

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA (TAIWAN) ON THEIR MAY 20, 2012 PRESIDENTIAL INAUGURATION

HON. ANDER CRENSHAW

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. CRENSHAW. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate The Republic of China, Taiwan, on its presidential inauguration, which is taking place on May 20, 2012. President Ma Ying-jeou of the Chinese Nationalist Party was re-elected to a second term on January 14, 2012. That day marked another successful election for the people of Taiwan and the many accomplishments of President Ma over the last four years.

Under President Ma's leadership, Taiwan has become a true economic success story. Unemployment has remained low at 5.3 percent. At the same time, salary, wages, and well-paid jobs have risen. Taiwan is currently the world's 18th largest economy with a GDP of U.S. \$501.7 billion. In addition, on April 29, 2009 the World Health Organization invited Taiwan as an observer at the World Health Assembly; which is a significant step forward for Taiwan's international standing and the health of the people of the East-Asian and Pacific region.

Over the past four years, President Ma has strived for Cross-strait peace, stability, and improved relations between Taiwan and China. Today, there are direct flights, postal services, and new shipping routes between Taiwan and China. In addition, a landmark free trade agreement with China has slashed tariffs on hundreds of goods and produced numerous job opportunities for both Taiwan and China.

Equally important, Taiwan has worked hard to maintain a longstanding U.S. security partnership. The Taiwan Relations Act has been instrumental in maintaining peace, security, and stability in the Taiwan Straits and the Western Pacific since its enactment in 1979.

Mr. Speaker, I look forward to working closely with our allies to find solutions for ensuring Taiwan's long-term security, and to deepen our dialogue with the people of Taiwan. I applaud President Ma's dedication to maintaining peace and stability for Taiwan and his support for our shared democratic values; and I look forward to working with him during his second term.

HONORING ROCK SPRING CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Rock Spring Congregational United

Church of Christ in Arlington on the celebration of its 100th anniversary on May 20, 2012. Founded a century ago by a group of neighbors gathered at a home near a stop on the Old Dominion trolley line, from its humble beginnings this church congregation has grown tremendously, and along the way has become a bedrock of the Arlington community and beyond.

In the 1930s, Rock Spring's women formed Arlington's first library, Rohrer Children's Library, which is now the oldest public library in Arlington. Today it holds over 5,000 books and remains open to the community, serving as an invaluable resource.

The County's population grew after World War II, yet there were no kindergartens in Arlington. To help meet the need, Rock Spring's women became the driving force behind the 1944 opening of the still-thriving Rock Spring Cooperative Pre-School, which operates on church property.

In the 1950s and 60s, Rock Spring's congregation and individual members supported and actively worked for the desegregation of the Arlington Public Schools and other public places.

The church and its members have supported and led movements to create social service and volunteer organizations in Arlington and Northern Virginia including: Hospice of Northern Virginia (now Capital Caring), Meals on Wheels, FISH (For Immediate Sympathetic Help), the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC), AMEN (Arlingtonians Meeting Emergency Needs) and the Arlington Housing Corporation.

Numerous Rock Spring members, including the late Virginia Delegate Mary Marshall, and long serving Arlington County Board members Ellen Bozman and Jim Hunter, have served as public office holders and on local, regional and state boards and commissions.

Looking towards the future, Rock Spring members have declared their church to be a "Just Peace" and "open and affirming" congregation, and a place where a welcome is extended to all. They continue the church's tradition of activism and charitable work through activities such as the "Fifth Sunday" initiative, gardening for AFAC, and youth mission trips to build houses.

I would like to ask my colleagues in the House to join me in commending the Rock Spring Congregational United Church of Christ for its 100 years of commitment of service to Arlington, Northern Virginia, and the wider world, and to encourage their congregation to continue its faithful activism for the next century. I send my sincere thanks for their unwavering service to Northern Virginia.

REMEMBERING MR. LEON LYNCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKEY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. VISCLOSKEY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness and profound respect that I

take this time to remember one of Northwest Indiana's most valued citizens, and a true champion of workers' rights, Mr. Leon Lynch. Mr. Lynch dedicated his life to serving the needs of the United Steelworkers (USW), and he was tremendously successful in his efforts to improve the quality of life for workers in Northwest Indiana and across the nation. Mr. Lynch passed away on Friday, May 4, 2012, but his legacy will forever be remembered in the hearts and minds of the many people whose lives he touched.

Throughout his extraordinary career, Leon Lynch accomplished many visionary goals. In 1956, he joined USW Local 1011 while working at the Youngstown Sheet & Tube Company mill in East Chicago, Indiana. Over the years, Mr. Lynch served in many capacities, and because of his strong leadership skills and willingness to take initiative, his career continued to flourish. In 1968, he was named a USW staff representative and later became an international representative. In 1976, Leon was appointed the International Vice President of Human Affairs for the USW, making him the first African American to serve as a vice president for a major labor union, and he was re-elected to this position a remarkable six times. Recognizing the impact he had on behalf of his union membership, Leon was appointed by President Bill Clinton to the Advisory Council on Unemployment Compensation in 1994 and to the Air Traffic Service Board of the Federal Aviation Administration in 2000. In 1995, Mr. Lynch was elected to serve as a member of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO) Executive Council.

Mr. Lynch retired from his position as the International Vice President of Human Affairs for the USW in 2006. He is remembered as a great leader who will leave a lasting impact on generations of union workers to come. In 2005, having recognized the tremendous contributions he made to its members, USW Local 1011 dedicated its career development facility, the Leon Lynch Learning Center, in his honor. This outstanding facility offers guidance for steelworkers to prepare for employment opportunities.

Mr. Lynch also gave much of his time to many organizations and committees throughout his life. Leon was a member of the Democratic National Committee, the Labor Roundtable of the National Black Caucus of State Legislators, the A. Philip Randolph Institute, the National Endowment for Democracy, and the Workers Defense League.

Leon leaves behind a loving family. He is survived by his wife, Doris Tindal-Lynch; his adoring daughters: Tina, Tammy, Sheila, and Maxine; and five beloved grandchildren. He also leaves to cherish his memory many dear friends and family members, as well as a saddened but grateful community and nation.

Mr. Speaker, I respectfully ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in remembering the great life of Mr. Leon Lynch. His remarkable contributions to the Labor Movement, both locally and across the nation,

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Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

are most worthy of our admiration. His life of service is to be commended, and his legacy serves as an inspiration to us all.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 17, 2012

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 4310) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2013 for military activities of the Department of Defense, to prescribe military personnel strengths for fiscal year 2013, and for other purposes:

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Chair, I rise in strong support of the Granger Amendment #44 to H.R. 4310 that was included in the En Bloc Amendment #3. As one of the co-chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, I believe this amendment embodies the spirit of the Taiwan Relations Act of 1979 in providing assistance to Taiwan for its own defense.

Through the TRA, we are able to conduct arms sales to Taipei. Over the past 30 years, we have done this time and time again. Unfortunately, the Obama Administration has failed to proceed on Taiwan's top request—the F-16 C/D aircraft. Taiwan has an aging fixed wing aircraft fleet, and with the growing military gap across the Taiwan Strait, it is critical that we sell them this aircraft. The Granger Amendment does just that by requiring the President to move forward on the sale of no fewer than 66 F-16 C/Ds.

Mr. Chair, the Taiwan Caucus sent letters in 2010 and 2011 urging the White House to move forward on this matter. In 2010, 136 bipartisan Members signed that letter, and in 2011, 181 Members joined in the effort. Unfortunately, those letters were received with mostly silence. However, the White House cannot ignore this amendment.

I urge my colleagues to uphold our commitment to Taiwan and support the Granger Amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF MR. CHRISTOPHER DORSEY

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, it is my esteemed privilege to recognize the achievements of Mr. Christopher Dorsey, who serves as the director of the Dillard Center for the Arts Jazz Ensemble. He is the recipient of the 2011 "Jazzonian" Excellence in Jazz Education Award.

Mr. Dorsey has been leading the Dillard High Jazz Ensemble to the sweet sounds of success in recent years. The Jazz Ensemble took first prize at the "Swing Central" jazz competition in Savannah, Georgia in both 2010 and 2011. Also in 2010, they took 2nd

place at the "Essentially Ellington" Jazz Band Competition. In 2011 and 2012, the Dillard Jazz Ensemble was awarded back-to-back first prize honors at the "Essentially Ellington" Jazz Band Competition at Lincoln Center in New York City.

Mr. Speaker, I am extremely proud of the success that both Christopher Dorsey and the Dillard Jazz Ensemble have attained under his leadership. I wish him and the program much continued success.

HONORING ARMY SPECIALIST JASON K. EDENS

HON. MARSHA BLACKBURN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, the greatest acts of true and chosen service require sacrifice. From time to time, these acts of sacrifice are small and yet noble. Then there are the moments where the act is total and complete, ultimate in its finality and lasting in its devotion. I rise today to honor Army Specialist Jason K. Edens for his fidelity to freedom and freedom's cause.

Spc. Edens was a 2007 graduate of Franklin High School. Determined to join the Tennessee Bureau of Investigation, he joined the Army to improve the chances of achieving his dream. He was deployed in the Global War on Terror and assigned to the 1st Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division in Fort Bliss, Texas. He was wounded in an enemy attack in Laghman province in Afghanistan and died at Walter Reed Hospital in Maryland.

A beloved member of the Williamson County community, Specialist Edens will be greatly missed by his wife, Ashley, his parents, his family, and all who knew him. I ask my colleagues to join with me in honoring Spc. Edens as we remember all those who have given the ultimate act of sacrifice for their country.

TRIBUTE TO DR. KENT L. BECHLER

HON. KEN CALVERT

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to communities of Corona and Norco are exceptional. Our area has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Dr. Kent Bechler is one of these individuals. At a retirement reception on May 23, 2012, Kent will be honored for his work as the Corona-Norco Unified School District Superintendent.

For the last five years, Dr. Kent Bechler has been the superintendent of the Corona-Norco Unified School District (CNUSD), the ninth

largest school district in California serving more than 54,000 students. Prior to heading the Corona-Norco Unified School District, he served as superintendent in Walnut Valley Unified and Duarte Unified School Districts. Dr. Bechler has served K-12 education for 32 years.

Since assuming the CNUSD Superintendent position, he has guided the district through many challenges and many accomplishments. With collaboration and problem solving, the district has survived the state budget crisis by successfully implementing a retirement incentive program that eliminated the need to impose layoffs. To address overcrowding, the district opened two new elementary schools, and began expansion of campus facilities as six schools through modernization projects.

Under his leadership, the district has experienced a steady increase in academic scores for students, the development of a planned systemic professional development program, gains in technology including 13 grants, collaborative labor agreements that have not only maintained but enhanced the district fiscally, and leadership development and professional collaboration time.

In March, Corona-Norco Unified School District was named one of four American school districts selected as a 2012 finalist for the one million dollar Broad Prize for Urban Education. The Broad Prize for Urban Education is the largest education prize in the country, honoring school districts that demonstrate the greatest overall performance and improvement in student achievement, while reducing achievement gaps among poor and minority students.

Dr. Bechler has extensive training experience in management, leadership, systems, policies and procedures, strategic planning, labor relations and developing collaboration and teamwork within organizations. He is well known for developing trusting relationships, team building and resolving organizational conflict. His academic work includes teaching adjunct classes at the university level and consulting with educational institutions, business and other organizations. He was recently named the 2012 California State Superintendent of the Year by the Association of California School Administrators.

Dr. Bechler received a Bachelor's Degree in social work from Azusa Pacific University, a Master's Degree in Educational Administration from California State University, Los Angeles and his Doctorate of Education from Claremont Graduate University.

Dr. Bechler was born in Saginaw, Michigan and raised in South Central Los Angeles. He has traveled extensively throughout South America, New Zealand, Australia, and Mainland China playing basketball. He resides in Upland with his wife Karen and together they have three children and two grandchildren.

In light of all Kent Bechler has done for the students, parents and communities of Corona and Norco, it is only fitting that he be honored as he retires from the School District. Dr. Bechler's tireless passion for education and public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our communities and I am proud to call him a fellow community member, American and friend. I know that many community members are grateful for his service and salute him as he retires and moves onto the next phase of his life.