

miles of submerged lands surrounding each of our islands. In doing so, this bill also puts the management of these lands back in the hands of those who have the greatest interest in protecting the natural resources there and in developing their economic potential—the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

I say “return” because, until 2005, we believed we owned these lands around our islands; and we cared for them accordingly. But in 2005 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that—unlike the case for every other coastal state and territory in our Nation—the submerged lands and waters off our shores did not belong to us, but rather belonged to the federal government.

The Court did acknowledge in its ruling that Congress had the authority to convey these lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and it is that authority that my bill would exercise.

We have been here before. In three previous Congresses legislation has been offered to provide the same ownership of submerged lands to the Northern Mariana Islands as is enjoyed by American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 2005 Representative Jeff Flake of Arizona—now Senator Jeff Flake—introduced H.R. 4255 for this purpose. And in 2009, when for the first time the people of the Northern Mariana Islands themselves were represented in this House, I introduced H.R. 934, conveying these lands. That bill passed the House without dissent, 416–0, in July of 2009, but died in the Senate. Again in 2011 I introduced this legislation, as H.R. 670. Again the House passed the bill without dissent, 397–0. Again the Senate failed to act, although the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on a companion measure, S. 590, sponsored by Senator Jeff Bingaman and Senator LISA MURKOWSKI.

In each Congress each bill introduced on this issue has progressed farther down the legislative track.

I hope the fourth time proves to be the charm.

We know from past action that this House supports local control of these local resources in the Northern Mariana Islands. The Obama Administration has testified in favor of the conveyance. And I can attest that my constituents desire equivalent treatment to other U.S. coastal jurisdictions. So, we just have to give the other body one more opportunity to join in this wide agreement.

Let me add that the cost of the measure I have introduced is nothing and that Congress has the Constitutional authority to enact this bill—two threshold questions that we must always answer.

And let me thank the hundreds of Members who voted in favor of this conveyance in the 111th and 112th Congresses and all those Members who are original co-sponsors of today's measure, which provides the right of ownership and responsibility of management for submerged lands and waters to the Northern Mariana Islands that every other coastal area of our Nation enjoys.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF REVEREND JAMES S. YOUNG

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize Reverend James S. Young for his selfless service to the Northwest Florida community.

Reverend Young founded the Pensacola chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference more than 50 years ago after an inspirational meeting with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Birmingham, Alabama. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference not only played a critical role in the civil rights movement, but continues to push for effective policy in four major realms: economic development, education, community empowerment, and technology.

Reverend Young's contributions to the civil rights movement include working closely with local ministers and leaders to organize boycotts throughout the city in order to further their cause for justice. Under his leadership, several ministerial and civil leaders were able to conduct meetings with businesses specifically regarding merchants' discrimination practices. Most notably, Reverend Young was selected to meet with the Supreme Court Judges in Washington, D.C. to participate in a discussion on segregation issues. The list of Reverend Young's accomplishments extends far beyond what is noted here, but they all highlight his devotion to improving the lives of those around him and to bettering his community through service.

In addition to his involvement with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Reverend Young serves as the Dean of the Baptist Ministers Union of Pensacola, the Executive Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration Committee, and senior pastor at Mt. Canaan Ministry Baptist Church. He also offers his leadership and expertise as a member of the NAACP, the Ministerial Association, and the God in Government Committee.

Reverend Young's commitment to service and passion for bettering the lives of others has been recognized through the countless awards bestowed to him; most recently with proclamations from the Pensacola Mayor and County Commission. For the past several decades, Reverend Young has served his community and organization with unwavering dedication. There is no question that Reverend Young has left an invaluable impact on not only Northwest Florida, but to the national human rights and justice movement as well.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to recognize Reverend James S. Young for his lifetime of service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing James and his wife Marie all of the best.

IN HONOR OF WILLIE F. MONDAY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, Bill Monday of Locust, North Carolina, dedicated his life to

the service of his country. His military career and civic service make admirers of all those fortunate enough to have known him.

Bill Monday selflessly volunteered for service in June of 1940 and was sent to Ft. Bragg as part of the 4th Field Artillery Battalion in the United States Army Air Corps.

Bill's long and distinguished career in the Corps began with his enlistment and ended with his promotion to Captain after his skill and commitment to duty qualified him for Officer Candidate School. He went on to qualify and earn his wings as a Field Artillery Liaison Pilot.

During his military career, Bill was stationed throughout the South Pacific though the bulk of the action he saw was in the ferocious campaign for the Philippines in October of 1944. In this campaign Bill's intrepid flying ability allowed him to land on small dirt roads and school yards in order direct fire, provide reconnaissance, and drop supplies to cut off troops. All of this was done with nothing more than a thin layer of plywood to protect him from the rain of anti-aircraft and small arms fire.

It was here, flying up to ten miles behind enemy lines in an unarmed aircraft, that Bill earned a Silver Star in December of 1944. This was followed up by the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters in June and September of 1945.

His Silver Star citation reads: “Flying from short, hazardous fields, he was not able to take an observer with him, but was nonetheless able to make accurate and skilled adjustments of artillery fire. By his outstanding courage and willingness to meet military necessities beyond the call of his normal duties, Lieutenant Monday conducted himself in a manner worthy of the highest traditions of the military service.”

After the war ended, Bill returned to Fort Bragg. After being discharged in August of 1949 he settled in Locust, NC with his wife, Virginia, where he lived a long prosperous life.

Bill loved flying and said that even during wartime there was a peace to flying and that he never felt closer to God than when he was in the air alone. As he is laid to rest, let us hope that he finds that same peace.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to call his extraordinary service and devotion to the United States to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF TED SCHLOSSMAN

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Ted Schlossman, a great husband, father, and grandfather. He was an outstanding businessman, a volunteer in his community, and a friend of mine. Ted passed away unexpectedly Sunday, January 20, 2013, while attending a conference. I know the contributions he left us with will not be forgotten by his family, friends, or his community.

I had the privilege of knowing Ted for more than 20 years and his dedication and service to the housing industry has truly made a difference. Ted was not only a strong advocate

for the industry, but served in numerous leadership capacities. When you wanted something done, you wanted Ted on your team. It is fitting that Ted departed this earth on the way to chair a meeting.

Ted wore many hats in the residential construction industry throughout his career. He did everything from serving as a supplier of doors and windows to building houses in both Texas and Virginia. Before he moved to Texas in 1983, Ted served as president of both the Tidewater Builders Association and the Virginia State Home Builders Association in Virginia. Ted was also recognized for his service to the industry with numerous awards. In 2011, he was inducted into the Texas Association of Builders Housing Hall of Honor.

Ted lived the American Dream that so many of us strive for. He enjoyed a loving family and a thriving career. Ted has left a legacy that many people will enjoy for years to come through the homes he built and the lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my sincere thanks to Ted Schlossman, for leaving this world a better place than he found it. I am truly honored to recognize my friend and his accomplishments. He will be missed.

HONORING THE 4TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the progress we've made in ensuring equal pay for equal work, and the 4th year anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Lilly Ledbetter performed equal work but received less pay than her male colleagues at Goodyear. Despite experiencing pay discrimination over the course of her career, Ledbetter was barred by the Supreme Court from challenging her discriminatory pay because she did not pursue legal action soon enough.

Fortunately, this is no longer the case. On January 29, 2009, President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. This law restored an employee's right to challenge pay discrimination. Women today have the right to pursue legal action for pay discrimination whenever it occurs.

Despite this victory, challenges still remain for women receiving equal pay for equal work as evidenced by the pay gap that still exists. Today, women are paid only 77 cents to every dollar made by men. And for women of color, that number falls even lower. African American women receive 68 cents and Hispanic women 59 cents to every dollar earned by men. This pay disparity not only affects women during their careers, but follows them into retirement as they receive lower pensions and Social Security benefits based on receiving lower wages than they deserved.

Although today we take a moment to celebrate the restoration of the right to challenge pay discrimination, now more than ever, we must strengthen our resolve to ensure equal pay for equal work. Eliminating pay discrimination not only benefits women—it benefits families. In most American households today,

women are either the sole breadwinner or essential co-breadwinner. Those families rely on women's income to meet the daily needs of the family—including groceries, rent, and medical care. As we celebrate the 4th anniversary of this important law, we must commit to passing the Paycheck Fairness Act now to take another major step in ensuring equal pay for equal work.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DELEGATE CHRISTINE M. JONES

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Christine M. Jones, a resident of Temple Hills in the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland. She unexpectedly passed from this life on January 26, 2013. As her funeral service is this coming Friday at Bethlehem Baptist Church on Martin Luther King Avenue in Southeast Washington, DC, I want to remember the legacy Ms. Jones leaves behind.

Ms. Christine Jones's long and distinguished career served the people of Maryland for over 40 years both as a teacher in Prince George's County and in the Maryland House of Delegates. Delegate Jones served as a mentor and inspiration to countless individuals throughout our state. All of Maryland mourns the loss of a great woman and unparalleled public servant.

Delegate Jones was born in Navasota, Texas, on Christmas Day in 1929. She graduated from the historically black university, Huston—Tillotson University, in Austin, Texas, in 1949 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Delegate Jones had a long career as a teacher and educator in the Prince George's County Public Schools system and specialized in physical education. Just as she lived her life, she stressed service to those students that were lucky enough to have her as a teacher and mentor.

After a 30 year career as an educator, Ms. Jones decided to continue her public service on behalf of Prince George's County by becoming the first African American to represent the County in the Maryland General Assembly. She represented the 26th Legislative District in the House of Delegates from 1982–1994. Delegate Jones rose to the position of vice chairman of the County's delegation and was the first woman to serve as chairperson of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland. In her last year in office in 1994, she worked as the Assembly's assistant majority floor leader. The Legislative Black Caucus recognized Delegate Jones for her contributions and service to the state of Maryland and its residents in 2010.

After her time in office, Delegate Jones continued to be active in her community through service in political, educational, and religious organizations. With her passing, it is my hope that Christine M. Jones has found the peace earned from such a wonderful life. Delegate Jones made a difference in our community with everything she did, and I am grateful for her life and service to Prince George's County, Maryland, and our country.

On behalf of this House, I extend our condolences to her entire family, especially her

son, Robert E. Jones, Jr., her three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, and the thanks of a grateful nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during the rollcall vote No. 5, on January 3, 2013. I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted "yes."

OPINION EDITORIAL WRITTEN BY MARION P. HAMMER OF FLORIDA

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues an opinion editorial that was written by Marion P. Hammer, of Tallahassee, Florida.

Marion has diligently served as a staunch advocate for Second Amendment Rights for nearly her entire life. She served as the first female President of the National Rifle Association (NRA) from 1995 through 1998, and remains on the NRA Board of Directors today.

The opinion editorial explains in very plain language, just like our Second Amendment, the glaring problems our nation's one hundred million gun owners, sportsmen and women, and law abiding citizens have with the misguided proposals we are hearing from the President and his Democratic colleagues.

"UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS"— ABSOLUTELY NOT

(By Marion P. Hammer)

Imagine a grandfather who wants to give a family shotgun to his 12-year-old grandson having to do a background check on his grandson before giving him the shotgun.

Or a friend having to do a background check on his lifetime best buddy before lending him a hunting rifle.

Or, if your mother had a prowler at her home, having to do a background check on your own Mom before you could give her one of your guns for protection.

That's what "universal background checks" do. They turn traditional innocent conduct into a criminal offense. They target you, law-abiding gun owners.

Universal background checks are background checks on EVERY transfer, sale, purchase, trade, gift, rental, and loan of a firearm between any and all individuals.

All background checks must be conducted through a federally licensed dealer. Universal background checks have nothing to do with gun shows—they are about you.

It is ALREADY a federal felony to be engaged in the business of buying and selling firearms without having federal firearm dealer's license.

It is ALREADY a crime for a federally licensed dealer to sell a gun without doing a background check—that's all dealers, everywhere, including at retail stores, gun shows, flea markets or anywhere else.

Further, it is ALREADY a federal felony for any private person to sell, trade, give, lend, rent or transfer a gun to a person you know or should have known is not legally allowed to own, purchase or possess a firearm.