

the prior administration, and acts of Congress have not brought significantly improved management of federal real property. My bill would ensure that Congress, local communities and federal agencies have the earliest notice that federal properties may become available, and would be a further tool to foster earlier and more efficient property disposal.

TRIBUTE TO MISS GABRIELLE  
NICOLE TERRETT

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a multi-talented young lady, Miss Gabrielle Nicole Terrett.

Gabrielle Nicole Terrett is the 14 year old daughter of Dr. Andre' and Attorney Toni Terrett. She is the eldest of five and a 9th grader at Warren Central High School in Vicksburg.

Gabrielle is an all around student that has excelled in both academics and extracurricular activities. She is a member of the Warren Central Big Blue Band flute section. She also plays the violin and has performed at local nursing homes over the years. Gabrielle has received several awards including placing 1st in Jewelry in the Hobbs-Freeman Art Competition-2012, 2nd place in the Hobbs-Freeman Art competition-2012, 2nd place in the 2013 Blacks in Government Oratorical Contest, 3rd in the 2012 NAACP essay contest, and 2nd Runner Up in the 2013 Miss Southland Pageant.

Gabrielle volunteers at the Mountain of Faith Women's Shelter Retail Store. As a volunteer she helps stock shelves, organize the store and assist customers to the store. She is very pleasant to work with and supports the Women's Shelter as often as possible. In her spare time she enjoys quiet time reading, preparing for pageants, and shopping.

She is a faithful member of Pleasant Green Baptist Church in Vicksburg, MS where she is active in Sunday school.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Miss Gabrielle Nicole Terrett for her hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve.

FEDERAL AGRICULTURE REFORM  
AND RISK MANAGEMENT ACT OF  
2013 (H.R. 1947)

**HON. BETTY McCOLLUM**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I remain in strong opposition to the House Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management Act of 2013 (H.R. 1947) otherwise known as the 'Farm Bill'. On June 20, 2013, I along with the majority of my colleagues voted against House Republican's extreme bill. Now farmers in Minnesota and across this country are depending on Congress to reach a bipartisan agreement that will continue to grow our agricultural economy and enable us to best meet our future agriculture needs.

In the past, the Farm Bill has received strong bipartisan support. Members of Congress from both rural and urban districts found common ground to support our agriculture sector, keep food affordable, and continue investments in agricultural research. However, this year the House Republican Leadership chose to put partisan politics before the best interests of our farmers, ranchers, and communities.

The bill that I voted against included an unprecedented cut to the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). Of the almost \$40 billion in cuts, more than half come from a devastating reduction to the nutrition assistance for poor children, seniors, and persons with disabilities. An estimated 38,000 Minnesotans and nearly 2 million Americans would lose their SNAP benefits entirely and 210,000 children would no longer receive free meals at school.

In June, along with Congressman ELLISON, I hosted a listening discussion on the impact that these cuts would have on Minnesotans. The audience heard from state and county officials, faith leaders, community service providers, and individuals that receive SNAP. The testimony, often emotional, demonstrated the clear need for SNAP to ensure individuals are able to access healthy food.

Patricia Lull, Executive Director of the Saint Paul Area Council of Churches, spoke of the growing need that churches in Minnesota have witnessed. She told us, "We come from Christian, Jewish, Muslim, Unitarian, and Quaker backgrounds, but every one of our faith traditions agrees with this conviction—No more hungry neighbors!"

Evelyn, a Minnesota senior and diabetic, recently began receiving SNAP benefits. She told us about how the rising cost of her medications had thrown her into Medicare Part D's donut hole and forced her to cut her expenses as low as she could. According to Evelyn, without SNAP she would be unable to afford the healthy meals she needs to keep her diabetes in check. She was already worried about how she would cope with the estimated 4% reduction that will take effect this November. If she was no longer eligible for SNAP, she told us she wouldn't know what to do.

In addition to the cuts already included in the bill, Tea-Party Republicans added polarizing amendments that would make it even more difficult to qualify for SNAP. One of the amendments would give states the ability to require all SNAP applicants to submit to drug testing. Another allowed states to require parents and some persons with disabilities to meet work requirements in order to qualify for SNAP. These destructive amendments would create new barriers for struggling Americans to access nutrition assistance, while doing nothing to improve efficiency or reduce fraud. Simply, Tea-Party Republicans voted to make a bad bill even worse.

After failing to pass their own bill, the House Republican Leadership has an obligation to move forward a bipartisan Farm Bill that does not harm our poorest Americans. I call on the House Republican Majority to bring the Senate passed bipartisan Farm Bill (S. 954) to the floor for an up or down vote. While not perfect, the Senate-passed bill includes common-sense reforms to outdated programs, makes modest changes to SNAP, reaffirms our commitment to conservation, and eliminates wasteful spending.

Minnesota farmers are depending on Congress to act swiftly and pass a long-term Farm Bill before the current extension expires. Together, Democrats and Republicans can pass the Senate's Farm Bill before summer's end and give certainty to America's farmers, ranchers, and consumers.

TRIBUTE TO JOCELYN TAYLOR

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a remarkable student, Jocelyn Taylor.

Ms. Taylor is the daughter of Mr. Marlin and Mrs. Rosalind Taylor of Mound Bayou, Mississippi.

Ms. Taylor is a senior at John F. Kennedy Memorial High School in Mound Bayou, Mississippi. As a child she has been focused, outgoing and dedicated to whatever she desires to achieve. During her tenure at I.T. Montgomery Elementary School in Mound Bayou, Mississippi her endeavors were to always better herself and become more than a statistic and has carried that mindset during her journey through high school.

Ms. Taylor is active in the Future Business Leaders of America which is a non-profit organization of high school and college students as well as professional members' who primarily assist students' in transitioning in the business/entrepreneur environment. As a member she has participated in various competitions and has won numerous recognitions and awards.

Ms. Taylor is active in the Bolivar County Community Action Agency's Senior Select Program. This program gives senior high school students the opportunity to intern at various community businesses to learn professional skills and techniques and to showcase their skills, while encouraging the importance of school attendance and giving back to their respective communities. I have had the honor of having her intern in my Mound Bayou District Office and found her to be a dedicated and outstanding intern and volunteer.

Ms. Taylor strives to be a positive example for her two younger siblings Joshua and Jordan. She credits her parents for their influence in her life as they encourage her to reach her full potential. Her late grandmother, Ms. Mary Alice Sinclair, was an inspiration in her life and gave her great tips on life and how to survive as a young lady.

Ms. Taylor has received numerous educational certificates and awards. Upon graduating in May 2013, she will further her education at Delta State University in Cleveland, Mississippi to pursue a degree in Business Administration and become an entrepreneur.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Jocelyn Taylor for her dedication in being an outstanding student.

RECOGNIZING KITSAP COUNTY BUSINESSWOMAN AMY IGLOI ON RECEIVING THE COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD FROM THE ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON BUSINESS

**HON. DEREK KILMER**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Amy Igloi of Kitsap County for receiving the "Community Service Award" from the Association of Washington Business. Ms. Igloi is the General Manager of "Amy's on the Bay Restaurant and Bar" in downtown Port Orchard, WA.

Amy Igloi has owned and operated her business in Port Orchard for seven years and currently employs 22 local residents. "Amy's on the Bay" feeds approximately 70,000 customers annually and is a cornerstone business on the Port Orchard waterfront. "Amy's on the Bay" is widely known throughout the Puget Sound region as having some of the finest cuisine in the area—especially the crab cakes and burgers.

Ms. Igloi and her business have been recognized this year by the Association of Washington Business for their dedication to Port Orchard, Kitsap County, and its residents. Numerous community organizations have directly benefitted from the donations generated by Ms. Igloi and her team, including those that serve the homeless, special needs, and elderly populations.

Mr. Speaker, in our economic situation, communities depend on citizens like Amy Igloi to help ensure that vulnerable populations are taken care of in tough times.

As I close, Mr. Speaker, I can say with confidence that residents of Port Orchard and Kitsap County have greatly benefitted from the civic and philanthropic contributions of Amy Igloi and her staff. I applaud her recent award and am grateful that she continues to serve wonderful meals and employ citizens in Kitsap County, Washington.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN WILLIAMS, SR.

**HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON**

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a public servant, who is no stranger to hard work, Mr. John Williams, Sr.

John Williams, Sr. is a lifelong resident of Rolling Fork, Mississippi and was born on July 15, 1953 to David and Mary Brown. He is a graduate of Henry Weathers High School located in Rolling Fork, MS.

John has been employed with the City of Rolling Fork for about 24 years. He is a volunteer fireman for the City of Rolling Fork.

John is married to DeLinda Williams and they have five children: John, Jr., Lee Odoms, Renea Flood, Keith Flood and Wanda Jackson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. John Williams, Sr. for his dedication to serving others and giving back to

the community in which he was born and raised.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE  
SMITHSONIAN MODERNIZATION  
ACT OF 2013

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Monday, July 8, 2013*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce three bills to modernize the Smithsonian Institution and to enhance its governance and fundraising capabilities, in keeping with the recommendations of a number of experts, including the Smithsonian Independent Review Committee, chaired by former U.S. Comptroller General Charles Bowsher. This bill, the Smithsonian Modernization Act, makes changes to the Smithsonian's governance structure by expanding and changing the composition of its Board of Regents, from 17 members, which includes six Members of Congress, the Vice President of the United States, and the Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court, to 21 members, comprised solely of private citizens. This change will strengthen both the Smithsonian's governance and fundraising capacity, and it is the first significant change in this old and revered institution since it was established in 1846. The second bill, the Smithsonian Free Admission Act of 2013, seeks to preserve the long-standing free admission policy for permanent exhibits at an institution that is largely funded by the federal government, as envisioned by James Smithson, its founder. Finally, the Open and Transparent Smithsonian Act of 2013 will apply the Freedom of Information Act and the Privacy Act to the Smithsonian in the same manner they apply to federal agencies.

The Smithsonian Institution is an irreplaceable cultural, scientific, historical, educational and artistic complex without any public or private counterpart in the world. Since its founding, the Smithsonian has developed an extraordinary array of world-class museums, galleries, educational showplaces and unique research centers, including 19 museums and galleries, nine research facilities, the National Zoo, and the forthcoming National Museum of African American History and Culture, which is now under construction. The Smithsonian has grown with private funding and donations from American culture and life, but most of its funding continues to come from federal appropriations. Despite receiving 70 percent of its funding from the federal government, the Smithsonian has long had serious infrastructure and other needs.

Congress must help the Smithsonian strengthen its ability to build resources beyond what taxpayers are able to provide. The most important step Congress could take today is to rescue the Smithsonian from its 19th-century governance structure, which keeps it from accessing needed and available private resources and limits close and critical oversight. The Smithsonian Modernization Act provides a governance structure befitting the Smithsonian's unique complexity. The difficulties the Smithsonian has faced result in part from the limitations inherent in its antiquated governance structure. The existing structure may have fit the Smithsonian over 170 years

ago, but today the structure has proven to be a relic that does a disservice to the Smithsonian. The present governance structure places immense responsibility on dedicated but over-extended Members of the House and Senate, the Vice President of the United States and the Chief Justice of the United States Supreme Court. These federal officials comprise almost half of the Smithsonian Board of Regents, and must perform their fiduciary duties as board members while giving first priority to their sworn responsibilities as important federal officials.

In 2007, an independent review committee found that the Board had violated principles of good management during the tenure of former Secretary of the Smithsonian Lawrence Small allowing him to create an "insular culture." The committee's report indicated that the Board had failed to provide desperately needed oversight and had overcompensated Mr. Small. The report also found that Sheila P. Burke, the Smithsonian's then-deputy secretary and chief operating officer, had frequent absences from her duties because of outside activities, including service on corporate boards, for which she earned more than \$1.2 million over six years. Further, the Smithsonian's then-business ventures chief, Gary Beer, was dismissed for financial indiscretions. This crisis, caused by unprecedented controversies and irresponsible risks, put into sharp focus the need for new revenue streams and for a modern governance structure. The first full-blown scandal in the Smithsonian's history, replete with embarrassing media coverage, damaged its reputation and perhaps the confidence of potential contributors. The poor judgment and overreaching of Smithsonian personnel during that period requires new and concentrated oversight by citizens for whom the Smithsonian would command priority attention.

The Board, of course, has taken some important action on its own. After irregularities were uncovered by the media, the Board responded to the controversies by creating a governance committee, chaired by Patty Stonesifer, a Regent and former chief executive officer of the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, with a mandate to comprehensively review the policies and practices of the Smithsonian and how the Board conducts its oversight of the institution. The Board also established an Independent Review Committee (IRC), chaired by former U.S. Comptroller General Charles A. Bowsher, to review the issues arising from an Inspector General's report and the Board's response, and related Smithsonian practices.

The IRC was forthright in its investigation and recommendations. The IRC stated explicitly that the root cause of the problems at the Smithsonian was an antiquated governance structure, which led to failures in governance and management. According to the IRC, the Board must assume a fiduciary duty that carries a "major commitment of time and effort, a reputational risk, and potentially, financial liability." The IRC further argued that the Smithsonian, with a budget of over \$1 billion a year, must have Board members who "act as true fiduciaries and who have both the time and the experience to assume the responsibilities of setting strategy and providing oversight." The IRC cited a lack of clarity in the roles of the Vice President of the United States and Chief Justice of the U.S. Supreme Court on