

testimony provided at the hearing, we noted that the number of Border Crossing Cards identified as fraudulent rather than counterfeit by Chairman Chaffetz was 13,000, and that this number was identified in FY 2009, at <http://oversight.house.gov/hearing/border-security-oversight-part-iii-border-crossingcards-b1b2-visas/>, 2:04:15). GPO received the requisition from the Department of State to begin producing the Border Crossing Card in 2013. We also noted that in the hearing the value of the Nexus card, which used to cross the border with Canada, was described very positively. GPO produces the Nexus card for the Department of Homeland Security.

Concerning GPO's ability to produce cards with anti-counterfeit technologies, GPO has significant expertise in the field of secure document design based on our work with passports. We have designed Government credentials with advanced security features. We work closely with the Department of Homeland Security's fraudulent document lab experts to validate credential designs and utilize both Government and commercial laboratories to test and evaluate our credential performances. For the Border Crossing Card, GPO worked with forensic document examiners at the Department of Homeland Security and with Department of State personnel to develop a product designed to withstand attempts at counterfeiting. We have the expertise and capability to ensure that these cards are equipped with anti-counterfeit technologies.

Question 14. I have heard that one of the “selling points” GPO uses with executive branch agencies is that the GPO can manufacture cards for them while also avoiding the competitive bidding requirements under Federal Acquisition Regulations. Do you believe that the GPO is required to follow the Federal Acquisition Regulations when it buys microchips, antennae, software, laminating materials, substantive expertise and training for its employees? Do all of those items need to be competitively bid to the private sector? Or can GPO buy essentially whatever it wants from whoever it wants, because it is doing so with money from operating profits rather than congressionally appropriated funds? Do you believe that following Federal Acquisition regulations would save the GPO money?

Response. GPO's Materials Management Acquisition Regulation (MMAR) is based on the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) and is used as the authority for all procurements we make. Under the MMAR, GPO competitively bids for the acquisition of products and services used in GPO operations, including those required for the production of secure credentials. GPO's utilization of sole source procurement authority follows the same provisions established in the FAR for other Federal agencies.

As noted earlier, under the law GPO does not generate “operating profits” but is limited to recovering its costs. Part of these costs includes the ability to generate funds for investment in necessary equipment and plant improvements.

IN SUPPORT OF THE VETERANS HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (VHA) NATION-WIDE ACCESS REVIEW

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the House Veterans' Affairs Committee, I rise today in support of Secretary of Veterans Affairs Eric Shinseki's announcement that the Veterans Health Administration (VHA) will complete a nation-wide access review. As stated, the purpose of this review is to ensure a full understanding of VA's policy and continued integrity in managing patient access to care. As part of the review during the next several weeks, a national face-to-face audit will be conducted at all clinics for every VA Medical Center.

I am confident in the health care our veterans in Florida are receiving. With eight VA Medical Centers in Florida, Georgia and Puerto Rico and over 55 clinics serving over 1.6 million veterans, veterans are getting the best in the world.

Over 2,312 physicians and 5,310 nurses are serving the 546,874 veterans who made nearly 8 million visits to the facilities in our region. Of the total 25,133 VA employees, one-third are veterans.

In 2013, 37,221 women received health care services at VA hospitals and clinics in Florida, South Georgia and the Caribbean—more than any other VA healthcare network nationwide. This means that more than 75 percent of women Veterans enrolled for VA healthcare in VISN 8 were seen by providers in 2013.

I am especially pleased at the new Jacksonville Replacement Outpatient Clinic that was recently opened. The two-story, 133,500 square foot clinic provides state of the art technology and increased specialty services including diagnostics, improved laboratory facilities, expansion of women's services, minor ambulatory surgical procedures, expanded mental health telehealth services and additional audiology.

When opened, the Orlando VA Medical Center will include 134 inpatient beds, an outpatient clinic, parking garages, chapel and central energy plant. Currently, the 120-bed community living center and 60-bed domiciliary are open and accepting veterans.

The VA provides quality timely healthcare to our veterans. We have a duty to make sure that all those who have defended this country when called upon receive the care they have earned through their service. I support the Secretary in his nation-wide access review and look forward to hearing his report when it is finished.

BROWN V. BOARD OF EDUCATION
60TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ROBERT HURT

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. HURT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 60th anniversary of the Brown v.

Board of Education decision, which occurred on May 17th, 1954, and paved the way for integration of American schools during the Civil Rights Movement.

This unanimous decision by the U.S. Supreme Court established that state laws allowing for segregated public schools were unconstitutional under the Fourteenth Amendment, energizing the movement to end Jim Crow laws dictating voting rights, public transportation, dining establishments, and almost every other aspect of American communities. One of the most important decisions in our nation's history, Brown was a deliberate rejection of a system of racial inequality.

Virginia's Fifth District is an integral part of the history of the Brown decision as Davis v. County School Board of Prince Edward School was one of the five combined cases decided by the Supreme Court in Brown. In 1951, 450 students at Moton High School, an African-American school in Farmville, Virginia, staged a walkout to protest the inferior facilities and unsuitable conditions at the school. The protest began as an effort to equalize educational opportunities for all students in the county, but quickly escalated to a battle for desegregation as the NAACP joined the Moton students' cause along with the other cases decided in Brown. Thanks to this pivotal decision and the efforts of so many upstanding Virginians, the students of Moton High School won a great victory against segregation to ensure equality for young people across the country. While it did not end the struggle for desegregation, it certainly was a catalyst for change.

The promise of equal opportunity is a core facet of our Constitution. Today, we thank those who courageously fought for equality, leading to the Brown decision that led to the dismantling of racial segregation in our nation's public schools and giving life to the promise of our Declaration of Independence that all men are created equal.

IN RECOGNITION OF JOHN OSTRUM AND ALAN KЛАPAT OF THE WILKES-BARRE FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor John Ostrum and Alan Klapat of the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department, who were recently promoted from the rank of captain to assistant fire chief and deputy fire chief, respectively. Together, they have almost 60 years of combined experience serving the city of Wilkes-Barre.

John Ostrum, a second generation firefighter, is the most senior member of the fire department. After joining the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department as a firefighter in 1978, he has

served for the past 26 years as fire captain. Ostrum has completed many fire and emergency response training programs, including water rescue, firefighter survival, and emergency vehicle driver training.

Alan Klapat has served the Wilkes-Barre fire department for 23 years. During his career, Klapat has served as lead fire investigator, fire training officer, and fire inspector for the city's fire department. He also provides fire safety education programs to civic and social organizations, elementary schools, educators, and child/adult caregivers. Before joining the Wilkes-Barre Fire Department, Klapat was enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and attained the rank of Sergeant.

I am proud to celebrate the achievements of these two distinguished public servants. They deserve our gratitude for their decades of dedication to public safety, and I wish them the best of luck as they protect the city of Wilkes-Barre in their essential new roles.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 120TH ANNUAL CONVENTION OF THE NEW JERSEY STATE FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS OF THE GENERAL FEDERATION OF WOMEN'S CLUBS

HON. FRANK PALLONE, JR.

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of the General Federation of Women's Clubs as its members gather for its 120th Annual Convention.

The New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs (NJSFWC) was founded in 1894 as a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs. With a membership of nearly 8,000 women among 220 clubs, NJSFWC is the largest women's volunteer community service organization in New Jersey. It also boasts the third largest state membership of all of the clubs within the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

The 220 clubs of the NJSFWC are committed to fulfilling the NJSFWC's mission of making a difference in the community through projects and volunteerism. In 2012, the NJSFWC clubs completed over 35,500 community service projects and over 800,000 volunteer hours. The NJSFWC partners with other community-based organizations, such as The Community Food Bank of New Jersey, Autism New Jersey and Domestic Violence Shelters of New Jersey, among others, to help raise funds and organize projects. In addition to their volunteerism, NJSFWC members also advocate for policy issues fundamental to community improvement.

Mr. Speaker, once again, please join me in recognizing the 120th Anniversary of the New Jersey State Federation of Women's Clubs of the General Federation of Women's Club. The club's commitment to providing opportunities for women to engage in community service and improve the lives of others is truly deserving of this body's recognition.

THE NORTH CAROLINA MUSEUM OF NATURAL SCIENCES: 2014 NATIONAL MEDAL FOR MUSEUM AND LIBRARY SERVICE WINNER

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences on receiving the 2014 National Medal for Museum and Library Service. This prestigious award, offered annually by the Institute of Museum and Library Services, is the nation's highest honor given to museums and libraries for service to the community.

I have the good fortune to represent our state's Fourth Congressional District, which has earned accolades as one of the nation's best places to live, work, do business and raise a family. The vibrancy of this district stems from a remarkable concentration of world-renowned educational and cultural institutions—North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences prominently among them.

As one of the oldest natural history museums in the United States—providing services to our state for the past 134 years—it has transformed how museums engage their community and how members of the public understand, learn and participate in science activities. It strengthens North Carolina's K-12 education pipeline, increases the public's science literacy, and prepares tomorrow's researchers with college- and workforce-ready skills.

The Museum of Natural Sciences has positioned itself as a highly-regarded venue for topflight special exhibits of all kinds. Right now, it features a Rainforest Adventure exhibit, and it has hosted special exhibits on Birds of Paradise, Dinosaurs, Wildlife in North Carolina photography, and Journey through the Arctic in recent years. But it has also gone off the beaten path to expand the breadth of the Natural Sciences with special exhibits on the Titanic, Genghis Khan, the Brain, and my two personal favorites: Chocolate and the Dead Sea Scrolls.

Along with the museum's permanent collections, these outstanding exhibits have helped make the Museum the most-visited museum and one of the top overall attractions in the state. Consider these numbers: more than 1 million people come to visit this museum in Raleigh every year; more than 30,000 others experience the museum's off-site offerings, with its world-renowned scientists and staff visiting locations such as schools, libraries, hospitals and senior and community centers; and millions of additional people are able to take advantage of interactive educational programs offered online. The Museum also makes unique efforts to reach lower-income communities and those with special needs.

Our Museum is one of just ten recipients of the Institute of Museum and Library Services National Medal for Museum and Library Service—an award reserved for museums that are making exceptional contributions to their community. The Museum of Natural Sciences has had a remarkable impact on the community—not just in Raleigh, but across the state of North Carolina.

As we congratulate Director Emlyn Koster and the Museum's other current leaders, it is

also important to recognize long-time Director Dr. Betsy Bennett, who retired just over a year ago. Betsy took the museum from modest circumstances to the gleaming, high-tech, user-friendly facility we see today. The Nature Research Center, for example, which opened in 2012, is a testament to her dogged determination to see her shared vision come to fruition. Betsy's skill working with the State Legislature, successive state administrators, and collaborators in Washington is legendary. As former Governor Jim Hunt aptly noted, she is a "force of nature." As her partner in the never-ending quest for funds, I have particular reason to see this award as a culmination.

Mr. Speaker, once again, I offer congratulations to the North Carolina Museum of Natural Sciences—and each of the other National Medal winners—for achieving this distinction. And I thank each of this year's medal recipients for their innovation and their dedication to serving their communities. Our nation is better for your service.

CONGRATULATING TERRY GIBSON

HON. JULIA BROWNLEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 8, 2014

Ms. BROWNLEY of California. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Terry Gibson, a vibrant resident of Ventura County, who will celebrate her 80th birthday on May 27, 2014.

Originally from the San Fernando Valley, Terry has always been an active member of her community. Her generosity and spirit of giving is resonated in her work, where her depth of sincerity and selflessness knows no limits.

While living in Glendale, California, Terry served as President of Temple Sinai, President of the Sisterhood of Temple Sinai, Vice President for new members of the Union of American Hebrew Congregations Southwest Region and Executive Vice President of the Western States Federation of Sisterhoods. In each of these leadership roles, Terry's spirit of volunteerism and commitment to her community never wavered even while she was a full-time, single working mother.

When Terry moved to Ventura County, her penchant for being an active and contributing community member continued. As a resident of Oxnard, she helped in the founding of the Ventura Chapter of the National Women's Political Caucus (NWPC) and served as its first president for two years. Under her direct leadership, the Ventura County Chapter of the NWPC was able to increase women's participation in the political process. Today, with Terry's unwavering help, the organization continues to recruit, train and support diverse female candidates who will bring a woman's perspective to issues such as reproductive health, the environment and social, educational and economic justice. Her vision of gender parity in California politics is a mission we are all united on.

With her extensive experience, Terry has served as the treasurer for the Ventura County Women's Forum Collaborative, where she is part of an organization that is dedicated to empowering Ventura County women in areas such as education, health, economic justice, power sharing, institutional mechanisms, and