 24 years at the law firm of Severson & Werson in San Francisco and for 10 years as chief legal officer of CPP, Inc., a publishing company in Mountain View.

Steve and his wife of 30 years, Patricia Franklin Waldo, have three daughters, Amanda, Rebecca and Hilary, and one son, Lloyd Stevens Waldo.

Mr. Speaker, I ask this body to rise with me to honor the life and work of Steve Waldo who has made the city of Brisbane a better place for residents and visitors alike.