

of physical fitness and marksmanship, a written exam and a challenging mock urban combat situation. The demanding weekend culminated in an interview with a board of Command Sergeants Major testing each participant's knowledge on a variety of subjects.

Throughout the competition, Spc. Branch demonstrated the dedication, ingenuity and perseverance that make an excellent soldier, and in the end, emerged victorious amongst the commissioned officers competing. When not in uniform, he continues to serve his community as a Unit Manager at Plymouth's Radius HealthCare and Pediatric Center, playing a vital role in the rehabilitation of the center's patients. Spc. Branch truly represents the very best of our community and our country.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Spc. Jason Branch as he is honored for his excellence as a soldier, and we wish him the best of luck as he moves on to the regional stage of the competition.

CONGRATULATING PRESIDENT MA YING-JEU ON HIS RE-ELECTION

HON. SAM JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. SAM JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I stand today to recognize and congratulate Ma Ying-jeou, President of Taiwan, as he continues to honorably serve the people of the Republic of China. On January 14, 2012, through a free and fair election, the people of Taiwan reelected Ma Ying-jeou to serve a second term as president, continuing the country's commitment to a strong and stable democratic government.

Over the past century Taiwan has increasingly become an influential free-market democracy in the Asia-Pacific region. Now a model government to surrounding countries, Taiwan continues to play a vital role in maintaining peace and stability in the region and has experienced sustained economic growth and sociopolitical development in recent years.

As a result, U.S.-Taiwan relations have become especially close. Our shared economic, cultural, political, and strategic values coupled with our mutual interest in forging strong ties have encouraged innovation and growth between our nations. U.S. arms sales to Taiwan have more than doubled over the past several years and on December 22, 2011, the U.S. State Department announced Taiwan's nomination for inclusion into the Visa Waiver Program. Officials estimate acceptance into this program will increase the more than 400,000 Taiwanese citizens who visit the United States each year by 20 to 30 percent.

As a member of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I commend President Ma for his exemplary leadership and his efforts to advance and ensure regional stability and peace. President Ma and his administration have worked tirelessly to develop a strong strategy of rapprochement which upholds our shared values of freedom, democracy, and the rule of law. I look forward to the future as we continue to work together to seek mutual best interests for both the United States and Taiwan.

Mr. Speaker, I would ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating President Ma Ying-jeou and wish him continued success as he

begins his second term as president of the Republic of China.

CONGRATULATING CUMBERLAND SCHOOL OF LAW

HON. SPENCER BACHUS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. BACHUS. Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join my colleagues Robert Aderholdt, Martha Roby, and Dennis Ross in congratulating Cumberland School of Law on the celebration of their fiftieth anniversary as an entity on the campus of Samford University in Birmingham, Alabama. The school's legacy and impress extends across the globe and indeed into this very chamber, my three colleagues having walked its historic halls as law students.

What began as a humble and at times struggling law school in the hills of Lebanon, Tennessee, through tenacity and divine providence blossomed into a first rate and nationally-recognized center of legal education. Today, Cumberland boasts the fourth ranked trial advocacy program in the nation and has served as the educational backdrop for countless state and federal judges, legislators, and other elected officials. Judge John Carroll, whose service as the Dean and chief advocate for the law school, deserves our utmost commendation for thrusting Cumberland onto the national stage. His dedication and leadership have ensured the continued growth and prosperity of this respected law school.

Mr. Speaker, as a body that daily ponders the law and the effects of law, it is only fitting and proper that we honor an institution dedicated to excellent legal education and commend Cumberland and Judge John Carroll on a job very well done. The city of Birmingham, our great state of Alabama, indeed the entire nation owes a debt of gratitude to Cumberland School of Law for its educational prowess, its historic legacy, and its integral part in preparing the next generation of our nation's leaders.

HONORING DR. WILLIAM FOEGE, RECIPIENT OF THE PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREEDOM

HON. JIM McDERMOTT

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. McDERMOTT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a great epidemiologist and immunization champion Dr. William Foege and to celebrate his receipt of the Presidential Medal of Freedom, the nation's highest civilian honor. Dr. Foege's commitment to public health throughout his career—particularly in the area of promoting child survival and immunization worldwide—is nothing less than extraordinary.

In 1966, Dr. Foege served as a medical missionary in a remote part of Nigeria where he encountered the devastating disease of smallpox. He campaigned tirelessly for a more aggressive response to this terrible disease. In the absence of sufficient vaccine supply, Dr. Foege developed a strategy called "surveillance and containment" to combat the spread

of smallpox. An innovative strategy, his focus on "hot zones" was remarkably successful and led to the global eradication of smallpox in 1979.

Dr. Foege's work led him to become the Chief of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) Smallpox Eradication Program and in 1977 he was elevated to Director of the CDC where he remained an aggressive champion for childhood immunization and continued his leadership in the fight for the eradication of smallpox.

Dr. Foege's accomplishments and awards are many and span his long career. After leaving the CDC, he formed the Task Force for Global Health (1984), which continues today as a critical nexus for the establishment of international collaborations to promote child wellness and survival. The impact that Dr. Foege and the Task Force has had on the world through childhood immunizations to prevent polio, measles, river blindness, and many other diseases has been nothing short of astonishing.

In 1986, Dr. Foege joined the Carter Center in Georgia serving as their Executive Director until 1992. He is a professor emeritus at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory University in Atlanta and an affiliate professor of epidemiology in my District at the University of Washington (UW), School of Public Health. In 1999, he became senior medical advisor to the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation where he remains an emeritus fellow. With this record of accomplishment and service, it is clear why UW chose to name their Bioengineering-Genome Sciences building after Dr. Foege.

To this day, Dr. Foege continues to educate the world on domestic and international health policies through his writing and speaking engagements. His is a career defined by service and rooted in science. Dr. Foege's enthusiasm and talent for global health continues to generate and influence future generations of public health professionals. I am delighted that he has been awarded this honor.

WELCOMING THE SEVENTH HONOR FLIGHT SOUTH ALABAMA TO WASHINGTON, DC

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I recognize Honor Flight South Alabama and the World War II veterans this very special organization is bringing on its seventh flight to Washington, D.C. on May 9, 2012. It is also my honor to insert this tribute into the RECORD during the week of the 67th anniversary of the Victory in Europe (V-E Day).

Founded by the South Alabama Veterans Council, Honor Flight South Alabama is an organization whose mission is to fly heroes from southwest Alabama to see their national memorial.

Nearly seven decades have passed since the end of World War II and, regrettably, it took nearly this long to complete work on the memorial that honors the spirit and sacrifice of the 16 million who served in the U.S. Armed Forces and the more than 400,000 who died. Sadly, many veterans did not live long enough to hear their country say "thank you," yet for

those veterans still living, Honor Flight provides for many their first—and perhaps only—opportunity to see the National World War II Memorial, which honors their service and sacrifice.

This Honor Flight begins at dawn when the veterans will gather at historic Fort Whiting in Mobile and travel to Mobile Regional Airport to board a chartered flight to Washington. During their time in their nation's capital, the veterans will visit the World War II Memorial, Arlington National Cemetery, and other memorials.

The veterans will return to Mobile Regional Airport that evening, where some 1,000 people are expected to greet them.

Mr. Speaker, the May 9, 2012, journey of heroes from South Alabama is an appropriate time for us to pause and thank them—and all of the soldiers who fought in World War II. They collectively—and literally—saved the world. They personify the very best America has to offer, and I urge my colleagues to take a moment to pay tribute to their selfless devotion to our country and the freedoms we enjoy.

I salute each of the veterans who made the trip to Washington. May we never forget their valiant deeds and tremendous sacrifices:

Bradford Amazeen; Frank Boykin, Jr.; Henry Brady; Wesley Davis; Charles Jackson; Manley Kulman; Archie Lewis; Raymond Lovell; Travis Mitchell; Niland Mortimer; Wilson Oglesby; James O'Rear; John Osterday, Sr.; Almon Ready; Kermit Reedstrom; Dr. James Rencher; Harold Richard; Jesse Robinson; Raymond Roser; Lawrence Roubion, Jr.; John Ruffin; James Santa Cruz, Jr.; Harold Schumann; Richard Stairhime; Lloyd Stewart; William Sumrall; Harlan Taylor; Tom Ware; Robert Wheeler; Wendell Williamson; Hugh Blount; William Boone; Cecil Bosarge; John Bosco; Howard Bowman; Vercial Bray; William Brennan; Claude Broun; Johnnie Burgess; Paul Carroll, Jr.; Cordelia Catlin; Dan Coleman; Leo Crain; Miles Crutchfield; Carl Daughdrill; Dr. Conan Davis; Nathan Denmark; Kirby Evans; Almus Goins; Johnnie Grovenstein; Michael Guarino; Angelo Harris, Jr.; John Hickman, Sr.; Joseph C. Holliday; Philip Kile; Richard Lentz; Alfred Phillips; Rudolph Rolison, Sr.; John Tyson, Sr.; Thomas Brown; Frank Daniels; Lyman Daugherty; Elissa Davis, Jr.; John Folsom; Edward Haeflinger; Oliver Henderson, Jr.; Frank Holyfield; Hal Johnson; Mitford Keel; Thomas Kelly, Jr.; James Lambeth; Father George Lassett; Josephine Lassett; Donald LeDuc; Seymour Lichtenfeld; Arnold Loucks; John Magnon; Ulderico Marcucci; Moss McCarty; Raymond McCrary; Earl McDonald; Pervis McMillan; Nicolas McShea, Jr.; Robert Nodar; Edward O'Neal; Charles Parker; Kenneth Patrick; Edwin Phillips; Arthur Raines; and James Werner.

IN MEMORY OF GARY SAIN

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. WEBSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the passing of a friend and an ardent advocate for Central Florida. Gary Sain passed away May 6, 2012, just hours after delivering opening remarks at the Boys and Girls Club of Central Florida's "Celebrate the Fu-

ture" fundraiser, an event for which Gary served as chairman, and which typified Gary's dedication to the people and community of Central Florida.

I would like to extend my deepest sympathy to Pam Sain and the Sain family. Gary was a talented and enthusiastic proponent of Central Florida's future and development. Gary was personable, humble and energetic. He was refreshing to be around and optimistic for the future. He envisioned great things for Central Florida, and he worked hard to make them happen.

As CEO of Visit Orlando, Gary was instrumental in making Orlando America's number one tourist destination. With his work, Orlando became the first travel destination to host more than 50 million visitors in a calendar year, with 51.5 million people visiting Orlando in 2010.

Gary's vision for Orlando, and the legacy he leaves, will serve the Central Florida area well for years to come. His work will be carried on, but he will be sorely missed. May his example of dedication, hard work and altruistic enthusiasm lead many to follow in his steps.

CONGRESSIONAL CAUCUS ON CPA AND ACCOUNTANTS

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 10, 2012

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the Congressional Caucus on CPA and Accountants, I rise today to congratulate the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants (AICPA), on reaching the historic milestone of 125 years of service to its members and the public. Founded in 1887, the AICPA has grown into an organization with over 377,000 members in 128 countries.

As the ten CPAs and accountants in Congress, we each have deep personal connections to the accounting profession and profound respect for the work the AICPA does to strengthen it. As a professional organization, the AICPA supports and educates its members, but it also promotes financial literacy and education for the general public as well.

The accounting profession is about trust: trust between a CPA and a client, and trust between an auditor and the public. It is these relationships, carefully tended, that are the foundation of our economy. For 125 years, the AICPA has been hard at work building this trust by promoting the highest standards of independence, objectivity, competence, and ethics for the profession.

The AICPA's members practice in specialties across the accounting spectrum—from private practice to business and industry to education to government to consulting—but all are supported by the resources, information, and leadership provided by the Institute. The AICPA serves its members in many activities including standards, certification, peer review, education, thought leadership, and promoting the public image and professionalism of CPAs.

For over a century, the AICPA has stood as a custodian of the accounting community, protecting the integrity of the profession and promoting the competence of its members. Today, Americans are served by a cadre of well trained, objective CPAs whose analysis

and advice serves as the foundation for millions of financial and business decisions each day. These professionals are the living legacy of the AICPA's 125 years of service.

Today, as a member of AICPA, I join with my fellow CPAs and accountants to congratulate the staff, leadership, and members of the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants on their 125th Anniversary. Our nation is a better, stronger nation because of your work.

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

SPEECH OF

HON. MAZIE K. HIRONO

OF HAWAII

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:

Ms. HIRONO. Mr. Chair, I rise in reluctant opposition to H.R. 5326, the Commerce-Justice-Science Appropriations bill for FY2013.

This spending bill provides funding for essential agencies, including the National Oceanic & Atmospheric Administration, Census Bureau, Economic Development Administration, FBI, Drug Enforcement Agency, U.S. Attorneys and Marshalls, NASA, and the National Science Foundation.

I recognize that Chairman WOLF had a difficult task because of the sharply reduced allocations included in the Ryan Budget, which I opposed. The bipartisan agreement represented by the Budget Control Act of 2011 already made sharp cuts to spending levels. The decision by this Republican-led Congress to break that agreement to make even deeper cuts on the programs Americans rely on will make it very difficult to come up with a final spending agreement with the Senate. The Obama Administration has issued a Statement of Administration Policy expressing strong opposition to H.R. 5326.

This bill underfunds programs that are critical to Hawaii, including programs that support fisheries and ocean stewardship programs. It includes a \$20 million cut to the Legal Services Corporation, denying legal aid to tens of thousands in underserved communities, as well as many military families. Funding for the Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, program in the bill is well below the administration's request. Fortunately, we were successful in passing an amendment to increase funding for COPS by \$126 million (equivalent to the FY 2012 level), but many other amendments to this bill have made it even worse. For instance, amendments were adopted that would: Prevent use of Department of Justice funds in the legal defense of the Affordable Care Act; Prohibit funding to implement the National Ocean Policy; Eliminate funding for science-based climate change education efforts that will help prepare students for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics; Prohibit funding of Census Bureau collection of detailed housing, economic, and demographic statistics.