

Whereas, Coach Strayhan, as he was known to all of his students, joined the faculty of George Washington Carver High School of Baytown, Texas in 1952 and remained there until May of 1967. He served as assistant football coach and head basketball coach. Coach Strayhan had strict standards for his athletes and students, making them stay focused on assignments and grades; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan instituted a 'no pass, no play' rule long before the state of Texas mandated such a rule; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan made sports fun and was a 'hands-on' coach; and

Whereas, Robert L. Strayhan had strong moral values, encouraging the young people under his guidance to avoid teen pregnancies, drug abuse, gangs, underage drinking and teen smoking; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan did not use his athletes only for winning games, but encouraged them to go to college and worked hard to help them obtain scholarships, regardless of race; and

Whereas, Coach Strayhan was very justly proud of his days at Carver High School; Be it therefore

Resolved: That I, Congressman STEVE STOCKMAN of the 36th District of Texas, am proud to join the many other friends and members of the Baytown community in honoring the life and work of Coach Robert L. Strayhan—a shining example to his many friends, athletes and students, to the City of Baytown and to his fellow Americans. May he long be remembered.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE LOW-WAGE FEDERAL CONTRACTOR EMPLOYEE BACK PAY ACT OF 2013

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today I introduce the Low-Wage Federal Contractor Back Pay Act of 2013, to grant back pay to federally contracted retail, food, custodial and security service workers who were furloughed during last month's federal government shutdown. The bill, which would amend the current continuing resolution, would apply to all three branches of the federal government. The idea for the bill was brought to my attention by these federally contracted service workers, some of whom work here on the Capitol grounds providing Members of Congress and congressional staff with daily services.

Many federally contracted workers in federal agencies earn little more than the minimum wage with few, if any benefits, and while others are unionized with little better wages, all are the lowest paid workers in the federal government and should not be punished because Congress failed to do its job and keep the government functioning for 16 days. Congress did the right thing when it gave back pay to federal employees, who work in the same buildings as these low-wage service workers. However, both groups of workers were victims who deserve to be made whole. I recognize, of course, that contract workers are employees of contractors, but the distinction between federal workers and at least the lowest-paid

service workers who serve the federal government and its employees and keep, for example, their premises clean, fails when it comes to a deliberate government shutdown. Unlike many other contractors, those who employ low-wage service workers have little latitude to help make up for lost wages. Low-wage federally contracted service workers could least afford the loss of pay during the shutdown, and should not now have to go to work every day with everyone else in their federal buildings having received back pay except for them.

The nation's capital is the high-profile home of the federal government's collusion with those that pay low wages through leases and contracts with federal agencies. At least this legislation would provide some parity to these low-wage federal contractor workers.

I strongly urge my colleagues to support the legislation.

OBAMACARE

HON. KERRY L. BENTIVOLIO

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. BENTIVOLIO. Mr. Speaker, it's been seven weeks since the debut of the Affordable Care Act's website, and the reviews of the roll-out are in. Opinions from news organizations and commentators from across the political spectrum are nearly unanimous—Obamacare is an unmitigated disaster.

One constituent of mine, Cynthia from Novi, Michigan, tried to sign up for Healthcare.gov after her employer told her she'd be losing her plan. Her first attempt to access the exchange saw her kicked off the website. After finally getting a quote for coverage, she saw that the price of her same coverage had skyrocketed.

Jason, also from Novi contacted me about his experience with Obamacare. He has a family of four and likes his current plan because, quote "worked for me and my family" unquote. He recently received a letter from his insurance company explaining that the ACA had caused his plan to be cancelled effective January 1st. His new premium is 73% higher than his old premium.

These are just two stories that exemplify the havoc that this law is wreaking on the American people. It cannot be fixed. Passing a delay, now, is like telling the captain of the Titanic to just hold out a little longer after the iceberg struck. It must be repealed.

HONORING CINDY MARKS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Cindy Marks, the 2013 President of the California School Boards Association. I want to recognize Cindy for her dedication to education over the past fifteen years. In addition to being a junior high and high school Health Education speaker, she spent the past thirteen years as a host family for unwed pregnant teens, and the past eleven years as a mentor at an inner city Apartment Complex in Modesto working with

at-risk youth and youth gang members. These are only a few among her many achievements that deserve to be recognized.

As President of CSBA, Cindy chairs a number of CSBA Task Forces and Councils. These include the Educational Legal Alliance Steering Committee, the Linked Learning Task Force, and CSBA's Superintendents Advisory Council. She is a member of the Cities, Counties and Schools Partnership Board of Directors and she represents CSBA on the Education Coalition, a consortium of education stake holder groups.

In addition to serving in these leadership positions at a regional and state-wide level, Cindy has served on numerous county-level committees pertaining to at-risk youth and student achievement. She was appointed by the legislature to the "Joint Committee to develop a master plan for education—Kindergarten through University." She is currently a member of the task force on k-12 Civic Learning, a joint task force established by Chief Justice Tani Cantil-Sakauye and State Superintendent of public instruction Tom Torlakson. The task force will bring definition to the skills, knowledge, and dispositions that students and community members need to be informed of. Cindy leads the sub-group on Business and Community Partners.

In 2013, President Cindy Marks was named, "Elected Woman of the Year" by California Women Lead, a nonprofit, nonpartisan association of women holding—or aspiring to hold—elected or appointed office. She was among five women honored by the organization this year.

Moreover, Cindy has served on a variety of prestigious national governance-related committees including the "100 District Leader Network for Citizenship and Service Learning," a collaboration among national education associations such as the National School Boards Association and the American Association of School Administrators. She also serves on the National School Boards Association Pacific Region Board.

Cindy is also a board member for the Latino Emergency Council, the city Ministry Network, and a founding member of the Dr. Parker Steering Committee to address the achievement gap and how it relates to African American students.

Cindy's passion for education, her expertise across a wide-range of policy areas from school finance and fiscal reform to dropout prevention and school discipline, safe schools, and state and federal legislative issues make her one of California's outstanding education leaders.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in commending Cindy Marks for her hard work, dedication to education, and for serving as an inspiration to others around her. I wish her great success in her future endeavors.

TRIBUTE TO DELEGATE JOE JOHNSON

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. GRIFFITH of Virginia. Mr. Speaker, today I wish to pay tribute to Delegate Joe Johnson, who has dutifully served Southwest

Virginia for nearly 30 years as a member of the Virginia General Assembly. I had the privilege of working on our region's behalf with Delegate Johnson, and like many, was saddened by news of his retirement.

Born in Washington County, Virginia, Delegate Johnson attended Meadowview High School and served in the United States Air Force during the Korean War. He graduated from Emory and Henry College, which happens to be my alma mater as well, and went on to receive his law degree from the University of Richmond.

Delegate Johnson first represented Southwest Virginia in the House of Delegates in the 1960s. Construction on I-81 was not complete at that time, however. After several years making the long drive from Abingdon to Richmond, Joe understandably chose to prioritize his young family and took a twenty-year hiatus from life as a lawmaker. He successfully ran for office again in 1989, and has represented Southwest Virginia in the House of Delegates ever since.

Throughout his career, Delegate Johnson was involved in numerous issues related to education, playing a key role in establishing the Commonwealth's community college system and the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission as well. We may have been members of different political parties, but Joe could always be counted on to work both sides of the aisle on behalf of our region.

Even outside of his legislative work, Delegate Johnson has been an active leader for Southwest Virginia. Throughout the years, Joe has taught Sunday school and served as chairman of the Abingdon Baptist Church, and was involved in the Abingdon Civitan volunteer service club, the Southwest Virginia Cultural Heritage Foundation, and the Virginia Tobacco Indemnification and Community Revitalization Commission Center. He was once chairman of the Southwest Virginia Higher Education Center, and also served as vice chairman and trustee. Joe was on the board of trustees of the Center for Rural Virginia, and was chair of the Emory and Henry College board of trustees. He is former post commander of American Legion Post 13, former worthy patron of the Order of the Eastern Star, former master of the Abingdon Masonic Lodge 48, a Kazim Shriner, and a member of the Independent Order of Odd Fellows, McCabe Lodge. Joe was president of the Washington County Bar Association, and was a member of the Virginia State Bar. He also has been a substitute judge on the Twenty-eighth General District Court.

Delegate Johnson has long been a fixture throughout the community, regularly seen at church, sporting events, city council meetings, board of supervisors meetings, and other community events. Delegate Johnson can always be counted on for a warm smile and, during times of stress or strife, families in his area always could rely on Joe to be there to comfort them. His door was always open, and I know that those he has represented over the years have appreciated his involvement.

Throughout the years, Delegate Johnson has proven himself a dedicated friend of Southwest Virginia. I am grateful for the opportunity to have worked with and learned from him, and have no doubt that I will see my friend Joe again soon. Delegate Johnson, I wish you and your loved ones the very best of luck in all of your future endeavors.

HONORING DOLLY JEWEL

HON. JASON T. SMITH

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Dolly Jewel of Cape Girardeau, Missouri for her achievements and impact in the community. For many years, Ms. Jewel has devoted both her time and her heart to the Alzheimer's Association in Southeast Missouri, to the great benefit of the community. Ms. Jewel hosts a monthly support group at the Lutheran Home, served on the Southeast Missouri Area Advisory Committee for Alzheimer's Disease, and has planned, coordinated, and implemented annual Walk to End Alzheimer's Disease events. Through these outlets she has sought to increase awareness of the disease, as well as raise money to fund medical research. Ms. Jewel's fight against Alzheimer's Disease became personal when she lost her husband to Alzheimer's in 1997, after an 8 year battle with the disease. Since then, Ms. Jewel is pleased that many advances have been made in the treatment of Alzheimer's, but she knows there is more work to be done.

As well as making a strong public effort in her local community to fight Alzheimer's Disease, Ms. Jewel also works to help lend support to others experiencing the disease. She takes pride in encouraging others to be open about their own experiences with the disease and to not feel embarrassed about acknowledging the disease. She adamantly insists to others that they are not alone, and encourages them to seek social support. Ms. Jewel has provided support and inspiration for many families affected by Alzheimer's Disease, and I truly admire her strength and dedication to helping others.

REMEMBERING SEAN ANTHONY JACQUES

HON. PAUL COOK

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. COOK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Sean Anthony Jacques of Big Bear Lake, California.

Having lived in the area since the age of seven, Sean attended Big Bear Lake Elementary, Middle School, and High School. After his High School graduation, Sean joined the United States Navy and served as an FC2 for six years. Upon the completion of his service, Sean returned to Big Bear Lake to work for the Big Bear Mountain Resorts. He served there and dedicated fifteen years to the area.

Sean is survived by his wife, Suzanne, his son Anthony, and daughter Alexandra, his parents, sister, and his many nieces and nephews.

Mr. Speaker, I submit his favorite poem by Ralph Waldo Emerson. His wife Suzanne has dedicated this to him after his death.

(By Ralph Waldo Emerson)

"To laugh often and love much; to win the respect of intelligent persons and the affection of children; to earn the approbation of honest citizens and endure the betrayal of

false friends; to appreciate beauty; to find the best in others; to give of one's self; to leave the world a bit better, whether by a healthy child, a garden patch or a redeemed social condition; to have played and laughed with enthusiasm and sung with exultation; to know even one life has breathed easier because you have lived—this is to have succeeded."

HONORING DAVID COEN

HON. PETER WELCH

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, November 14, 2013

Mr. WELCH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished Vermonter, Mr. David Coen, who is retiring from the Vermont Public Service Board, the state agency that regulates our public utilities, after 18 years of exemplary service.

There is no state agency that has a more direct impact on Vermonters' quality of life and economic well-being than the Vermont Public Service Board. Every Vermonter and every business in our state depends on this influential regulatory body to ensure the quality, availability, and affordability of electric, gas, cable, telecommunications, and water services.

David Coen was appointed to the Board by Governor Howard Dean in 1995 and has served with distinction for three terms. As a small-business owner who keenly understood the economic challenges of everyday Vermonters and the importance of high quality and reliable customer service, David was uniquely qualified to take on this challenge. Every day he served, he brought the perspective of the customer to the many challenging decisions in which he participated. David understood well utility law and public policy, but his top priority was to make sure the decisions made by the Board made practical and economic sense for Vermonters.

David's leadership and expertise on utility issues extended well beyond the borders of Vermont. He served in several national leadership positions, including Board Chair of the National Regulatory Research Institute and President of the National Association of Regulatory Utility Commissioners (NARUC). At NARUC, David was the skillful and diplomatic voice of the association before Congress, the courts, and administrative agencies.

Characteristically, he brought his laser-like focus on the customer to the national stage. The theme of his NARUC presidency was "Keeping the Focus: Serving the Public Interest in Changing Times." He also served as chair of NARUC's Consumer Affairs Committee.

Within the Public Service Board, David believed strongly in providing staff with opportunities for professional growth. With this goal in mind, he played a leading role in the creation of regulatory partnerships with other countries, such as Macedonia and Georgia. He also recognized the value to Vermont of good relationships with utility regulators in neighboring jurisdictions, working to foster productive relationships with both American and Canadian regulators.

David's strong legacy reflects his rich personal life and deep commitment to public service. His wife, Sandy Berbeco, is a professional