

Mr. Speaker, as Judge Hathaway prepares to embark upon a new chapter on her life, I congratulate her and thank her for her many years of service to the people of Wayne County. Over her more than two decades of public service, Judge Hathaway has developed expertise and experience that will cause her to be greatly missed in the court room.

WELCOMING THE CITY OF THOUSAND OAKS' SISTER CITY, SHIBEI DISTRICT OF QINGDAO OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize the City of Thousand Oaks, California, who will be welcoming its sister city, Shibe District of Qingdao of the People's Republic of China, for their first visit to the Conejo Valley on February 27, 2014.

Formally approved on July 9, 2013, the Thousand Oaks City Council unanimously accepted the concept of Thousand Oaks, California and Shibe District, Qingdao as sister cities. The relationship between the two cities has a mission to create an environment for promoting and developing effective and mutually beneficial cooperation between the citizens of both municipalities. It is a harmonious relationship in which both parties conduct reciprocal cultural, educational, business, professional and technical exchanges. The friendly cooperation between both cities is based on the principles of mutual respect of the partners and the sovereignty of each state.

With a large Asian-American population presence in the Conejo Valley, community leaders, in collaboration with the Center for Asian Performing Arts, conceptualized the idea of a sister city relationship with China to promote Asian culture and support the cultural exchange between East and West.

There are many shared interests and commonalities among the two cities which makes it an ideal partnership. While Thousand Oaks was named among the top ten safest large cities in the United States, Shibe District, Qingdao was named among the top ten livable cities with the most beautiful bay in China. Additionally, both cities have developed in the areas of technology.

Among the delegation members that will visit the Conejo Valley are the mayor of the Shibe District, the directors of the Bureau of Tourism and of the Bureau of Economic Development, and the deputy chief of staff for the Department of Commerce. On this momentous occasion, the mayors of both cities will sign documents declaring their formal relationship.

I want to congratulate Thousand Oaks and Shibe District on this momentous occasion and look forward to the future accomplishments and successes that this relationship will foster.

PRIVATE PROPERTY RIGHTS PROTECTION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, in 2005 I supported a similar version of this bill that was truly bipartisan and aimed at reversing a Supreme Court decision, *Kelo v. City of New London*. In that decision, the Court upheld the right of New London to take private property and transfer it to another private individual for the purpose of increasing the tax revenue of the city. The House passed that bill (H.R. 4128) by a vote of 376–38, but the Senate never took up H.R. 4128.

Unfortunately, the version before us today goes much farther than the more narrowly tailored 2005 bill. H.R. 1944 would bar any form of eminent domain related to generating economic activity. Such a sweeping approach is contrary to the Constitution and to our history.

The rights of property owners were so important to our nation's founders that they enshrined property rights in our Constitution. However, the Founders knew that towns and municipalities would need to look after the greater public good and occasionally acquire property with just compensation to the owners in order to use that property for public good. The power of eminent domain has enabled us to make many advances over the years. It was used to create the national railroad system, the interstate highway system, and make telephone, electric, sewer, and water lines available to all our communities. Eminent domain, when used properly, is a critical power of government that has benefited people in New Jersey and across America. This bill would eviscerate this power, and for that reason I cannot support this bill in its current form.

TAXPAYERS RIGHT-TO-KNOW ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. KENNY MARCHANT

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 25, 2014

Mr. MARCHANT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of the "Taxpayer Right-to-Know-Act."

The Taxpayer Right-to-Know Act would require all federal agencies to describe, in detail, all programs under their agency, their costs, the number of employees running each program, and possible duplication. Reports would be due each year.

Agencies would also have to publish performance reviews and improper payment rates. OMB would then analyze the reports for overlapping programs and provide concrete recommendations on how to reduce duplication and waste.

This bill would ensure greater transparency, enhance scrutiny of taxpayer dollars, and help deliver better value to the American people.

The Taxpayer Right-to-Know Act is about transparency, fiscal responsibility, and finding solution to right-size the government for the American people.

REMEMBERING THE HONORABLE MARCUS EUGENE COLLINS, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to a great man, veteran, and outstanding public servant, the Honorable Marcus Eugene Collins, Sr. Sadly, Marcus passed away on Friday, February 14, 2014, at the age of 87. The funeral service was held on Monday, February 17, 2014, at 3 p.m., in the chapel of Jamerson-Braswell Funeral Home in Pelham, Georgia.

Born on January 25, 1927, in Albany, Georgia, Marcus spent most of his life in Pelham, Georgia. As a veteran of World War II, Marcus honorably and courageously served his country.

Marcus was also dedicated to serving his local community in Georgia. He represented Pelham in the Georgia House of Representatives for twenty years and served as Chair of the House Ways and Means Committee. After his time in the House of Representatives, Marcus was appointed Commissioner of the Georgia Department of Revenue. He served in this capacity from 1983 until his retirement in 1996. Later, Marcus was appointed Executive Director of the Tobacco Community Development Board.

Hailed by his friends and family as a true Southern gentleman, Marcus was a "mover and shaker" in the community. He was ahead of his time, a true innovator, and a crucial player in South Georgia leadership. He was an inspiring mentor to me and to many others and the great legacy he leaves to all of us is the faithful and dedicated life he led.

Maya Angelou once said, "A great soul serves everyone all the time. A great soul never dies." Marcus is undoubtedly great because of his distinguished service to his community, devotion to his work, and the compassion he showed for his friends and loved ones.

Marcus is survived by his wife, Elizabeth; children, Elizabeth, Marcus, David, Jennifer, and Rebecca; and thirteen grandchildren. He was a devoted member of Lake Pleasant Baptist Church in Pelham, Georgia.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I would like to extend our deepest condolences to the Collins family and we pray that they be encouraged by their abiding faith and the Holy Spirit during the coming days, weeks, and months ahead. I also ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to the Honorable Marcus Eugene Collins, Sr., and his legacy of service to the city of Pelham and State of Georgia. He loved the people of Mitchell County and he was committed to making the community prosperous and to improving the quality of life. He will truly be missed.

IN RECOGNITION OF RONALD DAVIS

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. SPEIER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Ronald Davis who has been East Palo Alto's

Police Chief for the last nine years and served on Oakland's Police Department for 19 years before that. Chief Davis has demonstrated outstanding leadership and innovation in reducing crime and increasing public trust through community policing efforts and partnerships with other agencies.

His talent and skills didn't go unnoticed nationally and Chief Davis was appointed by Attorney General Eric Holder to lead the Office of Community Oriented Policing Services, COPS, at the U.S. Department of Justice. In his new capacity, Director Davis supports law enforcement allies across the country, including the East Palo Alto Police Department.

Chief Davis led East Palo Alto—once known as the murder capital of the United States—out of one of the worst crime crises in the country. He launched a first of its kind partnership between a city and the State. The East Palo Alto Police Department partnered with the California Department of Correction and Rehabilitation to implement a parole-reentry program that provided programming and enforcement services and a job program with the California Department of Transportation. The results were amazing: the return-to-custody rates dropped from more than 60 percent to less than 20 percent.

Chief Davis also worked closely with local church leaders and social service providers. He rehabilitated gang members by offering job and drug counseling along with medical care to them in exchange for giving up their criminal activities. He understood and was an integral part of his community.

His optimism and drive to improve the system have guided his life and career. Davis earned his Bachelor of Science from Southern Illinois University and completed the Senior Executives in State and Local Government Program at Harvard Kennedy School of Government.

He has co-authored multiple publications, including the National Institute of Justice's "Exploring the Role of the Police in Prisoner Reentry," the Department of Justice's "How to Correctly Collect and Analyze Racial Profiling Data: Your Reputation Depends on It," and the Police Executive Research Forum's "Chief Concerns: The Use of Force."

In 2003, a San Mateo County Grand Jury report deemed the East Palo Alto police force poorly trained and management unaccountable. Chief Davis turned that around and leaves behind a well-trained department.

Mr. Speaker, Chief Davis will be deeply missed by the residents of East Palo Alto, but he will continue his support of our community from Washington, DC, where he will continue his tireless fight for justice as the director of the Community Oriented Policing Services Office in the U.S. Department of Justice.

IN REMEMBRANCE OF SUMGAI, KIROVABAD AND BAKU MASSACRES

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Speaker, 26 years ago today was the first day in a three-day pogrom

perpetrated against the Armenian residents of Sumgait in then-Soviet Azerbaijan. Although official figures reported 30 deaths, it is believed that hundreds were murdered and injured as a result of the pogrom.

Just a week before the violence erupted, the Armenians of Nagorno Karabakh voted to unify region with Armenia—the beginning of the Karabakh movement. In the days immediately after this vote Azeri civilians and local officials in the city of Sumgait held rallies calling for "death to Armenians".

On the night of February 27, 1988, Armenian residents in Sumgait were targeted and indiscriminately raped, mutilated and murdered. Calls for help from Armenians were ignored by local police and city officials. Journalists were shut out from the area. The violence raged on for three days before Soviet troops were able to put an end to the pogrom.

Witnesses of the horrific massacres later testified that the attacks were planned, as civilians had gathered weapons and the exits of the cities were blocked in advance to prevent Armenians from escaping. The homes of Armenians were marked so that the Azeri mobs could easily target them.

Unfortunately, the perpetrators of the pogrom succeeded in their ultimate goal—driving out Armenians. Fearing more violence, Armenians fled Sumgait. Later that year, another anti-Armenian pogrom occurred in Kirovabad, Azerbaijan from November 21st to 27th, which also forced hundreds of Armenians to flee the region. In January of 1990 violent mobs targeted the Armenian community of Azerbaijan's capital, Baku.

I would like to honor the memory of Armenians killed in the pogroms of Sumgait, Kirovabad, and Baku. If we hope to stop future massacres, we must acknowledge these horrific events and ensure they do not happen again.

This month also marked the 10th anniversary of the heinous murder of Armenian Army Lieutenant Gurgen Margaryan at a NATO training camp in Budapest, by Ramil Safarov, a Lieutenant of the Azerbaijani Army. Safarov used an axe to hack Margaryan to death while he was sleeping. After being convicted of murder by Hungarian courts, he was transferred to Azerbaijan where he was immediately pardoned and given a hero's welcome. Several Azerbaijan government officials have hailed Safarov's actions as patriotism. This is unacceptable, and the international community should hold Azerbaijan accountable for this.

Recognizing the ethnic-cleansing of the Armenians from Azerbaijan is an important step. However, we need to do more—we need to demonstrate to Azerbaijan that the United States is committed to peace and to the protection of Artsakh from coercion.

We must call for an end to all threats and acts of coercion by Azerbaijan's government against the Republic of Nagorno Karabakh.

Congress should strengthen Section 907 of the FREEDOM Support Act by removing the President's ability to waive U.S. law prohibiting aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. In 1992, Congress prohibited aid to Azerbaijan because of its continuing blockade against Armenia and Nagorno Karabakh. However, in 2001, Congress approved a waiver to this provision and administrations have used

the waiver since then to provide aid to Baku. Azerbaijan should not be provided aid from the United States as long as they continue a policy of threats and blockades against Artsakh.

I urge the Administration to remove all barriers to broad-based U.S.-Nagorno-Karabakh governmental and civil society communication, travel and cooperation.

HONORING REV. CRAWFORD W. KIMBLE, OF HOUSTON, TEXAS, PASTOR EMERITUS OF GOOD HOPE MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, February 27, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Rev. Crawford W. Kimble, Pastor Emeritus of Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, which originated in Freedmen's Town in 1872.

Reverend Kimble died earlier this week in Houston at the age of 95. He will be laid to rest on Saturday, March 1, 2014.

Rev. Kimble, the fifth of six pastors at Good Hope Missionary Baptist Church, served as Pastor for approximately 35 years. His dream of building Good Hope in its current location (3015 North MacGregory Way) was fulfilled in 1981.

Rev. Kimble was born in Elgin, Texas on March 24, 1918 and he followed the ministerial paths of both his father and grandfather. He began preaching at the age of 33.

Rev. Kimble joined Good Hope Baptist Church in 1951; he preached his first sermon there in 1959; and he later became pastor to many prominent Texans, namely Congresswoman Barbara Jordan, the first African American United States Congresswoman from the South, and Dr. Lonnie Smith, who played an important role in minority voting rights in primary elections.

It is astounding to find that prior to Rev. Kimble's calling into the ministry, he worked as a newspaper editor and writer! His career began as the managing editor with the Houston Informer, Houston's oldest African American newspaper; and it ended with the Kansas City Call.

After more than 30 years in retirement, Rev. Kimble continued to write and publish books. He worked out of his second floor office and living quarters, a Fourth Ward senior citizen apartment complex which was developed and named after him on April 5, 2007: Crawford W. Kimble Senior Living, located at 1025 Saulnier Street, in Fourth Ward, Texas.

Rev. Kimble's works include books entitled "Watch the Tree it Might Fall on You, which he wrote and published at age 80; "The Adventures of Love: God's plan for a Victorious Life for His People", which he wrote and published at age 90; and "God at Work", his most recent publication, which answers the attacks of Rush Limbaugh on our President, President Barack Obama.

Rev. Kimble was a great man who touched the lives of all who met him. He will be missed.