

then, I have worked with minority and other European legislators to convene annual events in Brussels, Belgium at the European Parliament to address these issues, including the 2009 Black European Summit: Transatlantic Dialogue on Political Inclusion and the 2010 and 2011 Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conferences. Follow-on initiatives from these events have included the Transatlantic Inclusion Leaders Network in cooperation with the State Department and German Marshall Fund, which works to advance young, diverse, and inclusive leaders on both sides of the Atlantic.

This resolution acknowledges the findings from the OSCE's Annual Hate Crimes Report and European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights' (EUFRA) 2009 European Union Minorities and Discrimination Survey (EU-MIDIS), as well as initiatives such as the June 2013 European Network Against Racism's "People of African Descent and Black Europeans" Policy Paper and Open Society Justice Initiative 2009 report, entitled "Ethnic Profiling in the European Union," which reveal systemic discrimination against Black Europeans in housing, education, health care, employment, the criminal justice system, and access to political participation. Moreover, recent racist acts towards Black European cabinet-level officials highlight continuing issues of racism and national extremism, and the need to increase the awareness of rights and protection for Black Europeans.

Cooperation is key to addressing the global problems of racism and discrimination. As we continue working to build on past and current initiatives, I encourage my colleagues to join me in recognizing and celebrating the collective history and achievements made by people of African descent. This resolution reaffirms the importance of inclusion and the full and equal participation of people of African descent around the world in all aspects of political, economic, social, and cultural life. To that end, Congress should welcome increased parliamentary activities, including those of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, to engage in efforts to promote racial equality and combat racial discrimination through efforts such as introducing legislation, speaking out against racism, increasing the political participation of racial minorities, and working with Black European and other minority communities to develop relevant policies.

Europe today grapples with complex questions at the intersection of national identity, decreasing birth rates, increasing immigration, security concerns, and a rise in extremist political parties and vigilantism. In this context of changing demographics and attitudes, the experiences of Black Europeans increasingly serve as a measure of the strength of European democracies and commitments to human rights. Following the 2011 Transatlantic Minority Political Leadership Conference, U.S. and European parliamentarians called for a Joint US-EU Action Plan to work on transatlantic solutions to address bias and discrimination and foster inclusion—much the way we work jointly on counterterrorism, trade, and other issues. The adoption of such an initiative would significantly increase the tools our governments have to address common issues, develop proactive policies to meet changing demographics leading to increased diversity in our societies, and ultimately ensure the long-term stability and prosperity of our democracies.

Mr. Speaker, I urge the adoption of a Joint Action Plan in addition to immediate actions by European governments and members of civil society and the private sector, in consultation with Black European communities, to develop and implement initiatives to combat racial discrimination and promote racial equality in Europe. In the interim, our government can do more to partner with European public and private sectors and Black and migrant communities to advance human rights and inclusion in Europe, including appointing at the State Department and U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) Senior Advisors on Afro-descent peoples and establishing a State Department Fund for the Inclusion of Racial and Ethnic minorities modeled after the Department's International Fund for Women and Girls and Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, and Transgender (LGBT) Global Equality Funds.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, on November 18th, I was attending a funeral and missed rollcall No. 588, on H.R. 2061. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye."

HONORING MICHAEL A. LENOIR,
M.D.

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary career of Dr. Michael LeNoir as we celebrate over 40 years of his contributions to the medical field. Dr. LeNoir continues to be a celebrated physician, and we join together in praise of his remarkable contributions to the Bay Area, California, and our great nation.

Dr. LeNoir is married to Denise Washington LeNoir and they have 4 daughters and 5 grandchildren. He attended the University of Texas Medical Branch at Galveston and graduated in 1967. During his transitional year, he interned at the Los Angeles County and the University of Southern California Medical Center. He completed his pediatrics residency at the William Beaumont Army Medical Center in 1970, and finished his fellowship in pediatric allergy and immunology in 1972 at the University of California at San Diego. Dr. LeNoir has been certified for 39 years in Allergy and Immunology from the American Board of Allergy and Immunology, and certified 40 years in Pediatrics from the American Board of Pediatrics. He has practiced clinical allergy and pediatrics in the Bay Area since 1977, and has been an active member of the National Medical Association (NMA) since 1975.

Throughout his prolific career, Dr. LeNoir has served in a number of leadership roles including former board member of the American Association of Certified Allergists, former chair of the Underserved Committee of the American Academy of Allergy, past President of the Northern California Allergy Association, former

Chair of the NMA Allergy and Asthma Section, and former Chair of the Clinical Faculty at the University of California, San Francisco when he served as an associate clinical professor.

Dr. LeNoir has also earned myriad accolades, including the first Floyd Malveaux Award by the NMA Allergy and Asthma Section, the 2006 Community Physician of the Year Award by the Residents at Oakland Children's Hospital and Research Institute, the Lydia Smiley Award from the California School Nurses Association, as well as numerous awards highlighting his community service.

Dr. LeNoir was named as one of the America's leading African American Allergists by Black Enterprise Magazine in 2001 and 2008. Since 2001, Dr. LeNoir has been named as one of the best 200 physicians by Oakland Magazine and San Francisco Magazine.

From 1981 to 1993, Dr. LeNoir was the medical editor for KCBS Radio, hosting a 2 hour weekly talk show. He has been the CEO of the Ethnic Health America Network since 1985, and is the host and executive producer of the About Health Program, a talk show featured on Pacifica Radio stations, including Berkeley's KPFA. He has also served as president of the National Association of Physician Broadcasters.

Currently, Dr. LeNoir is president of the Ethnic Health Institute at Alta Bates Summit Medical Center, Board Chair of the African American Wellness Project, and member of the Board of Directors at Children's Hospital and Research Center in Oakland.

Earlier this summer, Dr. LeNoir was inaugurated as the 114th President of the NMA. The NMA is the largest and oldest national organization representing the interests of more than 32,000 African American physicians and the patients they serve. Under Dr. LeNoir's leadership, the NMA will continue its work to eliminate health disparities, improve the pipeline for African American students, and advance the quality of health among communities of color and disadvantaged populations.

I have had the privilege of knowing and working with Dr. LeNoir for many years. He is a brilliant and compassionate physician who has used his expertise and experience on behalf of his patients and the overall community. I am proud to call him a colleague and a friend.

On behalf of California's 13th Congressional District, Dr. Michael LeNoir, I salute you. Your 40 years of dedication to improving the health of our communities and leadership on medical advances have made an indelible mark in history. Thank you for your continued work and best wishes to you and your loved ones in the years to come.

HONORING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF SAINT PETER LUTHERAN CHURCH—AFTON, MN

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to the congregation of Saint Peter Lutheran Church of Afton, Minnesota on the occasion of the 150th anniversary of the church. Since its founding by German settlers in 1863, the church has served as a center of faith and community.

The founding families of Saint Peter Lutheran Church of Afton held tightly to their faith and, as their numbers grew, they recruited a travelling missionary, Reverend Horst, to conduct services from the homes of worshipers. Shortly thereafter another clergyman, Pastor Rolf, took over duties, regularly travelling 15 miles from Saint Paul by foot to preside over the parish.

On December 27th, 1863, the congregation was formally organized into the "The Evangelical Lutheran Saint Peter's Church of Afton Township, Washington County, Minnesota." During the next two years, three acres of land were purchased and on it built the first church from a reconstructed mill that had been abandoned in the area. The first service in the new Saint Peter's church was held on August 12, 1865 and it stood intact for nearly sixty years.

Ultimately, the original structure was converted into a schoolhouse in 1898 and a replacement church was erected beside it, both remaining until they burned down in 1924. The following year saw the completion of a replacement building on the grounds, today known as the 'old' church.

Saint Peter Lutheran Church continues to play a central role in the lives of many Afton families, serving both spiritual and physical needs. Through its strong support of local food shelves and clothing drives, the congregation is directly helping to feed and clothe families in need. The congregation's growth is a tribute to the generosity and commitment of six generations who have built on the foundation laid by those early German settlers. Saint Peter Lutheran Church has blessed the Afton area with its dedication to good deeds for 150 years.

Mr. Speaker, in honor of the 150th Anniversary of Saint Peter Lutheran Church of Afton, Minnesota, I am pleased to submit this statement to the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD.

HONORING IAN MORBY

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Ian Morby. Ian is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 663, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Ian has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Ian has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Ian has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Ian Morby for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 588, I was unable to be present for the vote on H.R. 2061.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

TRIBUTE TO LOUISE A. ANDERSON

HON. LARRY BUCSHON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. BUCSHON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Ms. Louise A. Anderson who at the end of this month will be retiring as Director of the West Central Indiana Area Health Education Center in my district.

A nurse by vocation, she has been passionate about ensuring that Hoosiers have access to quality healthcare in their communities by recruiting and training the next generation of healthcare providers. In addition to her professional engagements, Ms. Anderson remains a very active volunteer in professional and community organizations holding several board and committee positions at the local, state, and national levels. Her commitment to the citizens of West Central Indiana for the last three decades has been exemplary through her service as a provider, teacher, and educator. May we all live such a rich and distinguished life of service.

HONORING DR. STEPHEN T. BARTLETT

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Dr. Stephen T. Bartlett, a close friend and accomplished surgeon and respected professor, on the occasion of his 60th birthday.

A specialist in kidney and pancreas transplantation as well as vascular surgery, Dr. Bartlett has taught and practiced medicine at the renowned University of Maryland since 1991. He is a Peter Angelos Distinguished Professor and chairs the Department of Surgery at the university's School of Medicine. He also serves as Senior Vice President and Surgeon-in-Chief at the University of Maryland Medical System.

Dr. Bartlett earned his medical degree from the University of Chicago and completed his residency at the University of Pennsylvania. He continued his training at Northwestern University and taught at the University of California Davis. He was then recruited to Maryland and revitalized the university's transplant program. The school's kidney transplant program is now the second highest in volume in the country. Under his leadership, the surgical department ranks among the highest in the country in National Institute of Health grant funding.

While Dr. Bartlett's accomplishments are too numerous to list in their entirety, it bears mentioning that he has been recognized as a "Top Doctor" by Baltimore Magazine. The National Kidney Foundation recently named him one of its 2013 "Kidney Champions" for his groundbreaking contributions to the field of kidney research and transplantation. He has authored more than 230 peer-reviewed journal articles and 11 book chapters.

Of particular note, Dr. Bartlett led an effort that recently resulted in the most extensive full face transplant completed in the world to date. In addition to historic projects like this, he continues to spearhead basic scientific research always with the singular goal of improving patients' quality of life.

I have had the pleasure of knowing Dr. Bartlett—as well as his wife, June, and three children—on a personal level for many years. I am impressed with his dedication to his family. He may receive distinguished accolades for his medical breakthroughs, but his commitment to his wife and children come first.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Dr. Stephen Bartlett. His service and dedication to the University of Maryland is an asset to the state. It is with great pride that I wish him the happiest of birthdays and many more to come.

THE 125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TOWN OF BRAMWELL, WEST VIRGINIA

HON. NICK J. RAHALL II

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, November 19, 2013

Mr. RAHALL. Mr. Speaker, nestled in a picturesque valley setting, amidst gently sloped green hills, complete with a meandering river is the town of Bramwell, West Virginia, which celebrates its 125th birthday tomorrow.

Coal was very much a part of the genesis of Bramwell. It is a town that was home to many coal mine owners and operators. So much so in fact, this small town was once able to boast of more per capita millionaires than any town in the country. Entrepreneurism still reigns in Bramwell, although today it is not as much of the pocketbook as it is of the heart. Many of the town's grand homes have been painstakingly and lovingly preserved by homeowners.

Throughout the year, the town hosts a number of festive events that celebrate its coal heritage. Every Christmas, homes are opened for tours and period costumed, well versed and pithy witted interpreters will guide visitors through a domestic lifestyle enjoyed in yesteryear. Each spring, home tours welcome the new season just as cordially and each fall, the Bramwell Oktoberfest is not to be missed.

However, any day of the year is a good day to visit this homage to history. Visitors will be met with a sincere pride in our coal heritage, the heritage of our families and of our State. That sense of pride is just as alive and kicking as ever. For everyone in Bramwell, history is not a thing of the past; it is a prologue to the future. In fact, the future of this temperate region fittingly dubbed Four Seasons Country, is bright, largely due to the efforts of communities like Bramwell.

For the same pioneering spirit that established deep roots here, the same productive