

Mr. Chair, you make the best decisions on how your child should be raised, where your child should go to school, and what your child should learn—not Washington bureaucrats. Teachers, principals and members of your local school boards, should run your child's classroom, school, and school district, not some random bureaucrat in Washington who has no clue about the challenges they face.

You know what's best for your kids, not an empty suit thousands of miles away, and that is why I rise today to support Representative LUETKEMEYER's efforts to fight for competitive excellence and innovation in our nation's education system.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, on Thursday, July 18, 2013, I inadvertently voted "no" on roll No. 367—Young of Alaska Amendment No. 2 to H.R. 5. I had meant for my vote to be recorded as "aye".

TO RECOGNIZE THE RECIPIENTS OF THE 2013 BEST OF BRADDOCK AWARDS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, it is my great honor to recognize the recipients of the 2013 Best of Braddock Awards, presented by the Braddock District Council of Community Associations. These awards are given annually to deserving individuals, organizations and companies in the Braddock Magisterial District of Fairfax County, Va., who have demonstrated an outstanding commitment to the community.

The goal of the Braddock District Council is to promote the civic, community, and general welfare of the citizens of the Braddock Magisterial District of Fairfax County. The Council represents the interests of community associations that lie within the Braddock District, facilitates cooperation and coordination between community associations, and provides a path of communications between associations and officials/elected representatives of the Braddock Magisterial District. I am pleased to join the Braddock District Council of Community Associations in recognizing the Recipients of the 2013 Best of Braddock Awards:

Citizen of the Year—Diane DiPietro, former president of Kings West Swim Club, for her tireless efforts to turn the blighted pool property into Rabbit Run Park.

Outstanding Business—The Peterson Companies for the development and management of the Fairfax Corner Center.

Most "Can-Do" Public Employee—Ed Richardson, Manager, Park Operations Division, Fairfax County Park Authority for working with Braddock District residents to effectively carry out the FCPA mission areas of promoting and protecting our cultural and natural resources, and providing safe recreation facilities for activities and programs.

Neighborhood Enhancement or Beautification—Dave Bowden, Fairfax County Parks Authority and Craig Carinci, Fairfax County Storm Water Management, who led their teams through the successful conversion of the blighted Kings West Swim Club property to Rabbit Branch Park.

FCPA Team: Dave Bowden, Isabel Villaroel, John Lehman, Tim Scott, Julie Cline, Brian Williams, and Charles Smith.

Storm Management Team: Craig Carinci, Rose Barrie, Ron Tuttle, Elfatih Salim, Dave Anglin, Brad Melton, Yudhie Brownson, Paul Thaler, Mannan Qureshi, Joseph Adzovie, and Bruce Goudzari.

Organizations Making a Difference in the Community (2 honorees)—Food for Others (Annandale Site); and Friends of the Burke Centre Library.

Special Achievement or Recognition—The Audrey Moore Recreation Center Rescue Team—Sophie Polnow, Tim Polnow, Connie Polnow, Corey Stoney, Faith Garrish. While swimming laps on May 18, Doug Padrut started to feel dizzy. The next thing he knew he was on the deck surrounded by lifeguards and EMTs. Due to an arrhythmia, his heart had stopped and he sank. The team pulled Mr. Padrut out of the water, started CPR, administered the AED, called paramedics and got him conscious and calmed down all in few short minutes. Because of their quick actions, Mr. Padrut survived and has no permanent heart damage.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating these outstanding residents and companies and also in thanking them for their service to our community. Their efforts and leadership have been a great benefit to Northern Virginia and truly merit our highest praise.

IN HONOR OF AVDHOOOT BABA SHIVANAD, JR.

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, it is rare in life to have the chance to recognize and honor a truly selfless person. A person who has dedicated his life to healing humanity by engaging in selfless activities for the betterment of mankind, asking only that they surrender their faith and devotion in return. This is why I am extremely proud and humbled to be here in order to honor his holiness, Avdhoot Baba Shivanad Jr., the father of sacred Ancient Indian Healing, and master of spirituality, for his work in helping United States citizens. I am deeply inspired by Babaji's deep belief that we all come into this world with vast potential, and through Shiv Yog, the process of uniting with the infinite consciousness, we can access this potential and create our own destinies. We all will honor Babaji's noble accomplishments and teachings, and it is my deepest hope that as we move on with our lives we will continue living less for our own selfish desires, and more for those around us as Babaji does.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Chair, I thank Chairman KLINE and Ranking Member MILLER for their work to improve education for our Nation's children. I thank the Rules Committee for making in order Jackson Lee Amendment #5 for full consideration by the House of Representatives.

My amendment to H.R. 5, the "Student Success Act," is simple and is an important addition to this bill. I believe that my amendment to H.R. 5 can be supported by every member of the House.

JACKSON LEE AMENDMENT # 5

Jackson Lee Amendment #5 would direct States with insufficient funding to target funds to schools serving neglected, delinquent, migrant students, English learners, at-risk students, and Native Americans, to increase academic achievement of such students. The purpose of the Amendment is to make the best use of the funds available to focus resources on students with the greatest need.

According to research conducted by Chester Hartman, titled, High Classroom Turnover: How Children Get Left Behind, found that a disproportionate number of schools with predominantly low-income African American and Hispanic students have low stability, and that such students are much more likely than others, to switch schools in the middle of the year. High student mobility has consequences for students, teachers, and schools and can result in lower achievement levels, slower academic pacing, and lower teaching satisfaction.

Poor families move 50–100 percent more often than non-poor families. Welfare reform has resulted in residential mobility. Migrant children typically move from community to community. Foster children often change schools each time they are removed from a home. The education administrators' role in education should emphasize meeting the needs of disadvantaged students, and students who are mobile are among the most disadvantaged.

In the past, the government has taken limited steps to address this issue. Jackson Lee Amendment #5 is intended to support schools educating children who are neglected, delinquent, migrant students, English learners, at-risk students, and Native American youth.

The topic of delinquency also presents challenges to schools and educators. Children live in their own worlds, which can present threats to their health, safety and emotional well being.

Children become delinquent or can become at-risk for a number of reasons including school bullying and violence.

Consequences of bullying:

15 percent of all school absenteeism is directly related to fears of being bullied at school.

According to bullying statistics, 1 out of every 10 students who drops out of school does so because of repeated bullying.

Suicides linked to bullying are the saddest statistic.

STATISTICS ON HOUSTON INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT AND LARGE SCHOOL DISTRICTS

1. HISD has over 200,000 students, 80 percent of which are eligible for free and reduced price lunch. This means that, 80 percent of students come from low socioeconomic households. HISD has approximately 25 percent African American students, 63 percent Hispanic students, and 30 percent students with limited English proficiency.

2. The 100 largest districts represent less than 1 percent of all school districts in the nation, yet enrolls 21 percent of all students, including 25 percent of the Census poverty students, 33 percent of the black students, 32 percent of the Hispanic students, and 31 percent of all minority students.

Houston Independent School District's challenge in providing a world class education faces many of the challenges that Jackson Lee Amendment #5 would address.

The Nation's first line of national defense is a well educated population. Much of the Nation's defense depends on what is developed and created by STEM jobs. It is also important that men and women serving in the Armed Forces have a basic working knowledge of STEM to succeed. For these reasons, it is vital that every child have the best education that this Nation can provide. There is no one size fits all, and there are changes with each generation of teachers and students, but the one constant are the needs of all children are not the same.

There is no deterministic model that decides which child will succeed and which will fail. What we do know is that given the right learning environment with teachers with the right training and support we can graduate students who can create, innovate, lead and succeed in life.

I urge all members to vote in favor of these amendments.

JEREMY LYNN JOPLIN HIGH SCHOOL TENNIS STATE CHAMPION

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Joplin High School's Jeremy Lynn for winning the Missouri Class 2 Boys State Tennis Championship.

Jeremy's victory demonstrated hard work, dedication, and courage. Despite battling increasing pain during the match, he won the State championship and finished with a 36–1 record for the season.

Jeremy's victory served as the capstone of a brilliant high school career. In addition to being a State champion, Jeremy is a three time district champion and a three time conference champion. His senior year established him amongst the Nation's best, ranking second in the United States Tennis Association (USTA) Missouri Valley region, as high as 47th in the entire Nation, and as the champion of the 2012 Boy's 18's USTA National Open Championship in Denver.

Jeremy's accomplishments are not just tied to the court; they extend to the classroom. In his first semester of his senior year, Jeremy earned a 4.3 GPA, achieving academic all-conference status.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Jeremy Lynn on his Missouri Class 2 Boys State Tennis Championship and a stellar athletic and academic career.

IN MEMORY OF CHRISTOPHER DOUGLAS

HON. RAUL RUIZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. RUIZ. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to make a statement in memory of a brave firefighter in California's 36th Congressional District, Christopher Douglas, who tragically lost his life in the line of duty.

Christopher Douglas, a native of Colorado Springs, lived in Temecula, California. Chris was an avid surfer who was well-known and respected by the local community. Chris served his country in the United States Air Force and, after leaving, became an Engineer and Paramedic for CAL FIRE. On Friday, July 5, 2013, he was struck by a vehicle along Interstate 10 in Riverside County, California, while preparing to leave the site of a traffic collision to respond to another incident. He was rushed to the hospital, but tragically passed away. Chris Douglas, an eight-year veteran with the fire department, was only 41 years old. He leaves behind his expectant wife Amy, their two-year-old son Samuel, and family members and friends. Chris died with the same courage as he lived, helping those in need.

This brave man died before his time. He was an honorable, passionate man who devoted himself to his country, his duty, and his family. His service and life are to be commended. His memory will live on in the people whose lives he inspired with his final act of sacrifice.

IN HONOR OF JOHN P. CATALDO, SR.

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, John P. Cataldo, Sr. was a husband, father, grandfather, civic leader and patriot. He served his country in World War II and as a 17-year-old sailor in the United States Navy he was part of the amphibious forces that landed in France on D-Day, June 6, 1944. In civilian life, he devoted much time to his family, business, and civic and charitable organizations. Mr. Cataldo founded the public accounting firm that bears his name and continues today. As a resident of Warminster, he was a volunteer on several local boards and committees, and also an elected Warminster Township supervisor. He proudly served on the military veterans' advisory board in Pennsylvania's 8th Congressional District. For many years, he was active in the Southampton Radiant Star Lodge No.

806 and the Free and Accepted Masons. We mourn the passing of a true gentleman and acknowledge his faithful service to country and community.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF ROBERT D. GETZOFF

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 19, 2013

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleague from New York, Representative TIM BISHOP, to honor the memory of Robert D. Getzoff. Rob was a dedicated brother, a beloved son, a caring uncle, and a fiercely loyal friend.

To his many friends, he was one of the warmest, brightest, and funniest people on Capitol Hill. Though he was a self-described "Jewish rocker from Philadelphia," Rob was a friend of the Illinois Fifth District, having worked for my predecessor, then Congressman Rahm Emanuel, for four years.

Rob served as Congressman Emanuel's Legislative Counsel for the Budget, Financial Services and Ways and Means Committees—a full plate of challenging policy responsibilities and assignments that Rob fulfilled with great skill and success. No one loved it more and worked harder than Rob Getzoff. In an office that prided itself on long hours, Rob made a point of being the first person in the office in the morning, and on many nights he was the last to leave. He served his country and tackled complex challenges and tight deadlines with intelligence and humor.

Rob began his Hill career in the office of his idol, Senator Ted Kennedy, and tackled every aspect of his Hill career with the passion and dedication to public service exemplified by the late Senator. Rob's impressive record of accomplishment was built on his distinguished academic credentials. He held a bachelor's degree from George Washington University, a law degree from Temple University, and an MBA from Georgetown University. In addition to his service on the Hill, he added to his impressive credentials by becoming an expert in financial services regulatory policy while working for industry leaders including Citigroup and Bank of New York Mellon.

Rob was a true policy wonk and a brilliant political strategist. He defended his views with passion whether he was trying to expand the Earned Income Tax Credit to help low-income Americans, explaining the greatness of eighties hard rock, or the eating habits of Great Cats. He was unrelenting in pushing his colleagues to do the right thing, whether the question at hand was a pivotal vote or a quality timepiece. He left a legacy of legislative accomplishments including meaningful lobbying reform, janitors insurance, closing the corporate jet loophole, and reducing the size of the "tax gap." He also played a pivotal role in drafting comprehensive tax reform legislation that made the tax code simpler and fairer for all Americans.

Rob was beloved by many who had the privilege to work with him and share his passion and dedication to work and friends. A legislative staff in a Congressional office is a small unit, and Rob was part of a family. That small group of people crammed into a not-so-