

Dr. Gutierrez was a leader and role model in the Del Rio community. His passion and love for Del Rio was most exemplified through his work as a doctor and leadership as mayor. Dr. Gutierrez served for 20 years as Del Rio's mayor, earning the title "dean of Del Rio's mayors." He was also as equally dedicated to serving the community through his medical practice, delivering nearly 5,000 babies over a career that spanned five decades. Only after suffering a heart attack in 2010 did he decide to close his practice.

While Del Rio has lost an icon and hero, Dr. Gutierrez's impact and passion for the community will certainly live on.

TAIWAN PRESIDENT MA YING-JEOU'S SECOND INAUGURATION

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Mr. Speaker, Ma Ying-jeou will be sworn in for a second term on May 20, 2012, as Taiwan's president. It's worth saluting President Ma on this special occasion, as the United States has a no better friend or ally than Taiwan. For decades, Taiwan has been of significant security, economic and political interest to the United States. Today, Taiwan's 23 million people enjoy self-governance with free elections, and Taiwan's economy is the 17th largest in the world—and growing. Taiwan is the ninth-largest U.S. trading partner, including the sixth-largest market for U.S. agricultural exports, a significant economic consideration for my district.

Going back to the onset of the Cold War, Taiwan and the United States have stood beside one another in some of our countries' darkest hours and most challenging times. Taiwan was an indispensable link in America's Korean War effort. U.S. General Douglas MacArthur rightly labeled Taiwan "an unsinkable aircraft carrier in the Pacific" when speaking of the joint U.S.-Taiwan Korean War effort. Taiwan ground troops fought side by side with U.S. forces in the fierce battles at, below and above the 38th Parallel. The Washington-Taipei alliance was later institutionalized in the Sino-American Mutual Defense Treaty and Formosa Resolution of 1955. Taiwan was also a key base, and intelligence-gathering source, for U.S. forces in the Vietnam War. Under President Ma's leadership, our relationship has remained strong, as he has sought U.S. support for his policies, including U.S. arms sales, to ensure Taiwan is in a strong position to continue cross-strait talks.

The United States has stood by Taiwan as it has faced challenges from across the strait over the last 62 years. And while travel, trade and investment flourish across the strait today, threats remain, as Beijing refuses to renounce its right to use force against Taiwan. And yet, Taiwan has shown that a strong democracy can thrive even in the face of continued threats.

Mr. Speaker, I urge all my colleagues to join me in congratulating President Ma on his second inauguration. I also would ask my colleagues to remain mindful of the promise we made to the people of Taiwan almost 33 years ago under the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) of 1979, the cornerstone of our two nations' bilat-

eral relationship. Ties or tension across the Taiwan Strait affect global peace and stability, and a more stable East Asia is not only in the best interest of Taiwan, but also in the best interest of the United States.

HONORING SOUTH GIBSON HIGH SCHOOL

HON. STEPHEN LEE FINCHER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. FINCHER. Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to rise today to honor the first ever graduating class of South Gibson High School, located in Medina, Tennessee.

Undoubtedly the work of starting a brand new high school is extremely difficult but today's graduation offers the opportunity to celebrate in a job well done. Congratulations to Principal Phil Rogers and his dedicated team of teachers and staff in preparing the young minds of the Class of 2012 to enter their next phase of life.

The vision of South Gibson High School is to create a community of empowered learners. Although today ends their journey in high school; the ever-changing demands of the 21st century economy requires them to always be thinking, challenging, and innovating. And it's that kind of life-long learning that will keep America's place, as President Ronald Reagan said, "a shining city on the hill."

Please join me in honoring the first graduating class in the history of South Gibson County High School.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. ELIJAH E. CUMMINGS

OF MARYLAND

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. CUMMINGS. Mr. Chair, I offer this bipartisan amendment with Congressman JEFF LANDRY to increase transparency surrounding the issuance of waivers allowing foreign vessels to carry cargo between points in the United States. I thank Congressman LANDRY for his leadership on this issue.

A report recently released by PriceWaterhouseCoopers found that in 2006, the most recent year for which data were available, the Jones Act fleet supported nearly 74,000 direct jobs in the U.S. shipbuilding and domestic waterborne transportation industries.

These jobs, in turn, supported more than \$36 billion in economic output in 2009 and provided \$6.5 billion in labor compensation.

Among other provisions, the Jones Act requires that a vessel cannot carry cargo between two U.S. points unless the vessel has been built in the United States, and is owned and crewed by Americans.

The Jones Act can be waived in the interest of national defense. However, the Maritime Administration (MARAD) must first assess whether Jones Act-qualified vessels are available to carry the cargo under consideration.

Following the release of oil from the Strategic Petroleum Reserve in 2011, the Department of Homeland Security waived the Jones Act dozens of times despite the availability of Jones Act-qualified vessels.

According to documents provided by the Department of Transportation, waivers were issued at the request of firms such as Shell Oil Company, ConocoPhillips Company, and BP Products North America.

As a result, the American oil released from the American Strategic Petroleum Reserve was then carried by vessels flagged in such countries as Liberia, the Marshall Islands, Singapore, the Bahamas, and Panama.

The amendment I offer with Congressman LANDRY is a simple one. Let me be clear: though I think waivers should be issued only in the rarest of circumstances, this amendment does not prohibit the issuance of any waivers.

Instead, it would require the Maritime Administration (MARAD) to include in its assessments of the availability of Jones Act-compliant vessels information on the actions that could be taken to enable Jones Act-qualified vessels to carry the cargo for which a waiver is sought.

MARAD would also be required to publish its assessments on its website and provide notification to Congress when a waiver is requested or issued.

Adoption of these provisions will significantly enhance the transparency surrounding the issuance of Jones Act waivers so that we can assess whether every possible opportunity to utilize Jones Act-compliant vessels in the coastwise trade has been utilized.

I urge Members on both sides of the aisle to support our bi-partisan amendment to ensure that every available step is taken to utilize American mariners to carry American cargoes on American ships between American ports.

KIPP BALTIMORE'S BRAD NORNHOLD WINS BALTIMORE CITY "TEACHER OF THE YEAR"

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, Bradley Nornhold was a founding teacher at KIPP Ujima Village Academy when the public charter school opened in 2002. In the past ten years, Brad has been a transformational force in the lives of the students in Northwest Baltimore. As a middle school math teacher, his results speak for themselves. In 2011, his seventh grade students produced the highest math test scores in the city as measured by the Maryland School Assessment. Brad makes no excuses and leaves no child behind. 100 percent of his students passed the test. The advanced scores were the fourth highest in the State of Maryland.

But test scores do not tell the whole story. Brad's students embrace the work that it takes to produce such results, and believe that the

work they do will pay off in the future. KIPP Ujima Village Academy serves a student population where 87 percent of the students live below the poverty line, as measured by free or reduced priced lunch applications. The school's mission is preparing these students for college by giving them the academic and personal skills necessary to succeed in the most rigorous college preparatory high schools. Brad makes that mission a reality every day. Because of the work ethic and focus he has taught them, all of his current eighth graders have gained acceptance to private or public college preparatory schools with admission requirements. Every one of them will be going to a high school in which they had to earn admission. And most of his students will be starting their freshmen year in sophomore geometry. Of his 78 eighth graders, 51 have already taken and passed the High School Assessment for freshmen algebra.

Brad's efforts for his students do not end with eighth grade graduation. His former students visit on a weekly, if not daily, basis. They come back to see their teacher, talk about math, and inspire his current students to follow their path to college. The students of KIPP Ujima Village Academy have been privileged to call Mr. Nornhold their teacher. For many of them, their life paths will be forever changed because of the time they spent in his classroom.

LUIS QUINTANA

HON. ED PERLMUTTER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and applaud Luis Quintana for receiving the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. Luis Quintana is a 12th grader at Jefferson Senior High and received this award because his determination and hard work have allowed him to overcome adversities.

The dedication demonstrated by Luis Quintana is exemplary of the type of achievement that can be attained with hard work and perseverance. It is essential students at all levels strive to make the most of their education and develop a work ethic which will guide them for the rest of their lives.

I extend my deepest congratulations to Luis Quintana for winning the Arvada Wheat Ridge Service Ambassadors for Youth award. I have no doubt he will exhibit the same dedication and character in all his future accomplishments.

TRIBUTE TO BRIAN MOORE

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 southern California are exceptional. Southern California has been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unself-

ishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Brian Moore is one of these individuals. At a luncheon on May 31, 2012, Brian will be honored for his work as the original Deputy District Engineer for Project Management in the Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District. After 35 years of service with the Corps of Engineers, Brian will be retiring.

As the Deputy District Engineer for Project Management, Brian serves as Deputy to the Commander and Senior Civilian in the District and directs the Programs and Project Management Division. The Division is responsible for management of all the District's major programs and projects. The Los Angeles District covers projects for civil works, military, and environmental programs in Southern California, Southern Nevada, and Arizona and has a workload of more than a billion dollars in fiscal year 2009. The Programs and Project Management Division has nearly 100 project managers, schedulers, and budget analysts assigned to the management of more than 400 projects in navigation, flood control, environmental restoration, military construction, and environmental cleanup.

The Division also manages more than \$300 million in projects for other agencies such as Department of Homeland Security, the Veterans Administration, the Environmental Protection Agency, and others. Mr. Moore has over 35 years of experience with the Corps of Engineers in planning, construction, and project management. He is a graduate of the University of California at Berkeley with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Civil Engineering and holds a Master Degree in Water Resources Systems from Cornell University. He is a licensed professional engineer in the State of California.

I have come to know Brian well through many years working together on a variety of public projects in southern California. I can personally attest to Brian's incredible work ethic, professionalism, and positive attitude. Brian is married to Dr. Nancy Moore who is a research engineer at Rand Corporation in Santa Monica. Both he and Nancy are avid skiers and Mr. Moore also enjoys golf.

In light of all Brian Moore has done for southern California, it is only fitting that he be honored as he retires from the Army Corps of Engineers. Brian's tireless passion for public service has contributed immensely to the betterment of our region and the state 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.

BURMA SANCTIONS

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I address the Congress today with deep concern over the Administration's lifting of sanctions against the dictatorship of Burma.

We are working to get support, assistance and even proposing the transfer of weapons to the opposition in Syria, but yet, in Burma—a place where there are at least 500,000 dis-

placed people in one area and some report over 70,000 new displaced people due to attacks against the Kachin perpetrated by the actions of dictators—this Administration is rewarding the regime and their brutality.

Why do our policies give value to the lives of the opposition in Syria while denying the value of the lives of ethnic minorities and democratic activists in Burma?

The Administration's actions expose a shameful approach—one that allows U.S. businesses to invest in a land still drenched in bloodshed and where some prosper through the oppression of others. We should not be lifting any sanctions against dictators in Burma until they prove over time that they will stick to their word and they actually end their attacks against the people of Burma.

It is absurd to be lifting sanctions while a well-known brutal dictatorship continues to attack, displace, and even kill the people within its country.

REP. BARROW MOTION TO
INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 4348

HON. PETER A. DeFAZIO

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 18, 2012

Mr. DEFAZIO. Mr. Speaker, now is not the time to delay or jeopardize the renewal of a job-creating national transportation program by insisting on a deal-breaking provision already rejected by the U.S. Senate. This motion to instruct needlessly puts millions of private sector transportation, manufacturing, engineering, and construction jobs at risk.

We desperately need long-term investments in our decrepit and failing transportation system. We need to bring certainty to states and the private sector in transportation project planning. But the continued temporary extensions of transportation authorities as passed by the House of Representatives are costing us jobs.

We are getting substantiated reports from the 50 states that they are delaying or even canceling transportation investments and projects for this construction season because of the uncertainty in federal funding. According to AASHTO, seven states will forgo at least 60,000 private sector jobs this construction season. I am certain the number would be more than a 100,000 forgone jobs if all 50 states were considered.

And remember, with strong buy American provisions in the bill, these are not just construction jobs. These are manufacturing jobs and sophisticated engineering jobs—jobs we need to keep and continue to create in this country.

Unlike the House transportation bill that would keep us limping along with 60-day and 90-day extensions, the Senate transportation bill would provide two years of funding. Instead of forgoing hundreds of thousands of jobs for this construction season alone, the Senate bill would maintain or create millions of jobs and begin making the investments we need to address the 150,000 bridges in need of repair or replacement and the 42 percent of the National Highway System pavement in fair or poor condition—to say nothing of the needed investments to move our transportation system into the 21st Century.