

Now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 113th Congress that Mr. Anisworth Mallett, Mrs. Jacqueline Mallett and Master Drew Mallett of the 4th Congressional District of Georgia are deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition": Mr. Anisworth Mallett, U.S. Citizen of Distinction; Mrs. Jacqueline Mallett, U.S. Citizen of Distinction; Master Drew Mallett, U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Proclaimed, this 5th day of January, 2013.

TRIBUTE TO DR. ROSE WILDER

HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. CLYBURN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a trailblazing educator who has been recognized as the 2014 South Carolina Superintendent of the Year. Dr. Rose Wilder is a remarkable leader and visionary who serves with distinction as the Superintendent of Clarendon School District 1, the historic school district that was the birthplace of the landmark desegregation case *Brown v. Board of Education*. She is very deserving of this tremendous honor.

Dr. Wilder is a native South Carolinian; the daughter of Mr. Laco Davis and the late Mrs. Ruby Mae Davis. She was one of seven Davis children born and raised in the Orangeburg County town of Santee.

From an early age she loved learning and appreciated the value of education. She did her undergraduate work at South Carolina State University and Columbia College. Her postgraduate work was at South Carolina State University, the Citadel and Cornell University. She earned an undergraduate degree in guidance and counseling, a master's in special education, and a PhD in education administration.

In 1979, Dr. Wilder began her teaching career in her home county of Orangeburg as a reading teacher at Galliard Primary School in the Town of Eutawville. After eight years in the classroom, she became assistant principal at Manning Primary School in neighboring Clarendon County. She then went on to serve as the first principal of the new Manning Elementary School and later returned as principal of Manning Primary.

In 1994, Dr. Wilder was appointed as assistant superintendent of instruction for Clarendon School District 2. Later that same year she was chosen to lead the school district and made history by becoming the first African American female superintendent in South Carolina since the Reconstruction era. She served in that capacity for seven years, and in 1999, she was named Outstanding Superintendent by the South Carolina School Board Association.

She left Clarendon County to serve as superintendent for the Fairfield County School District for two years and as a curriculum facilitator for Richland County School District 1. In 2004, she returned to Clarendon County to serve as superintendent of school district 1 in the Summerton area.

During her nine years leading the district, Dr. Wilder has challenged the notion that poor students cannot achieve high academic standards. Once a chronically underperforming dis-

trict, Clarendon School District 1 is now the second highest academically performing high poverty district in the state of South Carolina, despite having a 95 percent poverty index rating. She has also brought the district out of a \$1 million deficit into financial solvency. Her other achievements include earning the district accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, completing the new Summerton Early Childhood Center, and refurbishing the old middle school campus as a community resource center. Next school year, Scott's Branch High School will become a New Tech Network Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) school, one of only two schools in the state to institute this project-based curriculum.

Dr. Wilder's motto is "every child, every chance, every day," and that is clearly reflected in the school district's philosophy and achievements.

Her other achievements include serving on the transition team for State Superintendent of Education Jim Rex in 2006. She is a 1994 graduate of Leadership South Carolina, and a 2009 graduate of the Riley Leadership Diversity Institute at Furman University. She holds a life membership in the NAACP and the United Council of Negro Women. She is an active member of several professional organization and serves as President elect of the South Carolina Association of School Administrators. She is also a member of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority.

Dr. Wilder is married to James C. Wilder. They share three children and two grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Dr. Rose Wilder for her selection as 2014 South Carolina Superintendent of the Year, and wish her well as she competes for the national honor. She has done an outstanding job during her tenure at Clarendon School District 1, and, as a former teacher, I applaud her dedication to her schools, her students and her community. I am proud to call her a friend and claim her as a constituent of the 6th Congressional district.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE PASSAGE OF THE BAN THE BOX ACT

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Minnesota Senator Bobby Joe Champion's accomplishment in passing the "Ban the Box" Act in the Minnesota Legislature. Elected to the Minnesota House of Representatives in 2008 and the Minnesota Senate in 2012, Senator Champion is a recognized lawyer, activist, and legislator. He has a long list of legislative accomplishments, including spearheading the Bottineau Corridor transit project, advocating for the creation of the Minnesota African-American History Museum, and supporting the renovation of Nicollet Mall and Orchestra Hall.

One of Senator Champion's most important contributions has been helping those with a criminal record reintegrate successfully into their communities. Senator Champion is the author of the "Ban the Box" Act, which prohibits employers from asking the job applicant

whether he or she has ever been arrested or convicted of a crime, with a few exceptions for sensitive positions. The "Ban the Box" Act is a crucial step forward in the fight against poverty and the effort to reduce recidivism.

The past crimes of former felons often follow them throughout their lives, preventing them from getting jobs ten, twenty, or even thirty years later. Job applicants who have finished serving criminal sentences face many challenges and few opportunities to restart their lives, making recidivism rates high.

The "Ban the Box" Act targets the main reason people who have committed a felony never have a chance at a job—a check off box on a job application that asks the applicant to state whether he or she has ever committed a felony. By barring employers from asking this question on a job application, the Act allows individuals with criminal histories to stand on their own merits. The "Ban the Box" Act will provide employment opportunities to those who have served their sentence, raising their quality of life and their chance for success and leading to reduced crime.

Through Bobby Joe Champion's leadership and perseverance, this legislation passed both the Minnesota Senate and the Minnesota House of Representatives with accolades from both sides of the aisle, and was signed into law by Governor Dayton on May 13, 2013.

I commend Senator Champion for his important work on Minnesota's historic "Ban the Box" legislation.

RECOGNIZING HOSPITAL CORPS- MAN 1ST CLASS (FMF) JOSEPH SANTOS ON BEING NAMED U.S. PACIFIC FLEET'S 2012 SEA SAIL- OR OF THE YEAR

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF) Joseph Santos on being named U.S. Pacific Fleet's 2012 Sea Sailor of the Year.

Petty Officer Santos was nominated by his commander, and was chosen from a pool of 13,000 other sailors in the Pacific Fleet. He will be meritoriously promoted to the rank of chief petty officer.

Petty Officer Santos, a native to Saipan and youngest of nine children, moved to Dededo, Guam, with his family when he was just an infant. In 1999, after graduating from John F. Kennedy High School, he joined the United States Navy. Upon completion of basic training, he reported to Naval Hospital Corps School in Great Lakes, Illinois, where he graduated with distinction. He also trained at Field Medical Service School (FMSS) at Camp Pendleton, California.

Petty Officer Santos craved adventure. He wanted to help people and save lives, and he knew the job of a Navy hospital corpsman would help him fulfill these goals.

He has served two tours in Iraq and one in Afghanistan. In 2004, while deployed in Fallujah, he earned a Purple Heart. On September 6, 2004, a large convoy in Fallujah was hit by a vehicle-borne improvised explosive device and there was a mass casualty.

He was the only corpsman on the scene for the first ten minutes of the attack. Although he was able to help many Marines, there were many others that lost their lives that day.

Furthermore, when several Marines in his unit showed signs of suicidal thoughts, he worked to help them get through it and allowed them to bunk above him during their last days in Afghanistan to ensure their return home was as peaceful as possible. He remains committed to his Marines and makes himself available around-the-clock to discuss these issues.

Petty Officer Santos has received numerous awards and recognition for his exemplary service, including the Purple Heart, Navy Commendation Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Navy Good Conduct Medal, and a Combat Action Ribbon.

He is married to Easton Santos; together they have a 10-year-old daughter, Keana, and are currently expecting another child.

I congratulate Hospital Corpsman 1st Class (FMF) Joseph Santos on being named U.S. Pacific Fleet's 2012 Sailor of the Year. I join the people of Guam in thanking him for his bravery and selfless service to our nation, and for making our island proud.

TRIBUTE TO LUCILLE SUTTON

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I present the following U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Whereas, the lives of many have been touched by the life of this one woman who has given of herself to her family and her community; and

Whereas, Mrs. Lucille Sutton's spirit is as sweet as pie, she was an exemplary mother, mother-in-law, grandmother, great grandmother, neighbor and friend; and

Whereas, Lucille Sutton was a virtuous woman, a woman of great integrity who remained true to the uplifting of her community and family which in turn uplifted others; and

Whereas, she was an exemplary matriarch, serving as compass and wise counselor and bringing great joy to our district, her family and friends; and

Whereas, this remarkable woman gave of herself, never asking for fame or fortune as she became a quiet storm, a spark that starts a flame; and

Whereas, the U.S. Representative of the Fourth District of Georgia has set aside this day to bestow a Congressional Recognition on Mrs. Lucille Sutton for her leadership, friendship and service to all of the citizens of DeKalb County and the nation; now therefore, I, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, Jr., do hereby attest to the 112th Congress that Mrs. Lucille Sutton of DeKalb County, Georgia is deemed worthy and deserving of this "Congressional Recognition": Mrs. Lucille Sutton, U.S. Citizen of Distinction.

Proclaimed, this 2nd day of January, 2013.

RECOGNIZING THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SSG STEPHEN RYAN

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. SMITH OF WASHINGTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate SSG Stephen Ryan on being honored with the Howard O. Scott Citizen-Soldier of the Year Award from the Tacoma-Pierce County Chamber's Military Affairs Committee. He is a valued NCO who also serves in the Washington Army National Guard with distinction of more than 12 years.

The Citizen-Soldier Award is given to an exemplary Soldier, Airman, Sailor, Marine, or Coast Guardsman who demonstrates Mr. Scott's belief that giving back to the community is one's responsibility.

SSG Ryan has excelled in each position he has held throughout his career. He is highly regarded in the maintenance community as one of the best practitioners of the Standard Army Maintenance System Enhanced (SAMS—E) in the Washington National Guard.

His off duty work with the 951st Maintenance Company's Family Readiness Program is a tribute to his unit and fellow soldiers. He continues to volunteer and devotes his personal time to the men and women of the 951st as a leader and mentor of our Citizen Soldiers.

For the last six years SSG Ryan has volunteered often with the Pierce County Friends and Athletes (PCFA), one of the largest independent Special Olympics programs in the State. He also is the head usher at Lakewood New Hope Community Church, where he spent a year as a board member.

The Citizen-Soldier Award memorializes Howard Scott who grew up in Tacoma and served his nation when called upon during World War II. He returned to succeed as a banker in Tacoma—giving of much his time to community service organizations, believing that service is a core responsibility.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize SSG Stephen Ryan. His dedication to serving our community is an inspiration to others.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 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 \$16,755,788,437,042.45. We've added \$6,128,911,388,129.37 to our debt in 4 years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE 95TH REPUBLIC DAY OF THE REPUBLIC OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as a member of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Republic of Azerbaijan as it celebrates its 95th Republic Day on May 28, 2013. Later this year, Azerbaijan will also celebrate the 22nd anniversary of its freedom from the Soviet Union and the establishment of diplomatic relations with the United States.

Azerbaijan's initial independence was short-lived, and was overtaken by the Bolshevik Revolution and the force of Soviet Russia. Many Azerbaijanis lost their lives in 1920, trying to retain their independence. After decades of living under Soviet rule, in 1991, Azerbaijan once again regained its independence after the fall of the Soviet Union.

Over the last two decades Azerbaijan has become an increasingly important partner to the US, with Russia as a neighbor on its' northern border and an extensive border with Iran in the south, Azerbaijan is located in a geopolitically dynamic region between Europe and Asia. It is a predominately Muslim secular democracy noted for religious tolerance that is also home to Christian and Jewish communities.

As highlighted by former Secretary of Defense Robert Gates, Azerbaijan plays a key role in supporting the Northern Distribution Network, which provides passage for Coalition supplies bound for Afghanistan. In addition to supporting U.S. security interests in the region, Azerbaijan serves a paramount role in supplying world markets with oil and gas. It is the only secular Muslim country that maintains close ties with Israel, supplying roughly forty percent of Israel's energy needs.

I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the Republic of Azerbaijan on the occasion of its 95th Republic Day. I also encourage my colleagues to join the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus to show support for the important partnership between the United States and Azerbaijan.

HONORING JOYCE GEORGE

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, May 14, 2013

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following proclamation.

Whereas, a virtuous woman of God accepted her calling to serve in the Educational System; and

Whereas, Mrs. Joyce George began her educational career in teaching in Alabama and this year she retires from teaching at Edward L. Bouie, Sr., Elementary Theme School in Lithonia, Georgia, she has served the DeKalb County Public Schools System well and our community has been blessed through her service; and

Whereas, this phenomenal woman has shared her time and talents as a Teacher, Educator and Motivator, giving the citizens of