

and housing—had hundreds of entrants from over 130 countries around the world. Such luminaries as Muhammad Yunus, winner of the Nobel Peace Prize judged the final round; and President Bill Clinton handed out the top awards for each category. CMU's Ketaki Desai, Elizabeth Cullinan, Tim Kelly, and Reginald Cox won first place in the education category.

One Laptop Per Child seeks to provide greater educational resources for children ages 6 through 12 in impoverished areas of the world. OLPC has designed laptops with several key features geared towards helping these children. They cost significantly less to manufacture than the standard laptops we use here in the US; they are pre-loaded with lots of educational software, and have wireless internet built in; they are low energy, ensuring that even children in communities without electricity can use them, then recharge the laptops using solar energy; the laptops' screens can be read in sunlight—an important feature because so many of these children go to school outside; and, perhaps most importantly, these laptops are extremely durable and rugged, because, let's face it, kids are going to be kids, no matter where they are in the world.

By providing children with these laptops, One Laptop Per Child hopes to broaden children's worldview, and enrich their educational experiences, because, as they see it, education is the foundation for the other solutions to problems like a lack of shelter or running water. Their goal is to donate and distribute 20 million laptops to poor children throughout the world over the next 5 years.

This is just one more example of the innovative work that's being done in Pittsburgh, and I am proud to be their representative. Congratulations to these grad students and to all the bright minds in Pittsburgh working so hard to solve the world's problems. I thank them for their dedication.

RECOGNIZING SERGEANT CHRISTOPHER OSBORNE

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Sergeant Christopher Osborne of Labadie, Missouri, who was awarded the Purple Heart due to injuries he sustained while serving in Afghanistan. I am honored to recognize Sergeant Osborne for his service to our nation.

Sergeant Osborne was presented the Purple Heart medal on December 29, 2011, at Bagram Airfield by Major General Stephen L. Danner, adjutant general of the Missouri National Guard. The Purple Heart is awarded in the name of the President of the United States to any member of the Armed Forces of the United States who has been wounded or killed.

Sergeant Osborne serves in the 1138th Transportation Company, a medium truck unit headquartered at Jefferson Barracks in south St. Louis County. The 1138th has been per-

forming convoy operations, delivering supplies to coalition forces throughout Afghanistan. On a night mission in October 2011 while serving as a Scout truck commander, Sergeant Osborne and his convoy came under attack from an improvised explosive device (IED). The IED heavily damaged Sergeant Osborne's vehicle, but he and his three fellow crew members survived the assault. Sergeant Osborne returned to full duty within a few weeks of the attack.

He is a veteran of Operation Iraqi Freedom and is currently serving in Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan.

In closing, Mr. Speaker, I ask all my colleagues to join me in honoring Sergeant Christopher Osborne and thanking him for his continued service to our country.

CONGRATULATING MR. MA YING-JEOU, PRESIDENT OF TAIWAN

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate the people of Taiwan on the occasion of their presidential inauguration this May 20. Mr. Ma Ying-jeou was re-elected to a second term on January 14th. May the long-term ongoing relationship between Taiwan and the United States continue to develop and grow and may there be permanent peace and security in the Taiwan Strait. Congratulations to President Ma Ying-jeou and his people.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MAURICE D. HINCHEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. HINCHEY. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 215 I inadvertently voted "aye" when I intended to vote "no" on the Huizenga Amendment to H.R. 5326, the Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

I would like the RECORD to reflect this error as I reiterate my strong opposition to this amendment and reaffirm my support for our nation's public sector employees, who are adversely affected by OMB Circular A-76's methodology.

IN RECOGNITION OF NATIONAL NURSES WEEK

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of National Nurses Week.

This week it is important for us to come together and pay special tribute to the women

and men who make up the largest segment of our healthcare workforce.

Nurses are truly the backbone of our healthcare system.

They not only work in our hospitals and clinics, but are present in our schools, our workplaces, and in so many facets of our everyday lives.

However, our increasing demand for nurses continues to grow at a rate faster than the current supply can alleviate.

By 2020, the overall need for new nurses is expected to reach a staggering 1.2 million.

For the nursing workforce to meet this demand, we must ensure that federal investment in nursing does not falter.

The Nurse Reinvestment Act, which I authored and was signed into law in 2002, set the framework to do this.

But we all must come together, on both sides of the aisle, to support these crucial programs and to support nursing education and a robust nursing workforce.

I encourage my colleagues and all Americans to take time out this week to thank the nurses in your life and to join me in recognition of these professionals who tirelessly care for the health of ourselves and our loved ones.

RECOGNIZING LT. COL. DAVID CARROLL FOR HIS TWENTY-FIVE YEARS OF SERVICE IN THE U.S. AIR FORCE.

HON. DAVID SCHWEIKERT

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. SCHWEIKERT. Mr. Speaker, I wish to congratulate Lieutenant Colonel David Carroll for his twenty-five years of honorable service to our country and the United States Air Force.

Our community is proud of all our men and women in uniform and it is always a great experience to see so many of them thrive and succeed in service to their country.

I join the United States Air Force and wish Lt. Col. Carroll all the best in his retirement.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BRETT GUTHRIE

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. GUTHRIE. Mr. Speaker, I submit a clarification of my vote on rollcall No. 233 the Flores Amendment No. 10, to H.R. 5326. I mistakenly voted "nay" when I intended to vote "yea". The amendment would remove a standing prohibition on federal purchases of coal-to-liquid fuels, which have the potential to greatly increase our energy security.

I am a strong supporter of coal-to-liquid technology and am a cosponsor of H.R. 2036, the American Alternative Fuels Act, which would repeal the very same prohibition this amendment defunds. My vote against the Flores amendment was accidental. I regret my error and appreciate the opportunity for clarification.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF JOHNNY MAESTRO

HON. JERROLD NADLER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 9, 2012

Mr. NADLER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of a great singer and humanitarian, John Mastrangelo, known to his fans, friends, and fellow musicians as Johnny Maestro. Johnny would have been 73 years old this week, and his influence on popular music and on the New York neighborhoods he loved so dearly is still being felt.

John Mastrangelo was born on Manhattan's Lower East Side on May 7, 1939, graduated from Charles Evans Hughes High School in 1956, and attended Borough of Manhattan Community College.

In 1956, John Mastrangelo joined four teenage singers from Manhattan's Lower East Side to form The Crests. Their vocal harmony was innovative, combining elements of jazz, R&B, and early rock 'n' roll to become true pioneers of rock and roll music. They were one of the first integrated popular vocal groups. While the rest of the country was still struggling with the legacy of Jim Crow, The Crests—Johnny Maestro, who was Italian-American; three African Americans: J. T. Carter, Talmoudge Gough, and Patricia Van Dross (older sister of R&B great Luther Vandross); and Harold Torres, who was Puerto Rican—were recording groundbreaking music. With Johnny Maestro as the lead singer, The Crests recorded hits like "16 Candles," "Trouble in Paradise," "The Angels Listened In" and "Step by Step."

Following his time with The Crests, Johnny Maestro had a short solo career, and then joined another popular New York group, the Del-Satins, as lead singer. In 1968, they merged with a Long Island group, The Rhythm Method, to form The Brooklyn Bridge. The Brooklyn Bridge recorded a series of hits, including "Welcome Me Love," "You'll Never Walk Alone," and "Your Husband, My Wife." They had their biggest hit with Jimmy Webb's "The Worst That Could Happen." Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge continued to perform for forty-two years. Johnny Maestro's exceptional tenor voice won accolades from fans and fellow musicians alike. His distinctive voice remained vibrant and strong throughout his fifty-three year career.

Johnny Maestro was more than a great musician; he was also a great humanitarian. Johnny and the Brooklyn Bridge gave generously of their time, performing benefit concerts for numerous good causes.

He performed at many fundraising events on Staten Island such as the Borough President's "Back to the Beach" concert. He also performed for the New York City Fire Department and Police Department, the United States Military, Italian American Association, as well as church and school fundraisers. He performed on the Jerry Lewis Telethon and as part of "We Are the World," which raised funds for worldwide hunger relief.

Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge were inducted into the Vocal Group Hall of Fame in 2005, the Long Island Hall of Fame in 2006, and the South Carolina Rhythm and Blues Hall of Fame, just to name a few of their many honors.

On March 26, 2011, the City of New York honored him by renaming the intersection of Mason Avenue and Midland Avenue on Staten Island as "Johnny Maestro Way."

Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge were unswerving supporters of our police, fire, military, and Italian-American benevolent associations. The communities I represent warmly remember the benefit concerts Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge participated in to aid 9/11 responders and their families. In 2007, Johnny Maestro sang at a concert digitally filmed and sent to bases of our Armed Forces overseas. Johnny Maestro and The Brooklyn Bridge ended their concerts by singing "You'll Never Walk Alone" and dedicated the song to the men and women in uniform. Today, the surviving members of The Brooklyn Bridge continue to honor Johnny's legacy by performing the songs he sang with The Crests and The Brooklyn Bridge, and supporting the humanitarian causes he held so dear.

Sadly, that great voice was stilled when Johnny Maestro died at the age of 70, following a valiant struggle with cancer. He continued to perform up until two months before his death.

Mr. Speaker, Johnny Maestro was the consummate New Yorker. He was talented, and he gave of his gifts and his success for the betterment of his City and those most in need. His life and his art are an example of what is best in our City and in our Nation. I urge all members of the House to join me in remembering and honoring Johnny's Maestro's life and work, and to remember a man whose musical accomplishments and humanitarian deeds have touched the lives of so many people.

COMMERCE, JUSTICE, SCIENCE,
AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 8, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5326) making appropriations for the Departments of Commerce and Justice, Science, and Related Agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Chair, I oppose H.R. 5326, the FY13 Commerce, Justice, Science and Related Agencies Appropriations and am deeply concerned about provisions included in the bill that will roll back important civil rights protections and undermine key protections for youth in the juvenile justice system.

SECTION 540: EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY COMMISSION RIDER TO UNDERMINE THE AGE DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT ACT

Despite passage of the Age Discrimination in Employment Act, ADEA, forty-five years ago, older workers continue to face discrimination in the workplace. They are demoted, denied promotions and fired simply because of their age. While the ADEA provides important protections, older workers continue to be hard hit during these difficult economic times. The challenges they face are substantial. As com-

pared to their younger colleagues, older workers have greater difficulty finding new employment and are twice as likely to be out of work for 99 weeks or longer. The EEOC reports that the number of age discrimination charges filed increased by over 70 percent between 2006 and 2011. And according to the AARP, 60 percent of workers interviewed report experiencing or witnessing age discrimination in the workplace.

The protections afforded older workers have been under assault in recent years. In 2009, the Supreme Court rolled back workplace protections for older workers in *Gross v. FBL Financial* decision. In this case, the Supreme Court held that victims of age discrimination must meet a higher burden than other forms of workplace discrimination when bringing a claim. Rather than having to prove age was a motivating factor for an adverse employment action, older workers are now required to show age was the decisive factor when raising an ADEA claim.

The bill before us today would be another significant setback for older workers in this country. H.R. 5326 would prohibit funds made available by the Act to be used to implement, administer, or enforce the Equal Employment Opportunity Commission's, EEOC, final regulations on Disparate Impact and Reasonable Factors Other than Age under the ADEA published in March 2012. According to the EEOC, the rider in H.R. 5326 "would undermine vigorous enforcement of the nation's age discrimination laws at a time when older workers are particularly vulnerable."

The EEOC regulation at issue should not be controversial. It gives employers greater clarity on how to avoid unlawful disparate impacts under the ADEA. This clarity should be welcomed not rejected. EEOC's intent behind the regulation is straightforward, "to bring . . . existing [EEOC] regulation into conformance with . . . Supreme Court precedent and to explain the meaning of RFOA [Reasonable Factor Other than Age] defense to employees, employers, and courts."

Eliminating this regulation would create new confusion on what standards—even outdated ones—might apply in its stead. As a result, H.R. 5326 would create legal uncertainty and uneven results in these cases and would also eliminate important tools for EEOC to use to help employers comply with their obligations under the law.

Instead of spending time rolling back the rights of older workers and creating more legal uncertainty for those who are victims of age discrimination, Congress should be fighting for the rights of older workers in the workplace and working together on a bipartisan basis to reverse the Supreme Court's decision in *Gross v. FBL Financial Group*.

I am also deeply concerned that H.R. 5326 would fund the EEOC at a level which is \$7 million less than the President's request. Last year, the agency received nearly one-million discrimination charge filings—the fourth straight year of record filings. The EEOC must have the resources necessary to combat workplace discrimination and retaliation. Without it, workers will see longer waits as case backlogs increase and the agency's ability to enforce nondiscrimination protections will be undermined.