

Rollcall No. 293: Final Passage of H.R. 1613—Outer Continental Shelf Transboundary Hydrocarbon Agreements Authorization Act, “no.”

Rollcall No. 294: Motion to Suspend the Rules and Pass H.R. 1864, “yea.”

Rollcall No. 295: Hastings of Florida Part B Amendment No. 2, “aye.”

Rollcall No. 296: Flores of Texas Part B Amendment No. 4, “no.”

Rollcall No. 297: Cassidy of Louisiana Part B Amendment No. 5, as Modified, “no.”

Rollcall No. 298: Rigell of Virginia Part B Amendment No. 7, “no.”

FRIDAY, JUNE 28, 2013:

Rollcall No. 299: DeFazio of Oregon Part B Amendment No. 8, “aye.”

Rollcall No. 300: Broun of Georgia Part B Amendment No. 9, “no.”

Rollcall No. 301: Grayson of Florida Part B Amendment No. 10, as Modified, “aye.”

Rollcall No. 302: Capps of California Part B Amendment No. 11, “aye.”

Rollcall No. 303: Motion to Recommit with Instructions for H.R. 2231, “aye.”

Rollcall No. 304: Final Passage of H.R. 2231—Offshore Energy and Jobs Act, “no.”

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF CHAMPLAIN, NEW YORK

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 225th Anniversary of the town of Champlain, NY.

The French explorer, Samuel De Champlain, was the first European to discover and name the lake. Established in 1788, the town was formed after Pliny Moore, one of its founders, received a land grant for enlisting in the New York militia in 1781 during the American Revolution, including extensive shoreline along Lake Champlain. It was Moore who remained an essential figure in the town's early development, building the first saw mill, becoming the first county judge and merchant, and later as a prominent politician, representing Champlain in the New York Assembly.

The town of Champlain also played a vital role during the War of 1812. In 1814, Champlain was crucial in securing the nation's northern border and contributed to the American victory at the Battle of Plattsburgh, also known as the Battle of Lake Champlain.

Situated just outside of the Adirondack Park, today the town is a gateway for visitors to many popular attractions including hiking, fishing, camping and other outdoor activities. It also contains one of the most important commercial gateways on the northern border and is central in connecting Quebec, Montreal and New York City, which facilitates substantial trade between the US and Canada.

Over time, its residents have grown in population and in pride, recognizing their town's unique history to the area and their country.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating the residents of Champlain reaching this milestone.

CITIZENS RAISE AWARENESS OF GENOCIDE THROUGH THE ONE MILLION BONES DEMONSTRATION

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, earlier this month, residents from across the country participated in the One Million Bones demonstration on the National Mall to raise awareness about the acts of genocide and mass atrocities in Africa and the Middle East.

Many of the participants visited with their respective Congressional offices, and I am pleased to enter into the Congressional Record a statement on behalf of my constituents, Alison Luckett and Taylor Lane, who met with staff from my office.

We the House of Representatives resolve that:

In support of the One Million Bones efforts to raise awareness of on-going genocides and mass atrocities in the world today;

Consistent with the UN's having defined genocide as “Any of the following acts committed with intent to destroy, in whole or in part, a national, ethnical, racial, or religious group, as such: killing members of the group; causing serious bodily or mental harm to members of the group; deliberately inflicting on the group conditions of life, calculated to bring about physical destruction in whole or in part; imposing measures intended to prevent births within a group; [and] forcibly transferring children of the group to another group;”

In remembrance of the lives lost in past acts of genocide including the genocides in Nazi Germany, Rwanda, and Sudan in which:

The Holocaust was an act of genocide by Nazi Germany to eradicate Non-Aryan population during World War II in which 11 million people were killed;

The civil war in Rwanda from April 6, 1994, to July 16, 1994, in which acts of genocide were committed by extremist Hutus through the militia, the Interhamawe, and the government army against Tutsis, moderate Hutus, and the Twa in which over 1 million people were killed;

The events in Sudan from 2003 to present have involved acts of genocide by the Muslim Arab Sudanese against the Muslim black Sudanese through the Janjaweed militia and the Sudanese army in which 6 million people were killed before 2003 and since then an additional 400,000 have died.

Resolved that we—

1. view all human beings as equals no matter their nationality, ethnicity, race, or religion;
2. recognize these events as genocide and condemn them as such

3. urge all Members of Congress to condemn those responsible for the acts of genocide from occurring;

4. will continue to work with the One Million Bones project to educate all people on the horrors of genocide and to prevent any future acts of genocide from occurring

5. will take action through available means to prevent future acts of genocide from occurring.

HONORING THE AMERICAN-ITALIAN HERITAGE SOCIETY

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the American-Italian Heritage Society on the occasion of breaking ground on their new headquarters.

The American-Italian Heritage Society was founded in Omaha in 1980 by seven individuals in order to preserve their Italian heritage in the community. Since its founding, the organization has been dedicated to encouraging awareness of Italian traditions, including history, culture, and language, among many other aspects.

This new building serving as their headquarters will provide a permanent meeting center for members of the American-Italian Heritage Society to gather. Here they will be able to host their traditional Italian courses and many other activities for both children and adults. The society also hosts many events for members and guests, such as, the annual La Festa Italiana, which has been held for nearly thirty years. Additionally, many fundraisers have been held such as the American-Italian Heritage Society pasta dinners, which allow members of the Omaha area to embrace Italian culture.

The American-Italian Heritage Society has grown significantly since its founding with now over 1,000 members. It hopes to continue to grow by adding a cultural museum and library to preserve Italian culture in Omaha.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating The American-Italian Heritage Society on their new building. The Omaha community and I recognize all of the advances the American-Italian Heritage Society has made to not only celebrate Italian culture and tradition but to educate the future generations as well.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$16,738,167,165,761.57. We've added \$6,111,190,116,848.49 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN HONOR OF DISTRICT COURT JUDGE JOSEPH BLICK

HON. WALTER B. JONES

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. JONES. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take a moment to honor District Court Judge

Joseph A. Blick, Jr., a dedicated public servant and worthy recipient of the Order of the Long Leaf Pine, an honor awarded by the governor of North Carolina.

In the journey of life, it is a privilege to meet an individual like Joe Blick—a man of strong faith who always makes time for his family, church, and the local community. Joe rarely utters the word “no,” but instead eagerly seeks opportunities to help others. He has been a role model for the Greenville youth by volunteering to coach sports or help with the youth group at St. Peter Catholic Church. He is a man who teaches fairness and compassion in and out of the courtroom and has always led by example.

A prime example of Mr. Blick's generous nature comes in his decision to retire a year early, giving up his full retirement status in order to accept a teaching position at St. Peter's Catholic School. As always, he has chosen to follow the will of God and understands that teaching the young men and women who represent America's future is his calling.

This new position will represent a return to the classroom for Judge Blick, who taught and coached students in Moore County, North Carolina, before attending law school at Wake Forest University. After graduating, he went on to work for 16 years as an assistant district attorney before assuming the title of district court judge and presiding over the 3A judicial district for 14 years.

Joe's commitment to Pitt County has been admired by many, including myself. In recognition of his extensive record of public service, he has been honored with the Order of the Long Leaf Pine—a prestigious award presented to individuals who display a strong dedication to the state of North Carolina.

I join with Joe's wife, Mary; his two sons and daughters-in-law, Jeff and Caroline and Brian and Kristen; and his three grandchildren in congratulating him on his many achievements. During my many years of friendship with the Blick family, I had the distinct honor of nominating Brian to the naval academy, from which he graduated in May of 2012.

John Wesley once said that “[o]ne of the principal rules of religion is to lose no occasion of serving God. And, since he is invisible to our eyes, we are to serve him in our neighbor; which he receives as if done to himself in person, standing visibly before us.”

Judge Blick has certainly exemplified this spirit of service, and I am confident that his dedication to God, his family, and his community will continue as he takes this next step in life's journey. I am grateful for Judge Blick's tireless commitment to the Greenville community and pleased to have him recognized by the United States Congress, an honor which he truly deserves.

TRIBUTE TO MR. MARK SHEPPARD, VICE PRESIDENT OF THE ALABAMA STATE PORT AUTHORITY

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the life of an influential and beloved

Mobilian who played an instrumental role in the growth of the Port of Mobile and the regional economy. Mr. Mark Sheppard, Vice President for Trade and Development at the Alabama State Port Authority, recently passed away at the age of 61.

A native of Mobile and a graduate of the University of South Alabama, Mr. Sheppard enjoyed a maritime career which spanned more than 30 years, beginning with a management trainee position for United States Lines. He later worked for a number of companies along the Gulf of Mexico, including Hapag-Lloyd, Mitsui O.S.K. Lines and Nedlloyd Lines, where he managed direct sales, marketing and integrated logistics.

Mr. Sheppard joined the Alabama State Port Authority in 2005, where he led trade and carrier development for the Authority's intermodal investments. Most notably, he is credited—despite a global economic recession—with expanding both business and ocean carrier service at the authority's new container terminal between 2008 and 2010. That trend continued in 2011, when year-over-year container traffic increased by another 31 percent.

His leadership was further evident in 2012, when the Port Authority's containerized, steel and export coal volumes all posted significant growth. And growth is projected to continue with planned investments in intermodal rail, warehousing and terminal upgrades to expand capacity and market reach.

In addition to his responsibilities with the Port Authority, Mr. Sheppard also remained active in the broader maritime and international communities, serving on the Board of Directors for the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Development Council and as vice chairman and chairman-elect for the Alabama Germany Partnership.

Alabama State Port Authority Director James K. Lyons reflected on the loss of Mr. Sheppard and his valuable contributions to Alabama and the Gulf Coast: “Mark Sheppard's sudden passing comes as a deep shock to our maritime and international trade community. He was a key member of our team and a good friend.”

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to extend my personal condolences to his family, including his daughter, Jessica, who is a member of my Washington, DC office staff, as well as his brother Tim Sheppard; and two sisters, Brenda Sheppard and Sonya Bell. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

NELSON MANDELA
INTERNATIONAL DAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to President Nelson Mandela and to commemorate the 5th anniversary of “Nelson Mandela International Day.” On this special day, the thoughts, prayers, and wishes of all Americans, and peace loving people the world over, are with Nelson Mandela and his family.

In 2009, the United Nations dedicated this day in recognition of Nelson Mandela's commitment to humanity as a human rights lawyer, a prisoner of conscience, an international

peacemaker, and as the first elected president of a free, democratic, and multiracial Republic of South Africa. Nelson Mandela dedicated his life to serving humanity in the fields of conflict resolution, race relations, the promotion and protection of human rights, reconciliation, gender equality, the rights of children and other vulnerable groups, the uplift of poor and underdeveloped communities, and the struggle for democracy internationally and the promotion of a world culture of peace.

In honoring these dreams, hopes, goals, and acts, the United Nations calls upon people everywhere to devote 67 minutes today to helping others, one minute honoring each year that Nelson Mandela devoted to us, humanity. Through our service to others, we honor the achievements and sacrifices of Nelson Mandela.

Today we honor the life and work of a man who by his courage, commitment to justice, grace in the face of unearned suffering, and capacity to forgive continues to inspire the world.

In the words of Nelson Mandela: “For to be free is not merely to cast off one's chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.”

Happy birthday to one of the greatest men of our time.

EGYPT

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

Mr. PITTS. Mr. Speaker, I watched with great interest the recent events in Egypt where millions took to the street in support of real democracy, real freedom, and the actual upholding and protection of fundamental human rights. Sadly, those who promote and preach violence continue to assert the dominance of their ideology and rights to the exclusion and detriment of anyone who does not agree with them.

In light of these recent events, I would like to submit for the Record a short letter from the Board of Governors of the American Chamber of Commerce in Egypt regarding Egypt and the desires of the Egyptian people.

The business community, the human rights and democracy activists, and even Egyptian government officials are asking for our support for democracy and freedom.

In light of these recent events, it is vital to note that due to the complete absence of an impeachment process and a working parliament, there was no established mechanism for a transition of power—the only course of action available and possible to the people was “popular impeachment.”

It is critical that the Egyptian people know that we stand with them in this time of transition as they seek, once again, to draft a Constitution that protects and upholds the rights of all Egyptians and maintains international norms and standards, and as they seek to build and strengthen institutions and processes of democracy, transparency, and freedom.

I urge the Congress to respond to recent events in Egypt by supporting and working with those in the country who desire to protect and uphold fundamental human rights and to