

So we should remember that for every James Chaney, there were persons who were in the shadows who made a difference. JOHN LEWIS was one of them. For every Thurgood Marshall, there's a Charles Hamilton Houston who mentored, who made a difference in the life of a Thurgood Marshall such that he could go on to do the great things that he did. For every Rosa Parks, there is a person who is in the shadows, who made a difference, who helped to make the occasion such that Rosa Parks could rise to the occasion by taking a seat and igniting a spark that started the civil rights movement.

Let us remember not only the persons who made the great headlines that we continually recognize, but let's remember that there were other persons who made great headway who don't get the recognition today that they merit, but they were a part of this great movement for liberty and justice for African Americans across the length and breadth of this country.

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At some point, I shall talk about persons who were of many hues who also participated in this great movement, because we didn't get here by ourselves. There were many persons of many colors who marched and protested. Many of them gave their lives to this movement as well—John Shillady comes to mind, who was beaten in Austin, Texas, and as a result of that beating lost his life. He was an NAACP'er, he was Anglo. Of course we know about Goodman and Chaney and Schwerner. And two of them, of course, were not African Americans, Schwerner and Goodman.

So I think that on occasions like this we should always celebrate the great and noble African Americans who made great sacrifices, remember those who were in the shadows, and also remember that there were others of many hues, of many ethnicities and many religions who were right there with us to help us arrive at this point in our history.

And I thank you so much for this time to mention some of the great ones, and some of those who were great but did not receive the acclaim that they richly deserve. And I thank you again. God bless you, and God bless America.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Thank you, Congressman GREEN. And thank you for reminding us of the many, many unsung heroes and heroines on whose shoulders we also stand here today.

This is Black History Month, and on many occasions throughout February the Congressional Black Caucus will be here on the floor to talk about the ones that we know and those that we don't hear much about. There is a lot of our history that of course we're very proud of—the Long March to Freedom, the march for the right to vote, and today, where we now have 43 members of the Congressional Black Caucus. But we also have history that we're not going

back to; and SHEILA JACKSON LEE, when she was speaking earlier, reminded us of some of that history.

Going back to the other topic of our Special Order, the right to vote and protecting that right to vote, tomorrow the Congressional Black Caucus, led by our chairman, Reverend Congressman EMANUEL CLEAVER, will be submitting a House resolution condemning the passage of legislation that would unduly burden an American citizen's ability to vote, and opposing any State election law or proposed legislation that would have a disproportionate impact on vulnerable communities across this country.

When we introduce this, I think this is clearly a resolution that would signify the sense of Congress. It should be a resolution that every Member, Republican and Democrat, should support, supporting the right of every American citizen to vote freely and to have that vote counted. And we would invite all of the Members of the House to join us in that resolution, to become cosponsors, and we would ask the leadership to bring it to the floor for a vote.

Again, it condemns the passage of legislation that would unduly burden an American citizen's ability to vote and opposes any of those State election laws or proposed laws that would have a disproportionate impact, because historically we know that people of color have been barred from voting.

The passage of these restrictive voting laws, the resolution reminds us, is reminiscent of the Jim Crow-era poll taxes and literacy tests that disenfranchised thousands of African Americans. It also reminds us that these laws do more to suppress the right to vote than to protect our electoral system. There's a lot of talk about these laws being passed and proposed because of fraud in the election system, but there's no proof that there is any fraud. So these laws are really about suppressing the right to vote.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the subject of this Special Order.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from the Virgin Islands?

There was no objection.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak about the significance of February as Black History Month. Black History Month was first observed in 1976, and has become a successful effort to bring a greater understanding of African American history to all people in the U.S. Since the first observance of Black History Month, this country has seen increased recognition of the numerous contributions and sacrifices that African Americans have made throughout the United States.

From the pioneering inventions of Garrett A. Morgan, to the famous writings of Maya

Angelou, African Americans have been responsible for many of the successes and innovations that have defined our Nation. Since Black History Month was first conceived, we recognized these ground-breaking accomplishments and celebrated them together as a country.

However, every great triumph is not without tribulation. Much of what Black History Month is about is the recognition of the suffering that African Americans have had to endure. After slavery was abolished, Black Americans still faced racial intolerance and inequality. We need only to look to history to reflect on a period when African Americans were denied the right to vote.

Even with passage of the Fifteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, many still chose to circumvent the law and disenfranchise voters. From literacy tests to poll taxes, these tactics were designed to keep U.S. citizens from exercising their right to vote, and to have a voice in a diverse democratic system. It was not until the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was ultimately enacted that these menacing policies were outlawed.

Mr. Speaker, Black History Month goes further than just the recognition of African Americans and their distinct role in shaping U.S. history. Black History Month is very much about our struggle as a Nation to uphold our democratic principles of fairness and equality for all. The struggle and triumph that is honored during this important time has come to benefit every American—regardless of their gender, race, or creed—by furthering a culture of equality, fairness, and justice. These important lessons from our past are ones that we must never forget as we move triumphantly into the future.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. CLYBURN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of attending a funeral.

Mr. ENGEL (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of official business.

Mr. LYNCH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. REYES (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today on account of medical reasons.

Mr. VAN HOLLEN (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. POE of Texas (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of official business.

Ms. BUERKLE (at the request of Mr. CANTOR) for today on account of official business.

BILL PRESENTED TO THE PRESIDENT

Karen L. Haas, Clerk of the House reports that on February 6, 2012 she presented to the President of the United States, for his approval, the following bill.

H.R. 588. To redesignate the Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge as the Sam D. Hamilton Noxubee National Wildlife Refuge.

ADJOURNMENT

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 8 o'clock and 55 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Tuesday, February 7, 2012, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS,
ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker's table and referred as follows:

4856. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department's final rule — European Larch Canker; Expansion of Regulated Areas [Docket No.: APHIS-2011-0029] received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Agriculture.

4857. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement; New Designated Country-Armenia (DFARS Case 2011-D057) [Docket No.: DARS-2011-0082-0002] (RIN: 0750-AH48) received January 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4858. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement; Trade Agreements Thresholds (DFARS Case 2012-D005) (RIN: 0750-AH50) received January 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4859. A letter from the Director, Defense Procurement and Acquisition Policy, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department's final rule — Defense Federal Acquisition Regulations Supplement; Pilot Program for Acquisition of Military-Purpose Nondevelopmental Items (DFARS Case 2011-D034) received January 12, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Armed Services.

4860. A letter from the Chief Counsel, Department of Homeland Security, transmitting the Department's final rule — Final Flood Elevation Determinations [Docket ID: FEMA-2011-0002] received January 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Financial Services.

4861. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Incorporation of Revised ASTM Standards that Provide Flexibility in the Use of Alternatives to Mercury-Containing Industrial Thermometers [EPA-HQ-OPPT-2010-0581; FRL-8880-4] (RIN: 2070-AJ51) received January 12, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4862. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Placer County Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0536; FRL-9618-2] received January 12, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4863. A letter from the Director, Regulatory Management Division, Environmental Protection Agency, transmitting the Agency's final rule — Revisions to the California State Implementation Plan, Antelope Valley

Air Quality Management District and Imperial County Air Pollution Control District [EPA-R09-OAR-2011-0987; FRL-9617-4] received January 12, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4864. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amendment of Section 73.202(b), Table of Allotments, FM Broadcast Stations (Milford, Utah) Station KCLS(FM), Pioche, Nevada; Station KPLD(FM), Kanab, Utah [MB Docket No.: 10-64] received January 17, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4865. A letter from the Chief of Staff, Media Bureau, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Policies to Promote Rural Radio Service and to Streamline Allotment and Assignment Procedures [MD Docket No.: 09-52] received January 17, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4866. A letter from the Deputy Bureau Chief, PSHSB, Federal Communications Commission, transmitting the Commission's final rule — Amending the Definition on Interconnected VoIP Service in Section 9.3 of the Commission's Rules; Wireless E911 Location Accuracy Requirements; E911 Requirements for IP-Enabled Service Providers [GN Docket No.: 11-117] [PS Docket No.: 07-114] [WC Docket No.: 05-196] received January 17, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

4867. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Brand-Name Specifications [FAC 2005-55; FAR Case 2005-037; Item III; Docket 2006-0020, Sequence 26] (RIN: 9000-AK55) received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4868. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Time-and-Materials and Labor-Hour Contracts for Commercial Items [FAC 2005-55; FAR Case 2009-43; Item IV; Docket 2010-0100, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AL74) received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4869. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Public Access to the Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information System [FAC 2005-55; FAR Case 2010-016; Item V; Docket 2010-0016, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AL94) received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4870. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Updated Financial Accounting Standards Board Accounting References [FAC 2005-55; FAR Case 2010-005; Item VI; Docket 2010-0005, Sequence 1] (RIN: 9000-AM00) received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4871. A letter from the Senior Procurement Executive, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — General Services Administration Acquisition Regulation; Implementation of Information Technology Security Provision [GSAR Amendment 2011-03; GSAR Case 2011-G503; (Change 52) Docket 2011-0012, Sequence 1]

(RIN: 3090-AJ15) received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4872. A letter from the Chief Acquisition Officer, General Services Administration, transmitting the Administration's final rule — Federal Acquisition Regulation; Technical Amendments [FAC 2005-55; Item VII; Docket 2011-0078; Sequence 4] received January 10, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

4873. A letter from the Senior Program Manager, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Standard Instrument Approach Procedures, and Takeoff Minimums and Obstacle Departure Procedures; Miscellaneous Amendments [Docket No.: 30818; Amdt. No. 3457] received January 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4874. A letter from the Senior Program Analyst, Department of Transportation, transmitting the Department's final rule — Harmonization of Airworthiness Standards for Transport Category Airplanes — Landing Gear Retracting Mechanisms and Pilot Compartment View [Docket No.: FAA-2010-1193; Amdt. No. 25-136] (RIN: 2120-AJ80) received January 13, 2012, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure.

4875. A letter from the Deputy Assistant Administrator, Office of Diversion Control, Department of Justice, transmitting the Department's final rule — Chemical Mixtures Containing Listed Forms of Phosphorus and Change in Application Process [Docket No.: DEA-228F] (RIN: 1117-AA66) received December 12, 2011, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); to the Committee on Energy and Commerce.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES ON
PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XIII, reports of committees were delivered to the Clerk for printing and reference to the proper calendar, as follows:

Mr. WOODALL: Committee on Rules. House Resolution 539. Resolution providing for consideration of the bill (H.R. 3581) to amend the Balanced Budget and Emergency Deficit Control Act of 1985 to increase transparency in Federal budgeting, and for other purposes (Rept. 112-388). Referred to the House Calendar.

PUBLIC BILLS AND RESOLUTIONS

Under clause 2 of rule XII, public bills and resolutions of the following titles were introduced and severally referred, as follows:

By Ms. NORTON:

H.R. 3902. A bill to amend the District of Columbia Home Rule Act to revise the timing of special elections for local office in the District of Columbia; to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

By Ms. BALDWIN:

H.R. 3903. A bill to reduce the deficit by imposing a minimum effective tax rate for high-income taxpayers; to the Committee on Ways and Means.

By Mr. REHBERG:

H.R. 3904. A bill to modify the commencement date of the active force drawdown period used for the reimplementation of the temporary early retirement authority granted to the Secretary of Defense as an additional force management tool with which to effect the drawdown of military forces; to the Committee on Armed Services.