

Kurtz. I join her family members and friends who gather on August 2, 2014, in Minneapolis to commemorate this special day. Lillian Kurtz was born August 1, 1914, in Minneapolis, MN. She started life in Northern Minnesota on her father's farm where she attended school in a one-room school house.

Lillian's outlook on life was molded by the Great Depression and World War II. During World War II, she traveled as an officer's wife and lived in many areas around the country. She did volunteer work for the Red Cross. After the war, she and her husband settled in South Minneapolis where she has lived ever since.

She worked as a floral designer for Bachman's in South Minneapolis while raising her family. Her husband of over 62 years, George Kurtz, was a noted attorney, Workers Compensation Judge and Air Force Reserve Colonel. She has two children Kathleen and Michael, seven grandchildren, five great grandchildren and three great-great grandchildren.

She is still living on her own at the Walker Place in South Minneapolis. She continued her volunteer work at the Walker until recently.

Lillian has led an outstanding life, highlighted by her love of family and service to her community. I wish her many more years of health and happiness.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CONGRESSIONAL RESEARCH SERVICE

HON. PETER T. KING

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. KING of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in recognition of the 100th anniversary of the Congressional Research Service at the Library of Congress. Throughout the past 100 years, the Congressional Research Service has been of great importance to members of Congress. It has provided insightful research analysis necessary to effectively legislate.

CRS professionals have expertise in a range of matters spanning across foreign and domestic affairs. Their reliable and efficiently prepared analyses provide all members of Congress with a deeper understanding of the important issues that challenge our country every day. As evidence of their fine work, the CRS website holds nearly 10,000 reports that are easily accessible and well organized.

I speak now with great gratitude for CRS's dedicated analysts, legislative attorneys and information professionals. I hope that the beneficial relationship between the CRS and Congress only enhances in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF TURKEY'S INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, this Sunday, July 20th, will mark the 40th anniversary of

Turkey's invasion of the island of Cyprus. This is not a happy anniversary, Mr. Speaker. It marks 40 years of invasion, occupation, and the forcible division of Cyprus. The time has come to end this tragic conflict, which the people of Cyprus have endured for far too long.

Thousands of Greek Cypriots are still being denied their fundamental human right to return to their homes because of Turkey's continuing occupation of northern Cyprus. Greek Cypriot properties are constantly being illegally confiscated or sold without their owners' consent. Turkish troops remain stationed on the island, and thousands of colonists from mainland Turkey have been moved to this occupied area. Freedom of worship is severely restricted, access to religious sites blocked, religious sites continue to be systematically destroyed, and large numbers of religious and archaeological objects stolen.

Turkey continues to obstruct the process to determine the fate of missing persons—military and civilian—since the 1974 invasion. It prohibits the exhumation of remains from mass graves that are located in areas that Turkey has classified as "military areas," even when such a process would take place under the supervision of the United Nations. On this grave and poignant humanitarian matter, I urge the U.S. government to exert its influence over Turkey, allow these exhumations to take place so that the bodies in mass graves might be identified, and so that families may finally, after 40 years, be allowed to grieve the loss of their loved ones and respectfully lay their remains to rest. This is not too much to ask of any government, anywhere in the world.

I applaud the fact that the Cyprus Government remains fully committed to the U.N.-sponsored process to reach a sustainable and enduring settlement that would reunify Cyprus based on a bizonal, bi-communal federation, in accordance with relevant U.N. Security Council resolutions. I hope the United States will continue to press the Government of Turkey to move forward with advancing confidence-building measures and initiatives to achieve a final, just and lasting settlement to reunite Cyprus.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, this year marks the 40th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of the Republic of Cyprus. On July 20, 1974, Turkish forces occupied over a third of the northern part of Cyprus leading into the forcible division of the country.

Turkey's occupation of the northern part of Cyprus divided the country between Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots. Currently, Greek Cypriots are not given the freedom to return to their homes and are having their property and religious sites destroyed. The people of Cyprus are experiencing a violation of their human rights and the country continues to pursue an ethnically segregated state.

The U.N. Security Council has been assisting the Cyprus government with the process of

reaching a sustainable settlement that would unify Cyprus. In addition, President Anastasiades introduced a proposal that aims to rebuild a relationship between Greek Cypriot and Turkish Cypriot communities, which the U.S. has accepted. I urge Turkey to contribute in the process of reuniting the Republic of Cyprus.

Members of Congress and the international community must work together to solve the ongoing conflicts and reach a comprehensive settlement that will unify the country. We must strongly urge Turkey to resolve the continuing humanitarian issues the people are facing.

The United States strongly supports the sovereign rights of the Republic of Cyprus. The Cyprus Government's commitment towards working with the United States will ease the process of finding possible initiatives that will further mend the country's division. I believe the international community must focus on reunifying the Republic of Cyprus and support the ideals of freedom and justice.

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TURKISH INVASION OF CYPRUS

HON. NITA M. LOWEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mrs. LOWEY. Mr. Speaker, July 20th marks the 40th anniversary of the Turkish invasion of Cyprus. In 1974 over 200,000 Greek Cypriots were driven from their homes, becoming refugees in their own country. The legacy of this occupation still weighs heavily on the northern third of the island, which remains occupied by Turkish troops.

There is consensus in the international community that a unified, sovereign Cyprus is the only solution to rectifying decades of injustice. I believe the United Nations-led negotiations currently underway are the best means to achieve a fair and permanent settlement which will reunify the island. We are at a critical juncture in the pursuit of peace and prosperity for all Cypriots, and I urge all parties to move toward a peaceful resolution and reunification effort that will build a more united and prosperous Cyprus.

Cyprus is a strategically important ally of the United States, and Cyprus has proven itself to be a reliable partner in efforts to counter terrorism. I look forward to a reunified and prosperous Cyprus where Greek Cypriots and Turkish Cypriots can live together in peace, security and stability.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Chair, four of the seven appropriations bills considered by the House this year have passed with bipartisan support. Those votes harken back to the spirit of cooperation that brought an end to last year's reckless government shutdown and the subsequent Bipartisan Budget Agreement that restored some of the harmful cuts from sequestration. Unfortunately, this week's consideration of the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act for next year diverges sharply from that practice. I have multiple objections with the agenda House Republicans are advancing with this bill, and I want to highlight a few of them.

For starters, this bill continues the Majority's assault on the mission and personnel of the Internal Revenue Service. The bill, as introduced, cuts \$340 million from the IRS and comes on heels of \$850 million in cuts over the past four years. Making matters worse, an amendment was adopted during debate Monday night that would cut another \$788 million or 10% from IRS enforcement activities. I remind my colleagues that the IRS plays a critical role in helping taxpayers to understand and comply with our nation's complex tax code and ensuring that those tax laws are enforced fairly.

Unfortunately both of those activities have suffered in the last few years because of these punitive cuts. Basic assistance for taxpayers has dropped off sharply because of a reduction in workforce of 8,000 positions, and training for those that remain has been cut 87% in the last four years. As a result, caller wait times have almost doubled and the number of unanswered calls has increased by half. It's no wonder public frustration has increased. Tax enforcement has also suffered. The amount of staff devoted to enforcing our tax laws has been cut by 15% since 2010. As a result, revenue collected by enforcement actions has fallen off by \$4 billion during that time.

Yet, some of my colleagues have shown no shame in criticizing the IRS for not maintaining its email files when it is their actions that have left the agency stretched so thin. Rather than adequately fund the IRS—which generates nearly \$6 in revenue for every \$1 invested—House Republicans have starved the agency, crippling its ability to meet demands and leaving \$300 billion to \$400 billion per year in uncollected taxes. That's more than half of the projected deficit of \$583 billion for this fiscal year.

In addition to that contradiction, Mr. Chair, I would note that the conservative crowd that says, "the level of government closest to the people governs best," is poised to overturn a decision by the local government right here in the District of Columbia. Twenty-three states—nearly 1/3rd of which have Republican governors—and the District have decriminalized the limited use of marijuana. In fact, the home state of this provision's sponsor is one of those states, but the reach of Congressional Republicans under this bill does not allow them to interfere with the decision of his home state or that of other states. They can, however, restrict the use of funds provided to DC, and so we're doing so simply because we can. There is no merit or consistency in this action, which is nothing more than a raw power grab by House Republicans, who continue to block attempt by the citizens of the District of Columbia to exercise local control.

Finally, Mr. Chair, I take exception to the fact that this bill does not sufficiently support the Administration's Information Technology Oversight and Reform initiative, known as ITOR. That program is funded \$11 million below the request of \$20 million—a relatively modest amount in light of the considerable savings of \$2.4 billion this office has already achieved in the last four years. Under the direction of the U.S. Chief Information Officer, ITOR is leading the Federal Government's efforts to improve the effectiveness of digital services to provide citizens and businesses with world class user experiences; reduce waste in Federal IT acquisitions; and identify savings that can be re-programmed to better serve taxpayers and optimize the use of scarce agency resources.

In addition to these important activities, ITOR also supports recruiting and training the next generation of talented Federal IT personnel, and it supports the Office of Management and Budget's coordination of Federal cybersecurity programs. As the recent cyber breach at the U.S. Office of Personnel Management highlights, we must be vigilant in continuously monitoring Federal IT systems to safeguard sensitive information national security information.

As the Committee notes, ITOR has notched commendable achievements in enabling agencies to more efficiently utilize cloud computing and begin optimizing and consolidating Federal data centers. Of course, much work remains to be done. I appreciate and share the Committee's concern over recent Federal IT failures. In recent decades, taxpayers have been forced to foot the bill for massive IT program failures that ring up staggeringly high costs but exhibit astonishingly poor performance. The deplorable rollout of the HealthCare.gov site last year is a symptom of a broader disease that ITOR is helping to address—the broken Federal IT acquisition process. The annual price tag of this wasteful spending on IT programs is estimated to be approximately \$20 billion. That status quo is unacceptable and unsustainable.

That is why I joined the Chairman of the Oversight and Government Reform Committee to develop a comprehensive, bipartisan, Federal IT acquisition reform legislative proposal—commonly referred to as the Issa-Connolly bill, or "FITARA." Our bipartisan bill represents the most dramatic overhaul of Federal IT procurement policy since the seminal Clinger-Cohen Act was enacted nearly two decades ago, and it would directly support and complement the mission and aims of ITOR. It enhances CIO authorities, empowers CIOs to recruit and retain talented IT staff, and accelerates data center optimization and strengthens the accountability and transparency of Federal IT programs. The Issa-Connolly bill has now passed the House three times—twice as an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act and once as a standalone bill. The Senate recently passed a similar version of the bill, and we are working with our Senate colleagues to harmonize the differences.

While I am pleased that a bipartisan consensus is finally forming around the urgent need to streamline and strengthen how the Federal government acquires and deploys IT, this bill would actually underfund in those programs that are proven to save money over the long term.

Mr. Chair, as I said at the outset, this bill veers sharply from the bipartisan model we

had been working toward. By attempting to disinvest in the IRS, House Republicans are actually disinvesting in our taxpayers and undermining our efforts to enforce the law and reduce the deficit. They are further eroding the notion of local control by continuing to meddle in the local decision making of the District of Columbia. And they are making a shortsighted decision to not invest more in IT reforms that have proven to save money. For these reasons, I urge my colleagues to join me in opposing the bill before us today.

RECOGNIZING SECOND LT. ELLEN AINSWORTH

HON. SEAN P. DUFFY

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. DUFFY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Second Lt. Ellen Ainsworth for her bravery, service and sacrifice on February 10th, 1944, in Anzio, Italy.

Second Lt. Ainsworth hailed from the small Wisconsin town of Glenwood City, where she is remembered for her service. In 1942 she entered the United States Army Nurse Corps and deployed to Tunisia, then to Anzio, Italy. Although the risk of serving in this high actions area was great, Lt. Ainsworth did not waiver from her commitment to serve her country.

On February 10th, 1944 Lt. Ainsworth's hospital tent came under heavy artillery fire in an area many described as "hell's half acre". With complete disregard for herself, she brought to safety forty-two patients to lessen the chance of their further injury. Lt. Ainsworth was hit by enemy fire and succumb to her wounds six days later. At just twenty-four years old she was the only Wisconsin service woman to make the ultimate sacrifice during World War II, due to enemy fire.

Second Lt. Ellen Ainsworth was recognized posthumously for her gallant actions by being awarded with a Silver Star, Purple Heart, and a Red Cross Bronze Medal.

As Glenwood City and the town of Anzio, Italy commemorate the 70th anniversary of her death this year, Lt. Ainsworth's courageous actions are witnessed today by the children of the soldiers she saved, who would not be with us if not for her heroic sacrifice. She personified American heroism and for that, Mr. Speaker, please join me in recognizing Lt. Ainsworth for her acts of valor.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE 100TH ANNIVERSARY PHI BETA SIGMA FRATERNITY RESOLUTION

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity's centennial anniversary. My good friend, the Gentlewoman from Louisiana (Ms. LANDRIEU) and the Gentleman from Maryland (Mr. CARDIN), is sponsoring the Senate companion to this resolution.

As a Sigma brother, I am proud that this fraternity has grown into a worldwide institution.