

In lieu of flowers, however, the family asks that contributions in his memory be made to the Aflac Cancer and Blood Disorder Center in Atlanta or St. Luke United Methodist Church in Columbus.

A MEMORIAL TRIBUTE TO SSG
SCOTT R. STUDENMUND

HON. ADAM B. SCHIFF

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. SCHIFF. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Green Beret Staff Sergeant Scott R. Studenmund of Pasadena, California, who died on June 9, 2014 in Gaza Valley, Zabul Province, Afghanistan during a combat mission.

Born on June 26, 1989, Scott Richard Studenmund was fearless from birth and embraced life fully. Scott was known for his rambunctious spirit, good sense of humor, intelligence and humility. He attended Clairbourn School from nursery school until 6th grade, Flintridge Preparatory School for middle and high school, Occidental College and Pitzer College. In high school, Scott was an avid scholar, football star and a history aficionado. He was a National Merit Finalist, an All-Area and All-League Football player and an excellent sprinter. Interested in the military since a young child, Scott spent many days practicing his tactical maneuvers with family and friends while on vacation at Lake Arrowhead or the beach. He traveled to Thailand and Cambodia and performed community service as a part of the Rustic Pathways program with his fellow schoolmates. During his time at Flintridge Preparatory School, he made a tight-knit group of friends with whom he stayed in close contact after graduation. An intense competitor, Scott was also a true gentleman who would not participate in or abide hurtful comments against others. He was extremely close to his family and was protective and proud of his sister Connell; indeed his parents never recall the two siblings ever arguing.

In 2009, Scott left college to join the U.S. Army with the goal of becoming a Green Beret. Twenty-five months later, Scott earned his Green Beret, having completed 11 different rigorous training programs, passing each one on the first try. At his Green Beret ceremony, Scott won the Leadership Award in the Special Forces Weapons Sergeant Course. He also received an Army Achievement Medal for performing "with distinction" in a training exercise, and earned an Expert Infantryman Badge, also known as "The Mark of a Man," by completing a rigorous 40-part competition with over 100 Green Berets. In 2013, Scott completed the infamous Combat Dive School, which is considered to be the hardest school in the U.S. Army. He and his teammate won a top team award in the rigorous Special Forces Level II Sniper Course. Scott rose to the rank of Staff Sergeant while working in the 1st battalion of the 5th Special Forces Group, Bravo Company, at Fort Campbell, Kentucky. Scott received the Purple Heart, Bronze Star with Valor Medal and the Meritorious Service Medal.

Scott is survived by his parents, Arnold H. and Jaynie Studenmund, sister, Connell, and half brother, Brent. He will be buried at Arlington National Cemetery, next to his friend and

fellow Green Beret. Scott will be near his grandfather, Jack R. Miller, who was a U.S. Senator and Brigadier General in the Air Force Reserve and his grandmother, Jerry Miller.

Staff Sergeant Studenmund was an athlete, scholar and soldier, who loved his family, his job and his country. I ask all Members to join with me in remembering Staff Sergeant Scott Richard Studenmund, a Green Beret in the U.S. Army, a hero who died while achieving the highest honor of serving our country.

FISCAL YEAR 2014 INTELLIGENCE
AUTHORIZATION ACT (S. 1681)

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the Fiscal Year (FY) 2014 Intelligence Authorization Act (IAA) (S. 1681).

The FY2014 IAA includes provisions to ensure that men and women of our Intelligence Community (IC) have the resources, capabilities, and authorities necessary to protect our nation and its citizens, while ensuring critical and continuous Congressional oversight of the IC.

The House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI) passed H.R. 3381, its companion bill to S. 1681, last November. Unfortunately, the House never acted on it, and the HPSCI passed a combined FY2014/FY2015 IAA (H.R. 4681) containing many of the same provisions as the HPSCI-passed FY14 IAA and S. 1681, with some important additional provisions. The FY2014/FY2015 IAA recently passed our body with overwhelming support.

The FY2014 IAA contains a provision I authored and was originally included in the HPSCI-passed bill, requiring a report, within 90 days of enactment, on the extent to which the IC has implemented the Inspector General of the IC's recommendations contained in the May 2013 report, entitled "Study of Intelligence Community Electronic Waste Disposal Practices."

This provision is also included in FY2014/FY2015 IAA requiring a report in unclassified form, with a classified annex as necessary. Because H.R. 4681 is unlikely to be enacted before this report is due, I encourage the Director of National Intelligence to submit this report in unclassified form, with a classified annex as necessary.

Of great importance to the citizens of my district is another provision I authored for H.R. 4681, which directs the Department of Homeland Security Office of Intelligence & Analysis (I&A) to conduct an assessment of the security of our nation's oil refineries and related rail transportation infrastructure. It directs I&A to make recommendations on how to improve intelligence collection and sharing of information to better protect those facilities and the surrounding communities from any harm.

My district is home to several oil refineries, which employ thousands of people and provide well-paying middle class jobs. They are a key part of the regional economy. As domestic oil production continues to increase in the region, I have heard from several of my constituents about their growing concerns regarding

the security of the shipment and storage of crude oil and subsequent refined products.

Constituents have reported tanker cars parked in their communities covered in elaborate graffiti. If a vandal has the opportunity to deface a tanker car, imagine what could be done by someone with more sinister motives?

I take all concerns my constituents share with me seriously, and I believe we have the responsibility to protect our workers, our domestic refineries and our communities from potential threats.

While I support the passage of the FY2014 IAA, I will continue to work with my colleagues on the HPSCI and in the Senate to ensure that the FY2015 IAA continues my refinery and rail infrastructure security provision.

RECOGNIZING THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY
OF SAINT SAVA SERBIAN
ORTHODOX CHURCH

HON. PETER J. VISCLOSKY

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. VISCLOSKY. Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I recognize Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church as the congregation joins together in celebration of the church's 100th anniversary. The parishioners, along with Parish Priest, Reverend Father Marko Matic, and Parish President, Mr. Mike Ajder, will be commemorating this momentous occasion with a special 3-day celebration taking place from November 21 through November 23, 2014. The event will honor all who have contributed to the success of Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church.

Founded in Gary, Indiana, Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church is now located in Merrillville and is one of the oldest churches in the Midwest. In 1914, the church's founders declared their mission before the Secretary of the State in Indianapolis: "The purpose of this parish is to preach the Word of God (the Lord Jesus) and take spiritual care of its members; to spread goodness, justice, brotherly love and respect among its members."

In 1914, Saint Sava's first church-school congregation was organized. It was named after Saint Sava, the first Archbishop of the Serbian Church. The church was built on 20th Avenue and Connecticut Street in Gary. After a devastating fire in 1978, Saint Sava relocated to their previously built chapel and parish hall located in Hobart, where the congregation held services until 1991. Very Reverend Father Jovan Todorovich led committed efforts in the construction of their current place of worship in Merrillville, which was completed in May of 1991. Today, the parishioners and church leaders gather together in this magnificent building to worship, celebrate, and continue the mission of the founding fathers.

Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church continues to touch the lives of countless individuals through its compassionate service and charitable work. Most recently, parishioners and church leaders participated in a relief effort to raise funds and collect needed supplies to help the victims in Serbia and surrounding communities recover from devastating floods. In addition, the members of this parish continue to preserve the traditions of the Serbian culture and the Orthodox faith through the church's historical society.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues join me in honoring and congratulating Saint Sava Serbian Orthodox Church in Merrillville, Indiana on its 100th anniversary. The members and church leaders have dedicated themselves to upholding Serbian heritage, tradition, and the Orthodox faith. For their noteworthy commitment to serving so many in need, the congregation is worthy of the highest praise.

CELEBRATING THE LIFE AND
SERVICE OF SENATOR ALAN J.
DIXON

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember and celebrate the life and service of former United States Senator to the State of Illinois, Alan J. Dixon, who recently passed away at his home in Fairview Heights, Illinois, on Sunday, July 6, 2014, one day short of his 87th birthday.

Sen. Dixon, born in Belleville, Illinois, on July 7, 1927, led a life dedicated to service to the great State of Illinois and to our nation. He received his bachelor's degree from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and his law degree from Washington University in St. Louis. He also served our nation in the Navy Air Corps during World War II.

Sen. Dixon began his political career as a member of the Illinois House of Representatives, for which he served from 1951 to 1963. He followed that by serving as a member of the Illinois State Senate from 1963 to 1971. In 1970 he was elected Illinois State Treasurer and then Illinois Secretary of State from 1976 until 1981. In 1981, Sen. Dixon took office as the U.S. Senator from Illinois, a position he held until 1993.

Sen. Alan Dixon, who served the State of Illinois for more than four decades, was known as someone who got along with everyone. He happily would work with his colleagues across the aisle in order to get things done, a characteristic that is in short supply today. He also was recognized for his hard work, honesty, and gentlemanly conduct. Following his career as a public servant, Sen. Dixon returned to practice law with the Bryan Cave law firm in St. Louis.

Mr. Speaker, it is my honor to again commemorate the life and service of Senator Alan J. Dixon. I am very grateful for his service to our State and Nation. His passing weighs especially heavy on my family and I, as my father had the distinct honor to serve as his Chief of Staff for 23 years. Sen. Dixon is survived by his wife, Jody, three children, eight grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren. It is my hope that I can live up to the example he has set forth as a statesman.

CONGRATULATING DANSBY SWAN-
SON, 2014 COLLEGE WORLD SE-
RIES' MOST OUTSTANDING
PLAYER

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor Marietta native and Vanderbilt second baseman, Dansby Swanson, on his accomplishments in the 2014 NCAA College World Series.

Swanson was awarded the College World Series' Most Outstanding Player Award and was an incredible asset in helping Vanderbilt clinch its first College World Series Championship.

Throughout the 2014 season, Swanson became one of the key players on Vanderbilt's tremendously talented roster and was key in Vandy's 3–2 victory over the University of Virginia in the final to cap off a landmark 50 win season.

Just a sophomore, Swanson batted .323 with five runs scored and two RBI in Omaha—the most impressive performance of any player in the tournament.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of Georgia's 11th Congressional District, I applaud Dansby for his achievement and look forward to his future successes. I extend my enthusiastic congratulations to him on achieving the highest level of recognition possible in the NCAA College World Series.

IN HONOR OF ESTONIA'S SONG
AND DANCE FESTIVAL

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the people of Estonia who from July 4 to 6 completed their remarkable Song and Dance Festival in the capital of Tallinn. The festival, which takes place once every five years and attracts roughly 100,000 visitors and participants, is a cornerstone of Estonian cultural tradition and has been named one of UNESCO's Intangible Cultural Heritage events. It is something the Estonian people, and indeed the entire Baltic region, should be rightly proud of.

Such celebrations of independence are particularly important during this time. We continue to support our friends in Estonia, and indeed our friends and allies in all of Europe, as they face the threat of increased Russian aggression. Now is as important a time as any for the U.S. to reaffirm its commitment to Estonia and the Baltic states.

Mr. Speaker, the American people have a long and proud history of supporting Estonians

as they rejected authoritarianism, gained their independence and built the vibrant, modern country they have today. Estonia has likewise been a great friend to the United States. I am certain that this relationship will continue far into the future. Once more, congratulations to all of Estonia on such a successful festival.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF MR.
MICHAEL MURPHY

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 8, 2014

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mr. Michael Murphy, and offer my condolences to his family and friends in light of his passing.

In his time as Grays Harbor County Commissioner and his years at the Washington State Auditor's Office he worked tirelessly for the community and local governments. His voice and support will be greatly missed.

Murphy graduated from Central Washington University and began his public service as a Radarman in the U.S. Navy. After his service he came to Washington, DC, and worked as an aide to U.S. Representative Don Bonker.

In 1977, he was elected to the Grays Harbor County Commission where he served for 11 years. During his tenure he worked to establish Vance Creek Park, the Grays Harbor County Fairground Pavilion, and helped preserve Grays Harbor's public forests. Under his leadership Grays Harbor became the only county in the state to manage its own tax-title timberlands, rather than grant that authority to the state.

After his time as a county commissioner, Murphy joined the Washington State Auditor's Office in 1996, and as Local Government Liaison worked closely with local governments who trusted him as a result of his excellent reputation and his intimate knowledge with the challenges of local government.

Murphy was an avid outdoorsman and sportsman, and a dedicated public servant. He had a passion for his work, for the people he served, and for the Pacific Northwest. He served for a time as Chairman of the State Liquor Control Board, and helped found what would become Venture Bank. As President of the Washington State Association of Counties he also advocated on behalf of local governments at the state legislature.

Mr. Speaker, Washington State and our nation owe a debt of gratitude to Michael Murphy for his dedication to serving the needs of those he worked for while helping local governments remain effective and efficient. His work and his experience left Washington better able to provide for its citizens. I am pleased to recognize his service to the community and honor his legacy today in the United States Congress.