

Father Kiley went on to serve as Rector/President of Niles College Seminary/St. Joseph College Seminary at Loyola University where he developed and implemented a new strategic plan that led to the relocation of the seminary on to the main campus of Loyola University. Before joining the Conference of Bishops where he was Executive Director of the Secretariat for Priestly Life and Ministry, Fr. Kiley was pastor of St. Agnes of Bohemia parish in Chicago, one of the largest parishes in Chicago serving over 5,000 immigrant families.

In June of 2006, Father Kiley became the President and CEO of the Faith & Politics Institute and during his four-year tenure he worked closely with members of Congress from both political parties. He hosted an annual program for members of Congress and members of the Labor and Business communities to reflect on the lives and issues of importance to America's working people, oversaw the development of a dialogue group for over 35 Senate chiefs of staff, and conducted weekly reflection groups for members of Congress. I, along with many of my colleagues, consider it fortunate that the Congress has had such a dedicated and compassionate advocate working with us.

Today, Father Kiley continues his ministerial work as the Director for Immigration Policy for UNITE HERE where he works on immigration reform strategies with the union's national leadership and its local members throughout the country. He serves as a staff member to the Immigration Committee of the AFL-CIO. He also works with a variety of allies including serving on the steering committee for the Justice for Immigrants Initiative of the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops and is a Senior Fellow at the Institute for Policy Research and Catholic Studies at the Catholic University of America. Father Kiley also oversees a project to train a new generation of Catholic Labor priests with more than 125 priests now a part of this network. The initiative is housed at the National Federation of Priests' Councils and done in consultation with the U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops. The initiative was recently endorsed by the U.S. Association of Catholic Priests and was honored by the Association of Chicago Priests.

As a religious leader, advocate, mentor and friend, Father Kiley has touched the lives of thousands—helping to shape public policy and improving the quality of life for those most in need. Through all of his good work he has inspired others to join in his efforts—instilling hope and promise in all of those who have had the good fortune to work with him. His spiritual guidance has nourished the souls of many and his compassion has encouraged others to give more of themselves. Today, as he celebrates his 40th year as a priest, he continues to make a difference in the lives of others—his work a reflection of the heart of Catholic teachings. I am proud to extend my deepest thanks and appreciation as well as my heart-felt congratulations to Father J. Cletus Kiley as he celebrates this very special milestone. Happy 40th Anniversary and best wishes for many more years of success..

IN RECOGNITION AND HONOR OF ALL VETERANS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition and honor of all veterans on this Memorial Day, celebrated on Monday. In gratitude of all freedom lovers who made our freedom and our ability to stand on this floor today as a free people possible—in particular the 400,000 men and women who gave their lives and the 16.5 million men and women who served during World War II.

This Memorial Day is particularly poignant as it is the 10th anniversary of the dedication of the World War II Memorial on the Mall. And on June 6th, we commemorate the 70th anniversary of the invasion of 150,000 Allied troops' landing on the heavily-fortified coastline of Normandy, France—D-Day.

On this year of anniversaries, as we think about the importance of this Memorial's place in American history, let us remember the significance of what these greatest Americans, this greatest generation of Americans, did for the freedom of humankind.

When we dedicated the memorial in 2004, more than four million of the 16 million American veterans of World War II were still alive. Today, fewer than a million remain. We lose more than 500 of them every day. And ten years from now, at the 20th anniversary ceremony, only 80,000, roughly, will survive.

At the memorial, what Abraham Lincoln called "the mystic chords of memory" are played with grandeur and grace. And that is what the memorial is all about. It was built to preserve a memory—

The memory of gallantry and devotion, of honor and sacrifice, of dedication to a cause bigger than oneself.

The memory of a generation of ordinary Americans who did something extraordinary—answering duty's call, saving democracy, and then modestly returning to their communities and their families, to work in the factory, to work on the farm . . . or simply to carry the mail.

The World War II Memorial will be there long after the World War II veterans are gone. While they are still with us, take the opportunity to let them know that a grateful nation will always pay tribute to their courageous service and they will always be remembered as heroes.

Mr. Speaker, let us not forget the valor, fidelity, and sacrifice of all World War II participants, and those who served in the conflicts that followed.

THE DEPARTURE OF JODY CALEMINE

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay special tribute to one of the most loyal, dedicated and creative members of my staff, Jody Calemine, who is leaving my staff on the Education and Labor Committee after more than 10 years of service.

I also want to thank Jody's wife Daria and their wonderful daughter Bella for sharing Jody with us and for their support and sacrifice all these years.

During his time on my staff, Jody quickly moved up the ranks, from labor policy advisor, to general counsel and for the last three years staff director.

Throughout this time, Jody has impressed us with his intimate, detailed knowledge of the laws, regulations and policies impacting workers and families across the country.

Jody's tireless advocacy on behalf of workers has been remarkable. During his time on the Committee staff Jody has earned the admiration and respect of Members of Congress, his colleagues on the Hill and in the Obama Administration, and among the labor and business community across the country.

Jody played an invaluable role in many of the Committee's accomplishments over the years including the enactment of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act, which was the first bill signing ceremony of the Obama Administration.

And I want to thank him and acknowledge his tireless work and leadership on the Fair Minimum Wage Act of 2007, the Affordable Care Act, the Employee Free Choice Act, the Employment Non-Discrimination Act, and a number of mine safety initiatives.

Jody is leaving the Committee for a position with the Communications Workers of America where he will continue to work on these issues that he cares so much about.

I speak for everyone on the Committee and all of those who have worked with Jody over the years when I say how much we will miss him.

Jody has made significant contributions to improving the lives of the American people. I cannot thank him enough for all that he has done. On behalf of myself, his fellow staff and the members of the Committee, we wish him the very best in his new position.

SUPPORT HUMAN RIGHTS FOR NON-VIOLENT POLITICAL PROTESTORS IN EGYPT

HON. KEITH ELLISON

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to highlight the dire condition of an American political prisoner in Egypt, Mohamed Soltan.

Mohamed is an Egyptian-American citizen who grew up in the United States. He graduated from Ohio State University with a degree in economics.

The Arab Spring inspired Mohamed to support democracy, freedom, and human rights in Egypt. Last year he joined thousands of peaceful protestors in Egypt to oppose the military coup that toppled the government of Mohamed Morsi.

While demonstrating in Rabba Square last August, the Egyptian military shot him in the arm. He was treated in a makeshift clinic with no anesthetic medication.

Mohamed was one of the lucky ones that day. Hundreds of unarmed demonstrators were killed and thousands were injured.

Shortly after being shot, Mohamed was arrested by Egyptian authorities for protesting.

From his jail cell he continues to protest the repression of pro-democracy advocates in Egypt.

Mohamed has been on a hunger strike. He has lost almost half of his body weight and can no longer stand.

Mr. Speaker, I am here to give voice to the struggle for human rights and real democracy in Egypt.

The United States should stand on the side of those like Mohamed who are striving for human rights and democracy in the Middle East.

HONORING DELTA AIRLINES ON ITS 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF SERVICE TO THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO SABLAN

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, twenty-five years ago on June 1, 1989, Delta Air Lines launched its first flight in a twice weekly service from Tokyo's Narita airport to Saipan in the Northern Mariana Islands. Operated then as Northwest Airlines and using a Boeing 747-200, this inaugural flight was a milestone in air service to my district; and I want to celebrate that event today.

Then and now, tourism is the lifeblood of our islands' economy; and this air connection with Japan, begun twenty-five years ago, has been essential to the growth and stability of our visitor industry. Other airlines have come and gone from the market, but Delta's commitment has been unwavering.

Today, the company is the only airline providing direct, scheduled, daily flights to and from Japan, carrying some 2,000 passengers per week on Boeing 757s. And these numbers add up: in the past ten years 23,000 Delta flights have provided seats for 4.25 million of our Japanese tourists.

Those flights to the Northern Marianas are, of course, only a tiny part of Delta's worldwide business. The company serves nearly 165 million passengers annually, flies to over 300 destinations worldwide, and employs almost 80,000 individuals. But those daily Japan/Marianas flights are crucial to our local economy, supporting numerous businesses and creating jobs.

And not only does Delta transport tourists. For many of the residents of the Northern Mariana Islands, whether traveling for business or pleasure, Delta is the airline of choice. The company provides a comfortable lounge at the Narita Airport hub and convenient connections: Delta is the only U.S. flag air carrier offering our community one-stop service to the mainland United States.

Delta stands out, too, for its good corporate citizenship, supporting many worthy groups and causes, including the Rotary Club of Saipan, the American Red Cross, the Marianas March Against Cancer, the Hotel Association of the Northern Mariana Islands, the Saipan Chamber of Commerce, NMI Crime Stoppers, the Northern Mariana Islands Council for the Humanities, and numerous sporting events. Of special note, Delta has been the sole airline sponsor for the Saipan Marathon since 2008.

Please, join me in honoring the management and employees of Delta Air Lines as we commemorate their twenty-five years of air service between the Northern Mariana Islands and Japan, and in wishing them many more years of continued success and growth.

RECOGNIZING THE 96TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE REPUBLIC DAY OF AZERBAIJAN

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my best wishes to the people of Azerbaijan as they celebrate Republic Day. This year marks the 96th anniversary of the founding of the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan, when the people of Azerbaijan first gained their independence from the Russian Empire on May 28, 1918. Although Azerbaijan's independence was ended by Soviet forces in 1920, it is noteworthy that the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan was the world's first secular parliamentary democratic republic in a predominantly Muslim nation—earning diplomatic recognition from the United States during the administration of President Woodrow Wilson. We also recall with admiration that the Democratic Republic of Azerbaijan granted universal suffrage to its citizens in 1918, making it the first Muslim country to give women the right to vote.

Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, Azerbaijan restored its independence in 1991. Parliament adopted the Constitution Act on the Restoration of the State of Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan on October 18, 1991.

For the people of Azerbaijan, these last two decades of independence have not been without challenges. At the top of the list would be the ongoing conflict with Armenia. Although a cease fire was signed in 1994, more than 20% of Azerbaijan's territory—including Nagorno-Karabakh and seven surrounding districts—remains under Armenian occupation, leaving Azerbaijan to cope with hundreds of thousands of refugees and internally displaced persons. In 1993, the U.N. Security Council adopted four resolutions demanding complete, unconditional and immediate withdrawal of Armenian forces from the occupied territories of Azerbaijan. I am happy that Azerbaijan is committed to a peaceful resolution of the conflict with Armenia, and I support a swift and peaceful resolution to this conflict as well.

Azerbaijan is a key global security partner for the United States. Azerbaijan and the United States cooperate in countering terrorism, nuclear proliferation, and narcotics trafficking. Azerbaijani troops serve shoulder to shoulder with U.S. soldiers in Afghanistan, as they previously did in Kosovo and Iraq. In support of the International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, Azerbaijan has extended important over-flight clearances for U.S. and NATO flights as well as regularly providing landing and refueling operations at its airports for U.S. and NATO forces. Azerbaijan also plays an important role in the Northern Distribution Network, a supply route to Afghanistan, by making available its ground and Caspian naval transportation facilities.

Azerbaijan has emerged as a key player for enhancing global energy security, at a particularly critical time in light of ongoing events in Ukraine. The Baku-Tbilisi-Ceyhan oil pipeline and the Baku-Tbilisi-Erzurum gas pipeline are the main arteries delivering Caspian Sea energy resources to global markets, and completion of the Southern Gas Corridor—which will run from the Caspian Sea through Azerbaijan, Georgia, Turkey, Greece, and Albania into Italy—will increase the energy security of key American allies by increasing the amount of natural gas from the Caspian Sea to European markets.

Notably, Azerbaijan also provides roughly 40% of Israel's oil consumption. What may be more surprising to some is that Azerbaijan—a predominantly Muslim country—enjoys friendly ties with Israel beyond oil sales. Jews have resided in Azerbaijan for 2,500 years without persecution and today, the Jewish community in Azerbaijan numbers as high as 35,000. Azerbaijan is also home to Christian communities and has been praised for its religious tolerance by the European Parliament.

As a co-chair of the Congressional Azerbaijan Caucus, I congratulate the people of Azerbaijan on the occasion of Republic Day. I hope the United States and Azerbaijan will continue to work together to advance a partnership that benefits both of our nations.

HONORING THE LIFE OF STATE TROOPER SEAN O'CONNELL

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 29, 2014

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Trooper Sean O'Connell, who was tragically killed one year ago on May 31, 2013.

Trooper O'Connell, a 16-year veteran of the Washington State Patrol, lost his life in an on-duty motorcycle collision while working traffic control in the aftermath of the Skagit River Bridge collapse.

Trooper O'Connell was a highly respected police officer who valued the importance of law enforcement. He strongly believed in bringing the community together to help promote safety among families. He was an endearing man; dedicated to his work and to strengthening communities in Washington state.

Trooper O'Connell was a strong leader, highly respected, and loved by his fellow officers. He exemplified what it means to be a Washington State trooper, and his community continues to honor his commitment, courage, and dependability as an officer.

In remembering his life one year after his passing, I ask that thoughts and prayers go out to his wife, children, family and others who continue to miss him every day. He will be remembered as a hero for helping many after the devastating collapse of a bridge which now holds his name, Trooper Sean. M. O'Connell, Jr.