

IN REMEMBRANCE OF FORMER  
STATE REPRESENTATIVE, REV-  
EREND MICHAEL DEBOSE

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of former state representative, Reverend Michael DeBose.

A lifelong resident of Cleveland, Ohio, Rev. DeBose graduated from Urban League Street Academy and Cleveland State University. He also studied at Myers College and the Moody Bible Institute. He began his professional career with the Cuyahoga Metropolitan Housing Authority and City of Cleveland. He eventually went to work for the Cuyahoga County Sanitary Engineer Department as a building and grounds superintendent and vehicle maintenance supervisor.

In 2002, Rev. DeBose began serving as a Member of the Ohio House of Representatives from the 12th District, representing the areas of Garfield Heights, Maple Heights, Cleveland Wards 1 and Ward 2, as well as part of Cleveland Ward 3. He was an avid advocate for raising the minimum wage and promoting cancer screenings. He served as State Representative for four consecutive terms until he reached the term limit at the end of 2010.

In addition to his civil service, Rev. DeBose was an active member of the Greater Cleveland community. He was a member of the Cleveland School Board and was essential to the establishment of the Cleveland School of the Arts' parent-teacher association. Rev. DeBose was also an associate pastor at Zion Chapel Missionary Baptist Church and served as chaplain for the Ohio Legislative Black Caucus.

I offer my condolences to his wife, the former Cheryl Ann Andrews; children, Shalimar Keyhan DeBose, Michael Kareem DeBose II and Krystal Keyhan DeBose; three grandsons; four brothers and four sisters.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in remembering the late Reverend Michael DeBose.

### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

### HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, on April 26, 2012, I missed votes on various amendments to and final passage of H.R. 3523, the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act.

On the Langevin amendment, rollcall No. 184, which would expand eligibility to participate in the voluntary information sharing program created in the bill to include critical infrastructure owners and operators and ensure that all critical infrastructure entities are able to receive vital cybersecurity information and better secure their networks against cyberthreats, I would have voted "yea."

On amendments including rollcall Nos. 185, 186, 187, 188, 189, and 190, I would have voted "yea."

On the Democratic Motion to Recommit, I would have voted "yea," and on final passage of H.R. 3523, I would have voted "no."

I strongly support efforts to improve information sharing among the various stakeholders critical to keeping Americans safe from cyber threats, but not at the expense of our civil liberties. This legislation does not effectively protect privacy and ensure that Americans' rights are upheld.

IN HONOR OF THE VIETNAMESE  
COMMUNITY OF CLEVELAND AND  
THE 37TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
FALL OF SAIGON

### HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance and recognition of the 37th anniversary of the fall of Saigon. This historical date commemorates the end of the Vietnam War, and represents the beginning of a new life for tens of thousands of Vietnamese people, as they began their hopeful journey to America.

On April 30, 1975, the ancient city of Saigon fell to the conquest of the communist troops. This action solidified the communist takeover of South Vietnam. Thirty-seven years later, I rise to honor the memory and sacrifice of the hundreds of thousands of South Vietnamese soldiers, American soldiers and civilians who made the ultimate sacrifice in the name of liberty.

Despite the violent takeover and the rule of repression that followed, the culture, spirit and hope reflected by the Vietnamese people remained steadfast. After the fall of Saigon, thousands of Vietnamese, determined to rebuild their lives, began a treacherous exodus out of Vietnam. Their daring escape was on foot, through thick jungles and over jagged mountains. They escaped by boat, through snake-infested rivers and across turbulent seas. They became refugees in many nations, including America, with nothing more than the clothes on their backs and the hope for freedom in their hearts.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring and remembering the hundreds of thousands of men and women who struggle for peace and freedom, then and now. We also honor agencies and churches such as The Vietnamese Community of Greater Cleveland and St. Helena Catholic Church, which offer havens of support, services and hope to immigrants from all over the world. The Vietnamese culture, through the care and commitment of its people, has flourished in Cleveland and across America, yet remains forever connected to its ancient cultural and historical traditions that spiral back throughout the centuries, connecting the old world to the new, spanning oceans and borders in the ageless quest for peace—from Vietnam to America.

COMMEMORATING THE CENTEN-  
NIAL OF THE BIRTH OF RAOUL  
WALLENBERG

### HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the heroic actions of

Raoul Wallenberg, a Swedish citizen and diplomat, who, together with other courageous individuals, helped 100,000 Hungarian Jews escape Nazi authorities during World War II. As we continue to honor the memories of all those who suffered and perished during the Holocaust, we cannot forget the extraordinary men and women who risked their very own lives to take a stand against injustice and save their fellow man. This year marks the centennial of Wallenberg's birth, and although his ultimate fate remains unknown, we must ensure that this and future generations know of his great deeds.

Wallenberg was born on August 4, 1912 in Lidingö, Sweden, to a prominent Lutheran family. He studied architecture at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor, and graduated with honors in 1935. The following year, Wallenberg went to work at a bank in Haifa, Palestine, and was deeply moved by the stories of Jews who had escaped Nazi persecution in Germany. After returning to Sweden, he became associated with Koloman Lauer, a Hungarian Jew who owned an import and export firm. Wallenberg traveled freely through Germany, Nazi-occupied France, and Hungary, where he witnessed the plight of European Jews firsthand.

On March 19, 1944, Hitler invaded Hungary and began a massive deportation of Hungary's estimated 700,000 Jews to the concentration camp Auschwitz-Birkenau. Earlier that year, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt established the War Refugee Board in order to help Jews and other groups persecuted by the Nazi and Axis powers. Working together with the Swedish government and prominent Swedish Jews, including Lauer, the War Refugee Board sought to send a special envoy to Budapest to rescue as many Hungarian Jews as possible. Wallenberg, then only 31 years old, was appointed first secretary at the Swedish Legation in Budapest with full diplomatic privileges and the financial support of the War Refugee Board.

Wallenberg used all means necessary to protect Jews from the German and Hungarian authorities, employing several hundred Jews under the protection of the Swedish Legation, redesigning the so-called "Schutzpass," and securing approximately 15,000 such protective passes. On October 15, 1944, the fascist Arrow Cross Party seized power in Hungary and installed a pro-Nazi regime that terrorized, deported, and murdered tens of thousands of people. Still, Wallenberg remained in Budapest to continue his efforts and established "Swedish Houses," which served as places of refuge for over 25,000 Jews.

On November 20, 1944, Adolph Eichmann began the "death marches," the deportation of thousands of starving and tortured Jews by foot along the 125-mile-long road between Budapest and the Austrian border. Wallenberg directly confronted German soldiers along the way in order to provide protective passes, food, and medicine to Jews. In January 1945, he saved the remaining Jews living in Budapest's largest ghetto from massacre with the help of Pál Szalay, an Arrow Cross senior official.

When the Russian army arrived in Budapest on January 17, 1945, Wallenberg disappeared after being taken into Soviet custody. He was reportedly imprisoned in Lubyanka prison in Moscow, and died on July 19, 1947 from a heart attack. However, reports from former Soviet prisoners as recent as 1981 suggest that

Wallenberg may have survived after 1947, and his fate remains shrouded in mystery to this day. He has since become the subject of numerous humanitarian honors, including that of Yad Vashem's "Righteous among the Nations;" has been named an honorary citizen of the United States, Canada, and Israel; and has been memorialized through countless monuments, statues, works of art, social institutions, and street names around the world.

Mr. Speaker, Raoul Wallenberg and his colleagues in the Swedish Legation saved at least 100,000 Jews in Hungary from extermination, including the late Congressman Tom Lantos and his wife Annette. As we celebrate the centennial of Wallenberg's birth, let his story inspire and embolden our ongoing efforts to bring an end to discrimination and hate-inspired violence in our communities through greater leadership and cooperation among all peoples.

#### IN RECOGNITION OF MAGOS HUNGARIAN FOLK BAND

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Magos Hungarian Folk Band, and welcome them to Cleveland, Ohio, for their performance at St. Emeric's Church Hall on April 29, 2012.

The Magos Band's philosophy is to learn and present Hungarian folk music in its archaic form and perform it to the young generation. Their music is classified as Táncház, drawing inspiration from the Carpathian basin, including Hungary, Transylvania and parts of Slovakia.

The Magos Hungarian Folk Band is comprised of violinists Csaba Soós and Márton Kovács, Dávid Horváth on bass, Tamás Enyedi on cimbalom, Márton Fekete playing the brácsa, and vocals by Ágnes Enyedi. The band gained fame after winning the 2011 Folkbeats Competition in Budapest, Hungary. Their prize was a concert tour of North America. In addition to a concert, the Magos Band will also be hosting a traditional Hungarian dance party after each of their shows.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognizing the Magos Hungarian Folk Band and welcoming them to the City of Cleveland.

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE "JOHN HOPE FRANKLIN TULSA-GREEN- WOOD RIOT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT"

**HON. JOHN CONYERS, JR.**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. CONYERS. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to introduce the "John Hope Franklin Tulsa-Greenwood Riot Accountability Act of 2012," along with Representative NADLER, and additional cosponsors. This legislation will create a

Federal cause of action to allow the survivors of the Tulsa-Greenwood Riot of 1921 to seek a determination on the merits of their civil rights and other claims against the perpetrators of the Riot in a Federal court of law.

This legislation is named in honor of the late Dr. John Hope Franklin, the noted historian, who was a first-hand witness to the destructive impact that the riot had on the African-American community of Tulsa. Dr. Franklin made numerous scholarly contributions to the understanding of the long term effects of the riot on the city and worked to keep the issue alive in history and on the minds of policymakers. On April 24, 2007, he served as a witness, testifying in favor of the legislation, and its passage would be a fitting tribute to his memory and to a community which has never received its fair day in court.

The Greenwood neighborhood of Tulsa, Oklahoma, was one of the nation's most prosperous African-American communities entering the decade of the Nineteen Twenties. Serving over 8000 residents, the community boasted two newspapers, over a dozen churches, and hundreds of African-American-owned businesses, with the commercial district known nationally as the "Negro Wall Street." In May 1921, all that came to an end as 42 square blocks of the community were burned to the ground and up to 300 of its residents were killed by a racist mob. In the wake of the violence, the State and local governments quashed claims for redress and effectively erased the incident from official memory.

The 1921 Tulsa Race Riot was one of the most destructive and costly attacks upon an American community in our nation's history. However, no convictions were obtained for the incidents of murder, arson or larceny connected with the riot, and none of the more than 100 contemporaneously filed lawsuits by residents and property owners were successful in recovering damages from insurance companies to assist in the reconstruction of the community.

The case of the Tulsa-Greenwood Riot victims is worthy of Congressional attention because substantial evidence suggests that governmental officials deputized and armed the mob and that the National Guard joined in the destruction. The report commissioned by the Oklahoma State Legislature in 1997, and published in 2001, uncovered new information and detailed, for the first time, the extent of the involvement by the State and city government in prosecuting and erasing evidence of the riot. This new evidence was crucial for the formulation of a substantial case, but its timeliness raised issues at law, and resulted in a dismissal on statute of limitation grounds. In dismissing the survivor's claims, however, the Court found that extraordinary circumstances might support extending the statute of limitations, but that Congress did not establish rules applicable to the case at bar. With this legislation, we have the opportunity to provide closure for a group of claimants—many over 100 years old—and the ability close the book on a tragic chapter in history.

Racism, and its violent manifestations, are part of our nation's past that we cannot avoid. With the prosecution of historical civil rights claims, both civil and criminal, we encourage a process of truth and reconciliation which can heal historic wounds. In this case, the Court

took "no great comfort" in finding that there was no legal avenue through which the plaintiffs could bring their claims. The "Tulsa-Greenwood Riot Accountability Act" would simply give Tulsans and all Oklahomans, white and black, victims and non-victims, their day in court. Without that opportunity, we will all continue to be victims of our past.

#### IN REMEMBRANCE OF MRS. GINA THOMPSON

**HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH**

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 2012*

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in remembrance of Mrs. Gina Thompson, a supporter and leading voice for environmental, social and political improvement.

Gina was born on January 28, 1938 in Los Angeles, California. She was raised by her mother, Greta and stepfather, William Dooling. Gina attended Santa Monica College and soon after married Ed Angell. They had a son, Christopher.

Several years later, Gina remarried her husband of 55 years, John Thompson. While the family of three was living in Malibu, Gina was diagnosed with breast cancer. She vowed that if she overcame the disease, she would devote her life to helping others. This is when Gina's career in philanthropy blossomed.

Beginning as a volunteer, Gina was ultimately appointed the executive director of the Center for the Healing Arts in Los Angeles. She eventually went on to the same position with The Hermes Project before to Nicasio, California. She continued her work with nonprofit organizations as the executive director for the Dharma Foundation.

Gina was also extremely involved in politics, and served as a fundraiser and organizer for both my own and President Obama's campaigns. Spirituality was another aspect that was important in Gina's life. She was a fundraiser for Spirit Rock Meditation Center and assisted master Mingtong Gu in bringing the Wisdom Healing Qigong Center to Petaluma.

I offer my condolences to her husband, John Thompson and son, Christopher Angell.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring the life of Mrs. Gina Thompson.

#### OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, May 8, 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 \$15,675,791,363,404.17. We've added \$5,048,914,314,491.09 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.