

continued growth as a trade partner and celebrate its relationship with the United States.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 148, I was unable to attend.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yes."

ON THE OCCASION OF THE CENTENNIAL OF LOCAL 636 OF THE UNITED ASSOCIATION OF JOURNEYMEN AND APPRENTICES OF THE PLUMBING AND PIPE FITTING INDUSTRY IN SOUTHEAST MICHIGAN

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. PETERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, it gives me great pleasure to rise today to congratulate the members and leadership of the Steamfitters, Pipefitters, Refrigeration and Air Condition Service Local Union 636 as they gather to celebrate their local's centennial and recognize them for their many important accomplishments.

As the Detroit chapter of the United Association of Journeymen and Apprentices of the Plumbing and Pipe Fitting Industry (UA), Local 636 and its members are part of an organization with a rich history that has supported our country in moments of crisis. As key participants in the Public Works Administration and Works Progress Administration during the New Deal, members of the UA put their skills and experience to work for the revitalization of our Nation—constructing many roads, dams, schools, libraries, and other public buildings that are a testament to the ingenuity of American workers. Furthermore, as citizens across the United States rose to answer the call to serve our Nation during WWII, members of the UA entered our Armed Forces and went to work in the Arsenal of Democracy—constructing equipment that was vital to our Nation's success. As a community that was central to industrial innovation and output during WWII and the decades that have come since then, the members of Local 636 in the greater Detroit area have a unique and strong bond to these significant moments in our history.

With the mission of promoting the building trade professions through supporting high standards of excellence, the members of Local 636 are engaged in work that impacts the quality of our lives at home, at work, and in our leisure time. These high standards include a strong commitment to the ongoing education of its members, which Local 636 supports with a three-acre training center where its members can receive practical hands-on training for a number of disciplines including steam and hydronic heating systems, building automation systems, and industrial controls. Furthermore, through its programs, Local 636's education center provides members with cer-

tifications in pipefitting mastery, industrial process control calibration, EPA refrigerant recovery, orbital welding, and for many other practical applications. The end result is an educated workforce that is well positioned to capitalize on advancements in technology and thereby, able to serve the changing needs of the greater Detroit region.

Mr. Speaker, in the past one-hundred years, the members of trade unions have been at the center of so many advancements in the workplace, in the pursuit of social justice, and in improving the quality of education. Many of the protections and rights that we enjoy in today's workplace are a result of their decades of struggle and dedication. Local 636 of the UA has a proud history that includes these valiant pursuits and as their members gather to celebrate and reflect upon their achievements over the last 100 years, I congratulate them on the impact they have made and the commitment they continue to embrace in support of their members and Michigan's middle-class families.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF DR. FRANK KITAMOTO

HON. DEREK KILMER

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dr. Frank Kitamoto, and offer my condolences to his family and friends in light of his passing. As President of the Bainbridge Island Japanese Community for over 25 years, Dr. Kitamoto has helped thousands of people learn about Japanese American incarceration during World War II. His leadership and mentorship has impacted the Bainbridge Island community for years to come.

At the age of two, Dr. Kitamoto and his family were among the 277 Bainbridge Island residents forced from their homes and taken to Manzanar War Relocation Center in California, as directed by Executive Order 9066 and Civilian Exclusion Order No. 1. Later, his family was transferred to the Minidoka War Relocation Center in Idaho. They were the first required to leave their homes. In total, 12,000 Japanese American Washingtonians were forced out of their homes for the duration of the war. After World War II he returned to Bainbridge Island and served as a dentist for the community.

It was important to Dr. Kitamoto that people remember and students learn about Japanese American history and forced relocation during WWII. In 1983, he began an oral history project of Japanese American culture and internment so that people could listen to their compelling and heartfelt stories. Dr. Kitamoto visited classrooms in Washington State and traveled around the country to share these stories and talk about the Japanese American experience during WWII.

Dr. Kitamoto played an integral role in the installation of the Japanese American Exclusion Memorial on Bainbridge Island. He has been honored by the Bainbridge Island Arts and Humanities Council with the Island Treasure Award and the Kitsap Human Rights Commission bestowed the Lifetime Achievement Award.

Mr. Speaker, our nation owes a debt of gratitude to Dr. Kitamoto for his commitment to

human rights and dedication to ensuring that the stories of this difficult period in American history are told. While Dr. Kitamoto was greatly missed at the 72nd anniversary commemoration of the forced removal of Bainbridge Island Japanese Americans, his memory and great work will never be forgotten. I am pleased to recognize his service to the community and honor his legacy today in the United States Congress.

RETIREMENT OF LIEUTENANT ALBERT J. BAGOS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lieutenant Albert J. Bagos who is retiring after more than 29 years of law enforcement service to the City of Fairfield.

After volunteering for over four years as a Cadet with the Fairfield Police Department, he was hired as a Police Officer on January 7, 1985. As an officer, he worked in various capacities that included Patrol, Investigations, Special Operations, Crime Suppression, and Field Training. Lieutenant Bagos joined the Special Activity Felony Enforcement (SAFE) Team in 1988 and was promoted to Police Corporal on December 31, 1999.

On June 30, 2000, Lieutenant Bagos was promoted to Police Sergeant and supervised Patrol and Traffic teams before being promoted to Police Lieutenant on February 4, 2005. He also earned an Exceptional Performance Citation in 2005 for managing FPD personnel and ensuring the successful production of the television show "Extreme Makeover-Home Edition" that was filming in Fairfield and would ultimately have national exposure. Additionally, Lieutenant Bagos' knowledge and extensive experience in street level operations led to his appointment as SWAT Commander on May 1, 2006.

Lieutenant Bagos' commitment to the community was evidenced by his positive, can-do attitude and handling of potentially dangerous situations on a daily basis. He is commended for his hard work and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, we are truly honored to pay tribute to our friend and dedicated public servant Lieutenant Albert J. Bagos. I ask our colleagues to join with us in thanking Mr. Bagos for his long and dedicated service to the City of Fairfield and wishing him continued success in all his future endeavors along with a happy retirement.

GRADUATE & PROFESSIONAL STUDENT APPRECIATION WEEK

HON. MICHAEL F. DOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. DOYLE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in anticipation of Graduate-Professional Student Appreciation Week, which will be observed this year between April 7th and the 11th.

For more than 25 years, Graduate-Professional Student Appreciation Week has been observed as a show of support and appreciation for our nation's graduate and professional

students. Its sponsor, the National Association of Graduate-Professional Students, hosts events across the U.S.A. each year in April to educate the public about the importance and impact that graduate and professional students have on their communities and our country.

Our nation's graduate and professional students play several important roles in our society. For starters, they teach undergraduate students at many colleges and universities across the country. In addition, they play an often unsung role in our nation's academic research efforts, working away in laboratories and libraries on cutting edge research. Finally, of course, once they graduate and receive their graduate or professional degrees, they go on to careers in science, education, law, medicine, and other fields that are essential to improving our quality of life and promoting economic growth. The National Association of Graduate-Professional Students represents more than 600,000 graduate and professional students at over 90 institutions across the United States, including a number in Pennsylvania's 14th Congressional District.

More than 15,000 graduate and professional students are enrolled in the nine institutions of higher education in and around the City of Pittsburgh: Carnegie Mellon University, the University of Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, Chatham University, Robert Morris University, Carlow University, Point Park University, La Roche College, and the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary.

The graduate programs offered by these institutions and the high caliber of students they attract have a tremendous impact on our local civic life and economy, not only while they are studying, but often because they remain in the region. Graduate students teach undergraduates, lead innovative research projects, and start companies that attract bigger companies to the region like Google, Yahoo, Disney and many others.

Pittsburgh owes much of its recent economic growth to the world class research being done at our local colleges and universities. I think it's safe to say that the same is true across the country at institutions of higher learning where graduate and professional students are working in collaboration with talented faculty members to expand the boundaries of human knowledge and improve Americans' quality of life.

That's why I think it's particularly important to recognize our nation's graduate and professional students each year. I urge my colleagues to join me in observing Graduate-Professional Student Appreciation Week this year.

**MEDIA DOES NOT TELL THE
WHOLE STORY ON OBAMACARE
DELAY**

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today may be April Fools' Day, but Americans are not fooled about the damaging effects of Obamacare.

Millions of Americans continue to receive notice that their health insurance plans are being cancelled, while others see their premiums going up.

The Administration has waived or delayed more than 30 provisions of the law. When will they realize the law just will not work?

Articles in the Washington Post and the New York Times tried to cover for the Administration. One headline read, "U.S. to extend sign-up period for insurance." The other headline states that the Administration is going to "allow more time to enroll in health care."

What these articles fail to mention is that just two weeks earlier, Health and Human Services Secretary Kathleen Sebelius testified before Congress that the deadline was not going to be extended.

Also, it's been over 130 days since ABC's Nightline focused on Obamacare and the problems with the law.

The national media should give the American people the facts, not tell them what to think. Only when they have all the facts can Americans make good decisions.

35TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE TAIWAN RELATIONS ACT

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Mr. Speaker, 35 years ago next week, on April 10, 1979, the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA) codified America's commitment to our democratic ally Taiwan. Since then, this watershed legislation has served as an anchor for peace and security in the Western Pacific region and the cornerstone of close defense, economic, and cultural relations between our peoples. The TRA serves the interests of both of our nations by fostering United States power in the Pacific and allowing the people of Taiwan to sustain a peaceful, democratic, and prosperous way of life by mandating the availability of necessary U.S. defense articles and materials to enable a sufficient Taiwanese self-defense capability to counter Chinese aggression.

In 1979, there was much consternation in Washington that American security and economic interests in Taiwan would be neglected by President Carter's unjust decision to recognize the People's Republic of China and derecognize the Republic of China (Taiwan). The TRA was enacted to address these concerns and its guidelines now govern, in the absence of diplomatic relations, nearly every facet of U.S. relations with Taiwan. In the face of a hostile military posture by China, the new law helped level the defense capabilities across the Strait so that Taiwan's future could be determined by peaceful means.

China's rapidly increasing defense budget and provocations in the East and South China Seas are evidence of China's regional hegemonic ambitions. In order to counter and preserve the Taiwanese people's ability to determine their own future, we must reaffirm, clarify, and strengthen relations with our democratic ally and friend Taiwan. That is why I was proud to introduce, with my colleagues, the co-chairs of the Congressional Taiwan Caucus, Representatives MARIO DIAZ-BALART, JOHN CARTER, ALBIO SIRE, GERALD CONNOLLY, the Taiwan Policy Act (TPA), which seeks to accomplish these goals.

If enacted, the TPA would codify that it is U.S. policy to support the people of Taiwan,

their democracy and human rights, and that Taiwan's future must be determined peacefully and with the Taiwanese people's assent. The bill would reaffirm the continuation of long-standing policies established within the TRA and by the Six Assurances of 1982. It would strengthen our ally's ability to defend itself against Chinese aggression by advancing the sale or transfer of necessary defense articles like F-16 C/D fighter aircraft, *Perry* class guided missile frigates, as well as other air and air defense, maritime, and ground capabilities. It would help Taiwan build its capacity to partner with other friendly foreign militaries in matters of intelligence, communications, and training and further economic ties by promoting bilateral investment and tax agreements with the ultimate goal of a Free Trade Agreement. The TPA would also encourage visits by cabinet-level and other high-level officials and support meaningful participation in international organizations like the World Health Assembly, the International Civil Aviation Organization, and United Nations entities.

The TRA serves as an enduring reminder of the extent to which Taiwan and the United States share a common commitment to freedom and a government elected by the people and for the people. As we celebrate the 35th anniversary of the TRA, there is no better time to recommit to the people of Taiwan and reaffirm that the United States will ensure the flame of liberty continues to burn brightly in the face of Chinese aggression.

HONORING VACAVILLE HIGH SCHOOL'S WRESTLING PROGRAM

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 1, 2014

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the legacy of Vacaville High School's Wrestling Program.

Under, Larry Nelsen, who served as the Head Coach from 1961–1993, the Vacaville Bulldogs procured 26 League Team Titles, 160 Individual League Champions, 15 Northwest Team Sub Section Championships, 77 Individual Sub Section Champions, 6 Sac Joaquin Team Section Championships, 28 Individual Section Champions, 5 Sac Joaquin Section Dual Championships, 2 CIF State Champions, 28 CIF State Place Winners, and 2 CIF Team Place Winners.

Under, Dave Nelsen, who served as the Head Coach from 1994–2000, the Vacaville Bulldogs procured 6 League Team Titles, 35 Individual League Champions, 6 Northwest Team Sub Section Championships, 27 Individual Sub Section Champions, 4 Sac Joaquin Section Dual Championships, 5 Individual Section Champions, 2 CIF State Champions, and 9 CIF State Place Winners.

Under, Richard Penaluna, who served as the Head Coach from 2001–2005, the Vacaville Bulldogs procured 5 League Team Championships, 39 Individual League Champions, 5 Northwest Team Sub Section Championships, 26 Individual Sub Sections Champions, 4 Sac Joaquin Section Dual Championships, 3 Sac Joaquin Team Section Championships, 8 Individual Section Champions, 2 CIF State Champions, 19 CIF State Place Winners, and 1 CIF Team Place State Winners.