

IN SUPPORT OF EXTENDING, "THE FEDERAL PERKINS LOAN PROGRAM"

HON. RUBÉN HINOJOSA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. HINOJOSA. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of extending the Perkins Loan Program for one year so that students can complete their education and join our workforce.

Perkins Loans provide critical support to students with economic need, offering low-cost loans with flexible repayment terms and generous forgiveness options that are public-service oriented. In 2013–2014, close to 500,000 students with need were awarded nearly \$1 billion in Perkins Loans. And throughout its 57-year history, more than 30 million students with need have benefited from this program. It is also the only loan program used to support graduate and professional schools students.

According to the Congressional Budget office it has estimated that the Federal Government will reclaim nearly \$5 billion over the next ten years. This is \$5 billion that should be used to help keep college affordable for students in need of help.

Without Perkins, schools would lose the necessary flexibility to help students cover gaps left after Federal grants and Stafford Loans are applied or unforeseen circumstances jeopardize a student's ability to pay for college. Ultimately, if Perkins is allowed to expire billions of dollars in student aid would be eliminated from schools' revolving funds.

Perkins Loans themselves don't usually amount to more than several thousand dollars per student, but they can spell the difference between whether or not our students can attend college. In Texas, that means approximately over 12,000 students a year having an opportunity to finish their degree without unnecessary financial interruptions. This is not a time to abandon our students who are working hard to complete their education and have the same opportunities as so many other college graduates.

For these reasons, I urge my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to extend the Federal Perkins Loan Program.

HONORING BRADLEY EUGENE MORGAN

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Bradley Eugene Morgan. Bradley is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Bradley has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Bradley has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his fam-

ily, peers, and community. Most notably, Bradley has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Bradley Eugene Morgan for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CECILIA AGUIAR-CURRY

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Cecilia Aguiar-Curry a City Councilwoman of Winters and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Cecilia Aguiar-Curry was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Cecilia Aguiar-Curry is currently in her second term as Mayor of Winters, a city of 7,000 residents in Western Yolo County. Cecilia has spearheaded many new initiatives for the city of Winters. She is an incisive leader with clear vision and the ability to make that vision a reality in tangible ways. She is an outstanding ambassador to the world at large for the city of Winters.

Whereas, under her leadership, the Yolo County Health and Human Services brought a branch to Winters. PG&E is also building a new training facility in Winters, providing more than \$500,000 in computer technology and training to the schoolchildren of Winters through a partnership with the Winters Education Foundation and the Yocha DeHe Foundation. She also was a successful advocate for the Berryessa Snow Mountain National Monument, revived the local Hispanic Advisory Community and developed the Winters Youth Council.

Whereas, Cecilia also serves on the Board of Directors for the Sacramento Area Council of Governments (SACOG), the New Hope Community Development Corporation, the Yolo County Housing Commission, the Water Resource Association of Yolo County, and the 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness. Previously, she served on the Board of Directors for the League of California Cities. Cecilia is hardworking, responsible, compassionate, and an effective leader who truly cares about her community.

Resolved, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Cecilia Aguiar-Curry.

HONORING THE WORK OF CRAIG WILLIAMS AND THE KENTUCKY ENVIRONMENTAL FOUNDATION

HON. ANDY BARR

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. BARR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the work of Craig Williams and the Kentucky Environmental Foundation. Twenty-five years ago, the Foundation formed the Chem-

ical Weapons Working Group. This group was made up of residents who were concerned about building chemical weapons incinerators at eight sites across the country and one island in the Pacific. The CWWG has worked hard over the years at the grassroots level to successfully advocate for federal legislation that mandated research and implementation of safer weapons disposal technologies that did not include incineration.

The Chemical Weapons Working Group has done an excellent job of bringing people together from many different social and political persuasions and many different perspectives. These dedicated people have worked over the past twenty-five years to come to consensus on safe solutions for the disposal of U.S. chemical weapons. Currently, a non-incineration technology facility is under construction in the Sixth District of Kentucky. The project is being done with continued oversight by Mr. Craig Williams, as he also serves as the Host Community Liaison between local governments and the Pentagon.

Mr. Williams is a founding member and past Director of the Kentucky Environmental Foundation. In addition to serving as Director of the Chemical Weapons Working Group, he is a charter member of the Kentucky Governor's Chemical Material Demilitarization Citizen's Advisory Commission and currently serves as co-chair of the Kentucky Chemical Destruction Advisory Board.

Mr. Williams is the co-founder and secretary of the Vietnam Veterans of America Foundation. He has received several tributes in the United States Congress and was presented the John O'Connor Citizens Achievement Award in 2003. Williams is involved in many community activities. Williams and his wife live in Berea, Kentucky near their two children and two grandchildren.

The people of the Sixth District and our nation are safer today because of the determined work and excellent leadership of Craig Williams and the Kentucky Environmental Foundation. They have worked tirelessly and with great passion to mandate ways to dispose of chemical weapons in a safe manner. I join a grateful nation in congratulating the Kentucky Environmental Foundation on their twenty-five years and thanking Craig Williams for his excellent leaderships.

HONORING THE SPIRIT OF MIDDLE PASSAGE, NAACP MARCHER FOR JUSTICE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, we mourn yet celebrate the life of NAACP justice marcher, Middle Passage, who passed away on September 12th, 2015. Passage, 68, died during America's Journey for Justice, a six week march that commemorates the 50th anniversary of the civil rights movement.

During Passage's earlier lifetime, he changed his name to Middle Passage to remind us of enslaved Africans. The "Middle Passage" represented the journey taken by slave ships from Africa to the West Indies.

Despite having several heart operations and surviving two wars, in Korea and Vietnam,

Passage marched over 900 miles from Selma, Alabama to Washington, D.C. while serving as the flag bearer during the Journey for Justice March. From his work as a civil rights activist, a veteran, and an overall believer in the U.S. Constitution, Passage will be remembered for his continued dedication for fighting for justice and freedom for all.

While we grieve the loss of one of the many pioneers for civil rights, we will remember his legacy as a Marcher for Justice and more importantly, celebrate his memory and work in the community in efforts to ensure younger generations can learn and become inspired by him.

HONORING WILLIAM LEE HESS

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize William Lee Hess. William is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 1351, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

William has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years William has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, William has also contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending William Lee Hess for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

HONORING CATHLEEN OLSEN

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of Cathleen Olsen a nutrition advocate and one of my district's 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, on the Twenty-Second Day of September, of the Year Two Thousand and Fifteen, Cathleen Olsen was recognized as a 2015 Woman of the year.

Whereas, Cathy is currently the Director of Nutrition and Food Services for the Winters Joint Unified School district and has been instrumental in educating students about good food habits and nutrition. When talking about meal plans, she always ensures it includes the numerous fresh fruits and vegetables that are in season.

Whereas, in 2001, Cathy championed the start of the Winters Farm to School Program. Its mission is to raise funds to provide fresh and local produce to our children's school food program, educate children about the food programs, and reconnect children to the rich agricultural heritage in the Winters Community. Cathy has developed a strong network of farmers that have helped her achieve remark-

able statistics. Currently 93% of fresh fruits and vegetables purchased are locally sourced, 50% coming directly from farmers. To ensure that school children are getting fresh produce, Cathy and the Farm to School committee also started an annual fundraiser that last year, provided \$50,000 for the Winters Joint Unified School District's Nutrition and Food Services.

Whereas, additionally, Cathy helps host a weekly Farmers Market and started a school garden that allowed students to cultivate plants throughout the school year. This past summer alone, Cathy and her staff provided over 400 breakfast and lunches for students ages 5–18.

Resolved, That I Congressman JOHN GARAMENDI of California's Third Congressional District, do hereby recognize and celebrate the accomplishments of Cathleen Olsen.

TAIWAN NATIONAL DAY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in recognition of the upcoming National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) on October 10, 2015.

The relationship between our two great countries has been long and prosperous, and will continue long into the future. During WWII, the Republic of China helped the allied forces defeat Japanese troops and ultimately win the war. In 1954, Taiwan signed the Sino-American Mutual Defense Treaty, which ensured peace in the Taiwan Strait and allowed for continued Taiwanese development. Later, the Taiwan Relations Act (TRA), passed in 1979, guaranteed the future for a prosperous relationship.

Since that time, Taiwan has continued to be a strong security and trade partner to the U.S. America has provided Taiwan with \$18.3 billion in arms sales over the past seven years. In May 2015, the U.S. Congress passed initiatives aimed at increasing U.S.-Taiwan military exchanges, including participation in the Rim of the Pacific Exercise.

On the trade front, Taiwan has not only become one of the leading economies in the Asia-Pacific region, but the entire world. Taiwan is America's tenth largest trading partner and America is Taiwan's third largest trading partner after China and Japan. Taiwan has even been named the third best country to invest in and the U.S. is Taiwan's largest foreign investor.

In addition to being a strong trading partner, Taiwan has emerged as a responsible participant in the international market and an active member of prominent international organizations. Taiwan has been an outstanding member since becoming a member of the World Trade Organization in 2002. In 2008, the WTO Committee on Subsidies and Countervailing Measures elected Lo Chang-fa, a professor specializing in international trade at National Taiwan University, to serve on its Permanent Group of Experts panel. Later that same year, Taiwan became a member of the Agreement on Government Procurement. These steps in the WTO show how the world has recognized Taiwan as a leading economy.

In January 2009, the World Health Organization (WHO) made arrangements for Taiwan

to become a party to the International Health Regulations.

This has enabled the Taiwanese to have direct contact with the WHO and gives it access to firsthand information on public health emergencies of international concern. Moreover, the WHO can dispatch personnel to provide assistance during any future health crisis in Taiwan.

Given Taiwan's proven track record of being a reliable member in international bodies, we should encourage more international participation by Taiwan. For example, given that criminals do not care about boundaries separating countries, it is critical that nations are able to share information on criminals and suspicious activity with each other, but Taiwan cannot do that because it is not yet a member of INTERPOL. Taiwan should be granted observer status in INTERPOL as soon as possible.

It is critical that the United States and Taiwan maintain and enhance their present relationship. From rising insecurity in the region to economic challenges the world over, our two countries need to face the future arm in arm. I congratulate Taiwan on its National Day and look forward to many more years of a close partnership.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS FRANKEL

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Ms. FRANKEL of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call vote 520, I was not present because I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted "AYE."

IN APPRECIATION OF THE NORTHWEST INDIAN FISHERIES COMMISSION

HON. DENNY HECK

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 29, 2015

Mr. HECK of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and thank the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission for its unyielding dedication to the restoration of Puget Sound and the protection of Tribal treaty rights for the First Peoples of the Pacific Northwest.

For Tribes, clean water and healthy salmon are not just perks of life in the Pacific Northwest; they are the centerpiece of the Tribes' history, culture, and way of life. Unfortunately, changing ocean chemistry, degrading habitats, and stormwater runoff are posing an existential threat to these resources.

Following a landmark victory reaffirming treaty-protected fishing rights, the Tribes created the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission to assist them in developing biologically sound fisheries and restore the salmon runs that sustained their people for centuries. The interconnectedness of habitats and ecological systems throughout the Puget Sound region means that Tribal participation is vital to all aspects of natural resource management in the Pacific Northwest.