

former member of the Armed Forces who feels that they have suffered an injustice as a result of error or injustice in military records may apply for a correction of those military records.

My amendment will educate current and former military members about the opportunity to apply for relief from the BCMR if they have been previously punished for reporting cases of sexual assault.

Applying for relief to the BCMR could help a service member such as a current Marine who is facing an unwarranted Field Fight Performance Board following her filing of a sexual harassment complaint.

It could help an Army soldier who was denied promotion, removed from her assignment, and referred for a mental evaluation after reporting a sexual assault, and who received a series of negative evaluation reports after filing a sexual harassment complaint and initiating a Congressional inquiry into her situation.

It could help a sailor who is facing involuntary administrative separation from the Navy—which would deny her future medical benefits—because she has been diagnosed with an “adjustment disorder” after seeking mental health treatment in the aftermath of a sexual assault.

We have made excellent progress recently in dealing with this blemish of sexual assault on the proud and honorable tradition of our armed forces. I am pleased that new protections for victims are in place as a result of last year's NDAA, and that the Department of Defense is moving forward with advanced investigative techniques that will improve prosecution of sexual assault cases.

But I am also very concerned about the issue of sexual harassment, which is so often the precursor to sexual assault. This educational campaign is simply a first step in addressing the issue of sexual harassment, and sending a message that this behavior—and certainly retaliating against victims who report it—is absolutely unacceptable in our military.

Much is asked of the men and women who dedicate themselves to the protection of our freedoms. We must continue to ensure that we earn that trust and dedication.

IN HONOR OF THE FORTUNA
FAMILY

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Fortuna Family, who is being recognized by the Slovenian National Home (the Nash) at their annual Persons of the Year Recognition Dinner.

The Fortuna Family began on November 21, 1953 when Joseph and Virginia Fortuna were married. In 1958, the couple opened the Fortuna Funeral Home in Cleveland's Slavic Village. Throughout their fifty-two year marriage, Joseph and Virginia raised four children, Joseph, Mary Ann, John and Jane.

The eldest, Joseph, was ordained a Roman Catholic priest in 1980 and today serves as the Pastor of Our Lady of the Lake Roman Catholic Church in Euclid, Ohio. Mary Ann married James Trzaska; the two are licensed funeral directors working at Fortuna Funeral

Home. Mary Ann and James also have two children, Sheryl and Anthony, who are both attorneys. John Fortuna works at the family funeral home and has been a licensed funeral director for 33 years. John and his wife, Roberta, have three children, Joseph, Katherine and Kristen. The youngest of the Fortuna children, Jane, married Phil DeMattia and they have raised two children, David and Rebecca. Jane works as a nurse at the Cleveland Clinic.

The entire Fortuna Family has had a long connection to the Nash. In addition to Joseph and Virginia's wedding reception being held at the Nash, each of their children's wedding receptions were also hosted at the venue. Father Joseph's ordination was also celebrated at the Nash. Additionally, Joseph and Virginia began a long lasting family tradition of volunteerism at the Nash. Joseph served as President of the Board of Slovenian National Home and was named “Man of the Year” multiple times.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in congratulating the Fortuna Family as they are honored at the Slovenian National Home's Persons of the Year Recognition Dinner.

DEDICATION AND UNVEILING OF
THE MONUMENT HONORING STEPHEN DUBOISE II

HON. ROBERT B. ADERHOLT

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I want to honor and remember Stephen Duboise II, a soldier in the American Revolutionary War, along with his ancestors who can trace their lineage back to the founding of this country. Stephen Duboise II was the grandson of Isaac Duboise, who came to the United States from France. I am honored to recognize him and the entire Duboise family for their contributions to this country.

The Duboise family produced several Revolutionary War soldiers, including Stephen Duboise II. His service record speaks for itself and is documented in his application for a pension filed in Rutherford County, Tennessee, on August 24, 1832. During the war, he served under General Francis Marion (“The Swamp Fox”) and fought in several key Revolutionary battles.

Not long after his time in Tennessee, Stephen Duboise II moved to Franklin County, Alabama, which is part of the Fourth Congressional District that I am proud to represent. He is listed in the Franklin County census of 1840. Stephen Duboise II died in Franklin County on October 15, 1842, and is buried near the Duboise Cemetery in an unmarked grave.

On May 20, 2012, an unveiling and ceremony is scheduled along with the dedication of a monument at the Duboise Cemetery honoring Stephen Duboise II, along with other members of his family line from Isaac Duboise to Peter Duboise, who was buried alongside Stephen in 1910. By placing a monument at the Duboise Cemetery, with the genealogy attached, this rich heritage can be viewed and passed on for many generations to come. May God bless the Duboise family, the great State of Alabama, and the United States of America.

IN SUPPORT OF THE PEOPLE OF
NAGORNO-KARABAKH

HON. JAMES R. LANGEVIN

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to urge my colleagues to remember and support the people of Nagorno-Karabakh.

It is first worth highlighting the history at work in this tragic situation. Historically, the majority of the population in Nagorno-Karabakh has been Armenian, and the people have always had close ethnic, religious, and familial ties with Armenia. However, in 1921, Joseph Stalin, then the commissar for nationality affairs in the Transcaucasia Bureau of the Communist Party, declared Nagorno-Karabakh to be an autonomous region controlled by Azerbaijan as part of his strategy to divide and rule.

In 1987, as the Soviet Union teetered on the edge of dissolution, the Karabakh Armenians petitioned for the inclusion of Nagorno-Karabakh in the state of Armenia. In 1991, they petitioned for independent state status. Sadly, the situation remains unresolved.

After the Soviet Union dissolved, Armenians in Azerbaijan and Nagorno-Karabakh endured great hardship, including horrific violence in Sumgait (February 1998), in Kirovabad (November 1988) and in Baku (January 1990). These pogroms were only part of a pattern of anti-Armenian activities occurring throughout Azerbaijan, and thousands of people lost their lives and hundreds of thousands of Armenians were displaced as a result. Such targeted violence is as deplorable today as it was two decades ago—yet, tragically, the region is no closer to peace. A cease-fire agreement, brokered in 1994, remains in place, but continued incendiary actions and statements threaten to destabilize peace talks. In January 2008, Azerbaijani President Ilham Aliyev warned Armenians living in Nagorno-Karabakh, “We are reinforcing our army because we must be ready to free our lands . . . at any moment and by any means.” Such rhetoric can only be poison to the peace process.

U.S. policy toward the South Caucasus states has included promoting the resolution of the conflict surrounding the independent Republic of Nagorno-Karabakh. It is more important than ever that the United States maintain a principled stand for peace in this region, show that democracy can be born from conflict, and support Nagorno-Karabakh. It is my sincerest hope that Nagorno-Karabakh's right to self-determination can be affirmed without further loss of life.

EXPRESSING SENSE OF HOUSE REGARDING IMPORTANCE OF PREVENTING IRAN FROM ACQUIRING A NUCLEAR WEAPONS CAPABILITY

SPEECH OF

HON. RON PAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 15, 2012

Mr. PAUL. Mr. Speaker, I strongly oppose H. Res. 568, a resolution “expressing the

sense of the House of Representatives regarding the importance of preventing the Government of Iran from acquiring a nuclear weapons capability.”

Once again we see on the “suspension” calendar, which is customarily reserved for non-controversial legislation, a resolution designed to move the U.S. toward a military conflict with Iran. Sadly, it has become non-controversial for Congress to call for U.S. attacks on foreign countries that have neither attacked nor threatened the United States.

We should not fool ourselves about the timing of this legislation. Next week, high-level talks between Iran and the five permanent U.N. Security Council members plus Germany, P5+1, will resume. Those who seek U.S. military action against Iran must fear that successful diplomacy will undermine their calls for war.

Disturbingly, some of my colleagues have suggested this resolution can be read as a form of ersatz Congressional approval for the use of military force against Iran.

The International Atomic Energy Agency, IAEA, has the authority to monitor the Iranian nuclear program to determine whether nuclear material is being diverted from civilian to military uses. The IAEA has never reported an Iranian violation. This legislation attempts to scare us into believing otherwise, but that fact remains. And the U.S. Intelligence Community agrees with IAEA conclusions on this matter.

The most dangerous aspect of H. Res. 568 is that it dramatically lowers the threshold for conflict with Iran by replacing the prohibition against acquiring nuclear weapons to a prohibition against a “capability” to develop nuclear weapons.

However, as former senior Bush administration official, Flynt Leverett, has stated:

Iranian efforts to develop a “nuclear weapons capability” . . . may make American and Israeli elites uncomfortable. But it is not a violation of the NPT. . . . While the NPT prohibits non-nuclear-weapon states from building atomic bombs, developing a nuclear weapons capability is, [allowed] under the NPT . . . It is certainly not a justification—strategically, legally, or morally—for armed aggression against Iran.

But this resolution states that the House “rejects any United States policy that would rely on efforts to contain a nuclear weapons-capable Iran.” That makes it very clear that the intent of the House is to authorize force against Iran not if it acquires a nuclear weapon, but if it has a “capability” to acquire them some time in the future. The term “capability” is left undefined, of course, leaving it open to very broad interpretations by this and future administrations.

Mr. Speaker, this is incredibly dangerous legislation. I urge my colleagues in the strongest manner to reject this stealth authorization for war on Iran.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE DEDICATION OF THE BUST OF FATHER ALEXANDER DUCHNOVICH IN THE RUSIN CULTURAL GARDEN

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the dedication of the bust of Fa-

ther Alexander Duchnovich in the Rusin Cultural Garden on June 24, 2012.

The 254 acre piece of land that constitutes Rockefeller Park was donated to the City of Cleveland by John D. Rockefeller in 1896. The gardens were founded in 1926 to create a memorial area for the diverse ethnic groups that shape the region, and to serve as a space of reflection on peace, cooperation and understanding. The Cultural Gardens are currently a collection of 26 gardens which include African-American, American Indian, British, Chinese, Czech, Estonian, German, Hebrew, Hungarian, Irish, Italian, Polish, and Slovenian gardens, among others.

The Rusin Cultural Garden was dedicated in 1939. In May of 1952, the then leader of the Rusin Cultural Garden Association, Reverend Joseph Hanulya, unveiled a bust of Alexander Duchnovich. Alexander Duchnovich, a Greek Catholic priest, wrote the Rusin national anthem. His writings sought to unify Carpatho-Rusins. Unfortunately, the bust disappeared from the garden sometime during the 1970s.

Decades later, John Krenisky, a Cleveland and member of the Carpatho-Rusyn Society began fundraising for a replacement bust of Father Duchnovich. On November 21, 2011, after more than ten years of work, a bronze replacement bust designed by Wawrytko Studios & Light Sculpture Works was installed in the Rusin Cultural Garden. A celebration to dedicate the bust and efforts of Mr. Krenisky will include a performance by the Living Traditions Fold Ensemble and banquet at Holy Spirit Church.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in recognition of the dedication of the bust of Father Alexander Duchnovich in the Rusin Cultural Garden.

CONGRATULATING TAIWANESE PRESIDENT MA YING-JEUO

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Taiwanese President Ma Ying-jeou on his upcoming inauguration to a second term.

Taiwan is a strategic partner of the United States. The enactment of the Taiwan Relations Act more than 30 years ago is a testament to our relationship. The lasting ties between Taiwan and the U.S. are due, in part, to enduring personal relationships between our two countries.

Our shared love of liberty and respect for our citizenry, upon which our governments were founded, has been truly exemplified by President Ma Ying-jeou.

President Ma enjoys a unique relationship with the U.S., having graduated from two of our most celebrated universities (New York University and Harvard University). His continued leadership to enhance our mutual goals has had a lasting impact on all Americans.

We wish him and the people of Taiwan well in the future and thank him for the cooperation in meeting the challenges we have faced together as allies.

Our future challenges are great and we know we can count on Taiwan as a strategic

partner to join us in meeting those challenges as well.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. MICHAEL SALVATORE

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Michael Salvatore, Superintendent of Long Branch Public Schools. Mr. Salvatore is a gifted and passionate educator who has dedicated his life's work to serving the students of the Long Branch community. His dedication and positive transformation of the Long Branch Public School system have earned him the prestigious recognition bestowed upon him by the Long Branch Concordance. His efforts are truly worthy of this body's recognition.

Michael Salvatore has been employed with the Long Branch Public School System for 14 years and is dedicated to serving the students and families of Long Branch, New Jersey. He began as a preschool teacher and was later promoted to Principal at the Gregory School. Mr. Salvatore quickly won the hearts of many Long Branch children and families. His contagious enthusiasm and positive attitude led to the appointment as a core member of the State Department of Education's Leadership Advisory Council, where he trained hundreds of administrators throughout New Jersey. He has also held the title of District Administrator and Assistant Superintendent. In 2011, Mr. Salvatore was appointed Superintendent of the Long Branch Public School System. Mr. Salvatore's work is surrounded by a motto “Where Children Matter Most” and continues to successfully execute this ideal throughout his schools. He remains a firm believer that the quality of any organization cannot exceed the quality of its leaders and continues to craft a principal leadership network to improve essential practices directly correlated to student achievement. Superintendent Salvatore is also a proponent of technologically advanced approaches to education. The use of tablet technology, podcast messaging, green energy and cloud computing have been utilized to enhance the classroom experience. Mr. Salvatore is also working diligently to encourage greater community involvement through parent forums and school festivals. A community brunch, inspired and executed by Superintendent Salvatore, fed more than five hundred people during the holidays. Mr. Salvatore's outstanding leadership abilities and dedication to his craft continue to further enhance a student's educational experience.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Mr. Michael Salvatore, Superintendent of Long Branch Public Schools for receiving the honor bestowed by the Long Branch Concordance. His dedication and innovative foresight continues to affect the lives of students throughout Long Branch, New Jersey.