

learning environment that reflects the diversity of our nation, enhances the ability of students to engage with persons from different backgrounds and cultures to better prepare them for our global economy, and improves access to higher education. As the global marketplace grows more interconnected, it is crucial that the United States remains an active leader in the new global economy by training a workforce prepared to engage with those from different cultures.

I am pleased that the Supreme Court recognized the ability of our nation's colleges and universities to consider racial and ethnic diversity as one factor among many in a carefully-crafted admissions policy. This decision will help promote access to higher education and enrich our country.

HONORING ELVIN HAYES ON BEING INDUCTED INTO THE NA- TIONAL COLLEGIATE BASKET- BALL HALL OF FAME

HON. GENE GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mr. Elvin Hayes, "The Big E", on his induction into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame and numerous accomplishments as a professional athlete. Mr. Hayes, a fellow University of Houston Cougar, is today considered one of the 50 Greatest Players in NBA History.

In 1966, Elvin Hayes, along with Don Chaney, became the first African American basketball players for the University of Houston. During his sophomore year, Hayes led the Cougars to victory in the "Game of the Century"; an upset win, played in the Houston Astrodome, against the UCLA Bruins. While at U of H, Hayes was a 2-time NCAA First Team All-American, leading the Cougars to back-to-back NCAA Final Four appearances. In 1968, Hayes was the UPI, Sporting News, and the Associated Press' College Player of the Year. To this day, Elvin Hayes holds the University of Houston's single-game, single-season, and career records in scoring and rebounding.

With his early departure from college, Mr. Hayes was the first overall pick in the 1968 NBA Draft by the San Diego Rockets, who later became the Houston Rockets. During his illustrious NBA career Mr. Hayes played 1,303 games over 16 seasons accruing a number of accomplishments: 12 × NBA All Star (1969–1980), NBA Scoring Champion (1969), and finally NBA Champion (1978). He is 8th all time in NBA scoring and 4th all time in NBA rebounding.

After his retirement from the NBA, Mr. Hayes returned to the University of Houston to finish up his Bachelors degree, an example for all athletes who are called into professional sports before graduating. In 2010, Mr. Hayes again returned to the University of Houston where he now serves as an analyst for radio broadcasts of the Cougars' games.

It is with great pleasure that I recognize Mr. Elvin Hayes, for his service to the city of Houston, and I congratulate him on his induction into the National Collegiate Basketball Hall of Fame.

INTRODUCTION OF THE INTER- NATIONAL WOMEN'S FREEDOM ACT OF 2013

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, today, I am proud to reintroduce the International Women's Freedom Act with my colleagues, Representatives BARBARA LEE and ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON. This bill is a comprehensive piece of legislation which will increase awareness of human rights violations against women, as well as provide a set of mechanisms for the U.S. to address the violations of women's human rights abroad.

The bill is modeled after the International Religious Freedom Act of 1998 (IRFA). IRFA created the U.S. Commission on Religious Freedom which has been successful in identifying violations of religious freedom abroad and recommending actions to Congress, the Secretary of State, and the President.

It has been clear for many years that expanding opportunities for women not only improves their position in society, but also has a positive impact on economic growth and burgeoning democracies. And yet around the world, many countries relegate women to second-class status, denying them the right to vote, restricting their travel, and limiting their access to education and health care.

The International Women's Freedom Act would ensure we have the tools to empower women on a global level. The bill would establish a Commission on International Women's Rights and would expand the duties of the existing Office of International Women's issues in the State Department and rename it, the Office on International Women's Rights. Both the Commission and the Office on International Women's Rights would be granted the responsibilities of issuing a report on the status of women's rights abroad and advising the President and Secretary of State regarding matters affecting these issues.

We need to work harder to ensure women's full participation in society. This legislation would move us closer to achieving this foreign policy imperative.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 426, had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

RE-INTRODUCING THE STRENGTH- ENING MEDICARE ANTI-FRAUD MEASURES ACT

HON. KEVIN BRADY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise with my colleague Ways and Means Health

Subcommittee Ranking Member JIM McDERMOTT (D-WA) to re-introduce the Strengthening Medicare Anti-Fraud Measures Act.

This bipartisan legislation is part of our commitment to efforts to reduce fraud, waste and abuse in Medicare.

This legislation was previously introduced by our former colleagues Wally Herger (R-CA) and Pete Stark (D-CA). This bill provides Medicare with important fraud-fighting tools and so we are continuing their mission to strengthen anti-fraud efforts in the Medicare program.

Currently, the Department of Health and Human Services, HHS, Office of the Inspector General, OIG, lacks authority to exclude an individual or entity that is affiliated with an entity that has been sanctioned for fraud. This enables individuals and entities to continue to receive Medicare payments even if they contributed to the sanctioned behavior.

It is important that we change the law to provide the Inspector General with these additional, requested tools to better protect Medicare.

The legislation would provide OIG with two important authorities:

First, the OIG would have the authority to prevent individuals involved with fraudulent entities from receiving Medicare payments. This would essentially ban executives whose companies have been convicted of Medicare fraud from the program. These executives currently defraud Medicare, then circumvent exclusion by moving to another company. I believe we can all agree these individuals should not be allowed to use this loophole to steal from the program that serves seniors' medical needs.

The OIG would also have the authority to prevent entities involved with other fraudulent entities from receiving Medicare payments. This would ban the use of shell companies by corporations engaging in fraudulent activities. It is irrational to think that while these shell corporations are engaged in illegal activities their parent companies hold zero liability. Where individuals and entities are involved with fraudulent entities, they should not be permitted to continue to defraud the Medicare program.

This legislation passed the House of Representatives in 2010 by voice vote. Unfortunately, the Senate failed to act on it.

We encourage our colleagues to cosponsor this common sense legislation so we can add simple, anti-fraud tools to better protect Medicare beneficiaries and American taxpayers.

RECOGNIZING MAJOR ROBERT S. SWENSON, USAFR, RETIRED

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Major Robert S. Swenson, USAFR, Retired, for being honored with the Bronze Star Medal in recognition of his actions during World War II. Following the recovery of lost records recommending this honor, the Bronze Star was presented to Major Swenson in July 2013 at Joint Base Lewis-McChord.

In 1945, as a glider pilot in the 435th Troop Carrier Group, 75th Squadron, Major Swenson

and his fellow airmen distinguished themselves when enemy infantry mounted a counter attack. The 435th Troop Carrier Group fought and repelled the attack of approximately 200 enemy soldiers, a tank, a self-propelled artillery, and two 20mm flak guns.

After the battle, a request was made by Major Charles O. Gordon that all members of the 435th Troop Carrier Group be given due recognition. However, at the end of the war, the order was lost and went unfulfilled. It was not until July 2013, at the Trigger Time Forum at Joint Base Lewis-McChord, that Major Swenson, now living in Washington State, was awarded the Bronze Star.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize Major Robert S. Swenson, USAFR, Retired, for his inspiring bravery and dedication to serving his country.

INTRODUCTION OF THE CIDER INDUSTRY DESERVES EQUAL REGULATION OR "CIDER" ACT

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing bipartisan legislation—the "Cider Industry Deserves Equal Regulation," or "CIDER," Act—to update the provisions of the tax code that relate to the cider industry.

Across the country, cidermakers large and small are developing their craft, establishing businesses and brands, and providing new markets for our nation's apple and pear orchards. As they pursue this work; they do so in an uncertain tax and regulatory environment, one where slight variations in the fermenting process can cause them to run afoul of narrow tax and alcohol regulatory rules. Congress, by enacting this legislation, would support this growing industry and ensure that it is treated fairly by regulatory agencies.

During the fermentation process a variety of factors can lead to small changes in the composition of a cider's alcohol content and carbonation. Because of the narrow way that hard cider is currently defined in the tax code, these small variations can lead to cider being taxed at a rate fifteen times higher than what the statute clearly intended. This legislation would broaden this definition to include pear as well as apple cider and would greatly reduce the chance that improper taxation would occur. The legislation also aligns the US cider definitions more closely with global definitions for these products, and helps ensure that American-made cider is competitive on international markets.

I look forward to working with my colleagues to support the American cider industry.

CELEBRATING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF WLNG

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate WLNG 92.1 FM as the station celebrates its 50th anniversary on the

air. Broadcasting from its studio in Sag Harbor New York, WLNG is known and loved throughout eastern Long Island for its oldies format, local news and sports, and personality disc jockeys like Gary Sapiene, Rusty Potz and the late Paul Sydney. WLNG may well be a one-of-a-kind radio station. Since 1963 the station has stuck to its popular oldies format playing hits from the 1950's, 60's, 70's and 80's, mixed with lots of old-style jingles, birthday announcements and live remote broadcasts from local events.

Perhaps more importantly, WLNG has served as the pulse of the community connecting friends and neighbors in good times and in bad. The station can be found doing a remote broadcast from a local fundraiser for cancer or providing life-saving information during an emergency. The station served as a reliable resource for the latest on Hurricane Irene in 2011, and during Hurricane Sandy in 2012 WLNG continued broadcasting and streaming online using generator power and flashlights as the storm surge rose to "ankle deep" in the studio. One of its mainstay programs is the ever-popular "Swap and Shop," a kind of on-air ebay in which residents can sell used or unwanted items to their neighbors. Listeners also rely on WLNG for the latest in school closings during a snow storm or the scores of local high schools sports events—even for finding a lost dog.

Radio junkies love WLNG for the retro jingles and reverberation—the sound of radio the way it used to be. Its DJs are happy to dedicate songs in honor of listeners. Independently-owned, WLNG has remained steadfastly the same in times of huge and sometimes overwhelming changes in communication technology and format, and maybe that is the key to its success. It can be relied upon like a good neighbor. Perhaps Paul Sydney summed it up best when he was quoted in an interview with the Sag Harbor Express saying, "WLNG is like a person. You're with it. It's your friend. We're talking to one person at a time. I know there is no other station in the world like it. Even if you want to avoid it, you always come back. Whether it's Sag Harbor or Norman, Oklahoma, Main Street is Main Street."

It gives me great pleasure to congratulate WLNG radio on its 50th anniversary and wish the station many more years of successful broadcasting.

A TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF KIP TOKUDA

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I along with Representatives SMITH of Washington, rise today to honor the life of Kip Tokuda, and pay tribute to his leadership, service, and dedication to the citizens of the State of Washington.

Kip was a Seattle native and a graduate of the University of Washington. Following completion of his graduate studies in social work in 1969, Kip entered public service as a social worker with the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services and gained a reputation for being a strong advocate for children and individuals with disabilities. He was later named to the Washington Council for Prevention of Child Abuse and Neglect.

The second son of parents who were incarcerated at the Minidoka Relocation Center, Kip possessed an unwavering sense of justice and equality. A prominent figure within the Asian American community, he served as the president of Seattle's chapter of Japanese American Citizens League (JACL)—an organization which is the oldest and largest Asian American civil rights organization. In 1998, Kip went on to found the Asian Pacific Islander Community Leadership Foundation, a non-profit organization that focuses on social justice, community empowerment, and public service.

Beginning in 1994, Kip served as a Representative for Washington's State 37th Legislative District. During his four terms in the Washington State Legislature, he enjoyed many legislative successes. He introduced his first Day of Remembrance resolution in 1997, which has since become an annual tradition in the Legislature. He served as the co-prime sponsor, along with Representative Mike Wensmen of House Bill 1572, which created the Washington Civil Liberties Public Education fund in 2000. Kip also secured passage of the Special Needs Adoption bill, which helped adoption of special-needs children. He was a strong advocate who helped to pass the Homeless Children's Lawsuit legislation, which provided services for over 60,000 homeless families with children.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that we recognize the life of Kip Tokuda—a true trailblazer. We ask our colleagues to join us in honoring a long career of selfless and inspired service to his community, the State of Washington, and our nation.

HONORING MR. TOM MILLER

HON. KRISTI L. NOEM

OF SOUTH DAKOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, August 1, 2013

Mrs. NOEM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a truly outstanding individual and his lifelong commitment to public service, Mr. Tom Miller. Tom has two passions: first and foremost, his two daughters; and second, advocacy on behalf of individuals with disabilities. His lifelong service on behalf of this population has not only earned him recognition within the disability community throughout South Dakota, but also high honors within our great state as the recipient of the 2011 Governor's Award for an Outstanding Citizen with a Disability.

Tom has also had great impact on a national level, working within the AbilityOne® Program through his service on the SourceAmerica™ Board for the past 15 years. His dedication and commitment to the employment of people who have disabilities has opened the doors of opportunity to tens of thousands of deserving Americans, making their own dreams of becoming productive citizens become a reality. Tom has personally educated hundreds of his peers on self-advocacy, helping these individuals visit Capitol Hill and ensure we know what is important to them. Words like fearless, straight talking, devoted, mentor, father and advocate begin to capture the essence of Tom. He is a true leader.

As an AbilityOne Congressional Champion, I am honored to recognize Tom for his lifetime