

ACKNOWLEDGING THE ONGOING
NEGOTIATIONS BETWEEN GREEK
AND TURKISH CYPRIOTS ON A
UNIFIED CYPRUS

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge the importance of the ongoing negotiations in Cyprus between Greek and Turkish Cypriots that would bring about a peaceful resolution to the dispute on a unified Cyprus. On February 24, 2014, Greek Cypriot negotiator, Andreas Mavroyiannis, and his Turkish Cypriot counterpart, Kudret Ozersay, resumed talks in what the United Nations has deemed as "substantive discussions." This is promising news and it is my hope that these talks will mark the first, new steps toward a final settlement that will achieve a unified Cyprus.

The Republic of Cyprus has endured a long history of ethnic and religious battles between Greek and Turkish Cypriots. While Greek and Turkish Cypriot communities remain divided, with the latter isolated from the international community, a unified Cyprus has much to offer to the region and global community. A peacefully unified Cyprus would see increased tourism, exchanges of close culture ties, expanded trade opportunities, and a new and stable source of energy. Additionally, a unified Cyprus would create a state and society that protects the rights of all its citizens and help establish a sound government that reflects its rightful place in Europe.

During a phone call with Turkish Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdoğan, President Barack Obama thanked the Prime Minister for his role in reviving negotiations. Turkey's leadership in bringing this conflict to an end is welcomed during this time of heightened intensity in the region. Any resolution agreed to should emulate the UN mission in Cyprus' declaration that a settlement "will be based on a bi-communal, bizonal federation with political equality." I ask my colleagues to join me in encouraging both parties to see past the roadblocks that have held back progress and redouble their efforts as they move forward on a solution. Likewise, I hope the Obama Administration will continue to use its influence to push for a swift resolution on the Cyprus question.

I stand with all Cypriots—in both communities—who seek to build a better Cyprus together.

HONORING PETER AND LISA
VERNIERO FOR THEIR PUBLIC
SERVICE

HON. LEONARD LANCE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Mr. LANCE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the dedicated public service of Lisa and Peter Verniero, the 2014 honorees of the SAFE in Hunterdon Evening of Awareness.

I have known the Vernieros for a generation and I can attest that their recognition as the SAFE in Hunterdon Evening of Awareness honorees is well-earned. Together, Lisa and Peter have a remarkable tenure of service to

Hunterdon County and the State of New Jersey.

Lisa is a devoted advocate for those who benefit from the mission of SAFE in Hunterdon. She is a thoughtful, caring and determined leader who has helped craft and sustain SAFE in Hunterdon as well as a generous benefactor, fundraiser and organizer to help provide the resources for this success.

Peter is a public servant whose tenure as New Jersey State Attorney General and Justice of the State Supreme Court was marked with dedication to serving all of our residents, including those most in need. His efforts to protect children and victims of crime and sexual abuse were landmark examples of good judgment, important public policy and justice under the law. Peter also recently served on the New Jersey SAFE Task Force on Gun Protection, Addiction, Mental Health and Families that examined the root causes of violence and made recommendations to help improve the situation.

Lisa and Peter are committed to doing their part to break the cycle of abuse and empower survivors, their families and all victims of crime through the support networks that have helped construct. Their advocacy is just one example of the fine public servants who support SAFE in Hunterdon and the community of compassion that exists for those who need it most.

IN SUPPORT OF "NATIONAL DE-
VELOPMENTAL DISABILITIES
AWARENESS MONTH"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 27th observance of National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

Developmental disabilities may be visible or invisible and range from physical impairment that involves vision or mobility to those conditions that affect cognitive functions related to how the brain processes information or how someone learns.

Developmental disabilities include: autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and other developmental delays have increased, requiring more health and education services.

Everyone is on a continuum that moves us from ability to disability in one aspect or another. Through age, accidents, or illness, the healthy can become disabled.

Developmental disabilities are a group of conditions due to impairment in physical, learning, language, or behavior areas that are recognized in children from birth until age 22.

The effects of development disabilities will last a lifetime.

From birth to 5 years, a child should reach milestones in how they play, learn, speak, act and move.

Tracking a child's development for signs that they are not reaching key milestones in development is critical for early diagnosis and interventions that can help children.

People with developmental disabilities have problems with language, mobility, learning, self-help, and independent living.

About one in six children in the U.S. have one or more developmental disabilities or other developmental delays.

A Center for Disease Control study of 119,367 children aged 3–17 found that boys had a higher prevalence for a certain developmental disabilities when compared with girls.

In the CDC study, parents or legal guardians were asked if their child had: Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder (ADHD), autism, blindness, cerebral palsy, moderate to profound hearing loss, intellectual disability, learning disorders, seizures, stuttering/stammering, and other developmental delay.

Hispanic children had the lowest prevalence of developmental disabilities when compared with non-Hispanic white and black children.

Prevalence of any developmental disability increased from 12.84 percent to 15.04 percent over the past 12 years. Autism, attention deficit hyperactivity disorder, and other developmental delays increased, whereas hearing loss showed a significant decline.

When developmental disabilities go misdiagnosed, undiagnosed, or untreated the capacity of our nation's children to reach their full potential is undermined.

The prevalence of any Developmental Disability in 1997–2008 was 13.87 percent. Prevalence of learning disabilities was 7.66 percent; prevalence of attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) was 6.69 percent; prevalence of other developmental delay was 3.65 percent; and, prevalence of autism was 0.47 percent.

Over the last 12 years: Developmental Disabilities has increased 17.1 percent—that's about 1.8 million more children with DDs in 2006–2008 compared to a decade earlier; prevalence of autism increased 289.5 percent; prevalence of ADHD increased 33.0 percent; and, prevalence of hearing loss decreased 30.9 percent.

In addition, data from this study showed that: Males had twice the prevalence of any Developmental Disabilities than females and more specifically had higher prevalence of ADHD, autism, learning disabilities, stuttering/stammering and other Developmental Disabilities; Hispanic children had lower prevalence of several disorders compared to non-Hispanic white and non-Hispanic black children, including ADHD and learning disabilities; Non-Hispanic black children had higher prevalence of stuttering/stammering than non-Hispanic white children; and Children from families with income below the federal poverty level had a higher prevalence of Developmental Disorders.

Mr. Speaker, much progress has been made in the 27 years since President Ronald Reagan first proclaimed March as National Developmental Disabilities Awareness Month.

But there is still much work to be done to ensure our fellow citizens with such disabilities have the resources and opportunities they need to lead productive lives and to achieve their full potential.

HONORING CLINTON (MS) ALUM-
NAE CHAPTER OF DELTA SIGMA
THETA SORORITY, INCOR-
PORATED

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 26, 2014

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor an incredible group of

women, who strive daily to make a difference within the communities they serve. Today, I honor the illustrious women of the Clinton (MS) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated.

The Clinton (MS) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated was chartered on March 29, 2004 at Pleasant Green Baptist Church in Clinton, Mississippi. Thirty-one visionary women, living within the Chapter's public service area, used their collective strength to promote academic excellence, provide academic scholarships to deserving youth, support to the underserved, educate and stimulate participation in the establishment of positive public policy, and to highlight issues and provide solutions to problems in the communities where they live and work. These charter members were: Tina Austin, Perry M. Boler, Angela D. Bridges, Sonya L. Edmond, La'Verne Edney, Latricha Ephfrom, Kristie K. Flowers, Limmie M. Flowers, Sherri M. Flowers, Teselyn Funches, Lisa Green, Sonya Goins, Paulette Grim, Ursula Y. Harris, Tomja W. Jackson, Machelie S. Kyles, Laurie S. Lawson, Sophia S. Marshall, Nikita A. Maxwell, Emily A. Miller, Marilyn J. Minter, Michelyn Patton, Angela Y. Perry, Alyea M. Pollard, Shelia P. Spann, Thresa K. Smith, Faith Strong, Katherine A. Thomas, Kenitra Wallace, Elizabeth M. Washington, and Mary M. White. Dr. Limmie M. Flowers was elected the Chapter's first president and helped the organization set into motion its goals for the community in which they would serve. Under the sorority's five programmatic thrusts, the Clinton (MS) Alumnae Chapter has become deeply involved within the Chapter's service area, which includes the cities of Clinton, Bolton, Byram, Edwards, Raymond, Terry, and Utica.

Economic Development, Educational Development, International Awareness and Involvement,

Physical and Mental Health, and Political Awareness and Involvement are the five main areas of social involvement the Chapter focuses on and engages in. Under the Economic Development platform, the Chapter members engage in projects that include building homes with Habitat for Humanity, hosting CreditPlus seminars sponsored by local banks, and educating youth about finances and paying for college through "reality fairs" held at local schools. Service activities involving initiatives under the Educational Development platform include donating backpacks and school supplies to the Bolton-Edwards Elementary/Middle Schools, hosting career exploration workshops, college tours and college recruitment fairs, and a teen summit developed by area youth. Scholastic achievement and leadership development is embedded through various youth programs sponsored by the Chapter.

In addition, the Chapter has nurtured over 300 area middle and high school students through the Dr. Betty L. Shabazz Delta Academy, Dr. Jeanne L. Noble Delta GEMS Institute, and the EMBODI Program, while also providing generous support to the United Negro College Fund. May Week Observance is an annual initiative that recognizes the top 10 African American high school seniors from the high schools within the Chapter's service area. To date, the Chapter has distributed nearly \$50,000 in scholarships to nearly 400 graduating students.

Establishing cultural awareness is a key component under the International Awareness and Involvement platform, through which the Chapter implements projects to broaden understanding and appreciation for people of different backgrounds and cultures. The Chapter has sponsored cultural education programs, including financial support for schools and clean water in developing countries. Prevention

and wellness translate into health education programs, health fairs, and provision of health care services for those in need.

The Chapter participates in the Annual Making Strides Against Breast Cancer Walk and Relay for Life, sponsored by the American Cancer Society. The Chapter has donated more than \$6,000 to the organization, including providing very generous funding to the American Heart Association for combating cardiovascular disease. Each spring, the Chapter hosts a health fair in the community that includes comprehensive health screenings.

In keeping with tradition and the political mission of the Sorority, the Chapter is very active in voter awareness initiatives and monitoring legislation impacting underserved communities. Under the Political Awareness and Involvement platform, the Chapter educates the public through workshops, forums, and mass mailing campaigns. Each year the Chapter participates in "Mississippi Delta Day at the State Capitol" to visit with state lawmakers.

The current Chapter leadership encompasses: President, Dr. Juanyce D. Taylor; Vice President, Dr. Laurie Smith Lawson; Treasurer, Joyce Kersh; Financial Secretary, Jacqueline Frison-Owens; Journalist, Katrina Howard-Reeves; Corresponding Secretary, Barbara Tapps; Recording Secretary, Wanda Thomas; Sergeant-At-Arms, Lisa Jackson; Chaplain, Erica Towers; Historian, Jessica Lewis; Custodian, April Bullock; Parliamentarian, Luxie Frison; and Immediate Past President, Dr. Laurie Smith Lawson.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Clinton (MS) Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated for representing, educating, and informing the underserved communities in their service area for 10 years.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, March 27, 2014 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

MARCH 31

3 p.m.

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine creating a 21st century government part II, focusing on outside views.

SD-342

APRIL 1

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command and U.S. Transportation Command in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

To hold hearings to examine Caterpillar's offshore tax strategy.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Committee on the Budget

To hold hearings to examine opportunity, mobility, and inequality in today's economy.

SD-608

Committee on the Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain nominations.

SD-226

2:15 p.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Emerging Threats and Capabilities

To hold hearings to examine proliferation prevention programs at the Department of Energy and at the Department of Defense in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SR-222

Committee on Foreign Relations

Business meeting to consider Protocol Amending the Convention between the United States of America and the Swiss Confederation for the Avoidance

of Double Taxation With Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Washington October 2, 1996, signed September 23, 2009, at Washington, with a related agreement effected by an exchange of notes September 23, 2009, as corrected by an exchange of notes effected November 16, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112-1), Protocol Amending the Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed at Luxembourg May 20, 2009, with a related agreement effected by exchange of notes May 20, 2009 (Treaty Doc. 111-8), Convention between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Hungary for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income, signed at Budapest February 4, 2010, with a related agreement effected by exchange of notes February 4, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 111-7), Convention Between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Chile for the Avoidance of Double Taxation and the Prevention of Fiscal Evasion with Respect to Taxes on Income and Capital, signed at Washington February 4, 2010, with a Protocol and a related agreement effected by exchange of notes February 4, 2010, as corrected by exchanges of notes effected February 25, 2011, and February 10 and 21, 2012 (Treaty Doc. 112-8), Protocol Amending the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters, done at Paris May 27, 2010 (Treaty Doc. 112-5), and S. Res. 384, expressing the sense of the Senate concerning the humanitarian crisis in Syria and neighboring countries, resulting humanitarian and development challenges, and the urgent need for a political solution to the crisis.

S-116

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Communications, Technology, and the Internet

To hold hearings to examine reauthorization of the "Satellite Television Extension and Localism Act".

SR-253

Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine equal pay with the "Paycheck Fairness Act."

SD-430

APRIL 2

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Airland

To hold hearings to examine tactical aircraft programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-562

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Readiness and Management Support

To hold hearings to examine military construction, environmental, energy, and base closure programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-232A

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on SeaPower

To hold hearings to examine Marine Corps modernization in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

10 a.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Department of Defense

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of the Air Force.

SD-106

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Transportation and Housing and Urban Development, and Related Agencies

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of Housing and Urban Development.

SD-138

Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance

To hold hearings to examine the General Motors (GM) recall and the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration's (NHTSA) defect investigation process.

SR-253

Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine data breach on the rise, focusing on protecting personal information from harm.

SD-342

2 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Financial Services and General Government

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2015 for the Department of the Treasury's Office of Terrorism and Financial Intelligence and its administration and enforcement of sanctions.

SD-138

2:30 p.m.

Committee on Appropriations

Subcommittee on Energy and Water Development

To hold hearings to examine proposed budget estimates and justification for fiscal year 2015 for the United States Army Corps of Engineers and the Department of the Interior.

SD-192

Committee on Armed Services

Subcommittee on Strategic Forces

To hold hearings to examine ballistic missile defense policies and programs in review of the Defense Authorization Request for fiscal year 2015 and the Future Years Defense Program.

SR-222

Committee on Indian Affairs

To hold hearings to examine S. 1474, to encourage the State of Alaska to enter into intergovernmental agreements with Indian tribes in the State relating to the enforcement of certain State laws by Indian tribes, to improve the quality of life in rural Alaska, to reduce alcohol and drug abuse, S. 1570, to amend the Indian Health Care Improvement Act to authorize advance appropriations for the Indian Health Service by providing 2-fiscal-year budget authority, S. 1574, to amend the Indian Employment, Training and Related Services Demonstration Act of 1992 to facilitate the ability of Indian tribes to integrate the employment, training,