

legacy of confronting all forms of bigotry, educating our youth in order to guard against ignorance, and defending the ideals and civil rights that are necessary for people to live in a peaceful, just, and democratic society.

Recent and troubling world events now pose a unique and humbling challenge to this cause. We've witnessed a rise in anti-Semitic passions abroad, as in areas throughout Europe, but also sadly at home. Even this House has demonstrated in recent debates that honest and heart-felt differences of opinion can escalate into divisive arguments marked by coded language and insinuations that teach us to fear and dehumanize one another. We are better than that. If we engage one another respectfully, no disagreement need devolve into questioning our shared devotion to our allies. We can come to different decisions while still uniting in our support for Israel and against efforts to impugn the loyalty of fellow citizens with whom we may occasionally disagree.

I therefore urge this House to accept responsibility for leading by example. Let us reject the temptation to reinforce our divisions. Instead, let us bind ourselves together with appreciation for our differences and a commitment to defend the dignity and worth of every human being. I urge this House to undertake the work of protecting and expanding the civil, religious, and human rights that are the best evidence that America remains the home of the brave and land of the free.

#### TRIBUTE TO ED LITTLER, JR.

#### HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Ed Littler, Jr. of Adair, Iowa. Ed has been awarded the very first Ed Littler Achievement Award from Adair-Casey Schools. The school has established the award to be presented to anyone who has contributed to the A-C Bomber family with large amounts of their personal time and hard work.

Ed has covered the local sports scene for the Adair News since 1948 and rarely missed a home or away football game until his retirement this year. He was cited for his contributions to all Adair-Casey sports and to the community. Ed played football as a quarterback for the Adair High School Rockets and graduated from Adair High School in 1947.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate Ed for receiving this award and for dedicating his time and efforts in supporting the Adair-Casey Schools. I am proud to represent him and his family in the United States Congress. I know that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives will join me in congratulating Ed on this outstanding achievement.

#### CPB'S AMERICAN GRADUATE INITIATIVE

#### HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, our public media stations are a force for positive change in communities all across this country.

The best example of this is the American Graduate initiative.

This initiative, made possible by the Corporation for Public Broadcasting which leverages public media to address America's high school dropout crisis;

And set an ambitious goal of seeing a 90 percent high school graduation rate by 2020.

This Saturday, October 3rd marks the fourth annual American Graduate Day, a live public media event broadcast on public media stations across the country.

And make no mistake—it is a crisis.

Each year, over one million students drop out of our high schools.

In turning the tide, the American Graduate initiative has been, and continues to be, a proven force for change.

Local stations extend the reach of this national broadcast content and have produced almost 1,000 hours of locally-focused programming.

Find a moment to tune in and see for yourself the incredible work happening in your community thanks to public media.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. GREGORY W. MEEKS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Mr. MEEKS. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, on September 30, 2015, due to unforeseen circumstances, I was unable to vote for Roll Call votes 525 through 528. I would have voted in the following way:

Roll Call Number 525 on providing for consideration of H. Con. Res. 79, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 719; and providing for consideration of the Senate amendment to the House amendment to the Senate amendment to H.R. 719, TSA Office of Inspection Accountability Act of 2015, nay;

On Roll Call Number 526 on the motion to suspend the rules and pass S. 2082 to amend title 38, United States Code, to extend certain expiring provisions of law administered by the Secretary of Veterans Affairs, and for other purposes, yea;

On Roll Call Number 527 on agreeing to the resolution, H. Con. Res. 79, directing the Clerk of the House of Representatives to make corrections in the enrollment of H.R. 719, nay;

And on Roll Call Number 528 on concurring in the Senate Amendment to the House Amendment to the Senate Amendment for H.R. 719, the TSA Office of Inspection Accountability Act of 2015, yea.

#### HONORING MR. TERRANCE KELLY

#### HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Terrance Kelly for his extraordinary contributions to the music industry and to the faith community. Mr. Kelly is currently the Artistic Director of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, where he leads over 100 rehearsals and 50 performances annually.

Mr. Kelly graduated from the Texas Southern University with a Bachelor of Arts in Business Management. He went on to study at Holy Names University with a focus on Vocal Performance. Mr. Kelly began his career working with Jazz Camp West as Choir Director and Voice Teacher.

During his time with Jazz Camp West, Mr. Kelly led the popular All Camp Gospel Choir, helping select the songs, instruct the band, and lead performances. His dedication to music also led Mr. Kelly to begin working with Imani Community Church, where he is currently Minister of Magnification. Mr. Kelly coordinates all musical presentations for the church, as well as leading many different choirs. He also facilitates the Imani Ya Watume liturgical dancers.

Additionally, Mr. Kelly serves as Artistic Director of the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir. He has composed and arranged music for the Oakland Interfaith Gospel Choir, the Oakland Interfaith Youth Choir, and the Oakland Interfaith Community Choir. The incredible works of music he has worked on have inspired and moved audiences throughout the Bay Area, California, and the world.

In his long career in music and faith, Mr. Kelly received many honors. Most recently, Mr. Kelly taught workshops about gospel music at the International Gospel Music Academy of Denmark. His musical talent has been recognized by many influential people, such as Tramaine Hawkins, MC Hammer, John Lee Hooker, and Former President Jimmy Carter. He has received an Emmy Award for his choral arrangement of PSA for KGO-TV, as well as 2 Gospel Academy Awards for Outstanding Director of the Year and Excellence in Choral Music. The San Francisco Opera had the opportunity to work with Mr. Kelly in their rendition of Moby Dick in 2012.

Mr. Kelly has also mentored students of music, many of whom have gone on to attend schools such as the Berklee School of Music, Howard University, and Walt Disney's California Institute of the Arts. Throughout his prolific career, Mr. Kelly has impacted the lives of musicians and fans alike, throughout the Bay Area and the world.

On behalf of the residents of California's 13th Congressional District, Mr. Terrance Kelly, I salute you. I thank you for a lifetime of service and congratulate you on your many achievements. I wish you success as you continue to serve the residents of the East Bay.

IN HONOR OF COMMISSIONER JACKSON "JACK" ANDERSON STONE, SR.

#### HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant and civic leader of Georgia, Commissioner Jackson "Jack" Anderson Stone, Sr., longtime County Commissioner of District 6 in Dougherty County, Georgia. Sadly, Commissioner Stone passed away on Thursday, September 24, 2015. A funeral service was held on Saturday, September 26, 2015 at 11:00 am at Sunnyside Baptist Church in Albany, Georgia.

A Georgia man through and through, Jackson Stone was born in Meigs, Georgia in 1941 to the late Grady and Neda West Stone. He proudly served our nation in the United States Army, serving one tour in Okinawa, Japan. When Jack returned to the United States, he built a career in the auto sales business and became Co-Owner and General Manager at Albany Lincoln Mercury. He subsequently founded his own businesses: Quick Auto Sales, Creekside Auto Sales and Creekside RV and Mobile Home Park.

For Jack Stone, family and community took the utmost priority in his life. With this in mind, he sought to improve his community and serve his fellow citizens as District 6 County Commissioner in Dougherty County, Georgia. His leadership and work ethic were widely respected, resulting in his serving as County Commissioner for twenty-eight years. His long tenure makes it clear that Commissioner Stone was admired and loved by his constituents and countless others in Southwest Georgia.

In addition to his civic duties, Commissioner Stone also served as a member of the Albany Chamber of Commerce and several other public service organizations in Albany and Dougherty County.

In his spare time, Commissioner Stone and his family enjoyed RV camping. He also took great pleasure in managing his farm, tending his cows and riding around with his dog, B.J.

Commissioner Stone has achieved much in his life but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of his wife of 52 years, Charlotte; his children, Jack, Blair, and Karen; his grandchildren, Ande, Lexie, Reverend Matthew, Taylor, Mark, Hannah, McKenzie, Shannon, and Josh; four great-grandchildren, Savanna, Lucas, Carson, and Brock; and a host of other family members and friends.

Mr. Speaker, my wife Vivian and I, along with the more than 730,000 residents of the Second Congressional District of Georgia, salute Commissioner Stone for his exceptional public service and everlasting commitment to his community. I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join us in extending our deepest condolences to Commissioner Stone's family and friends during this difficult time. We pray that they will be consoled and comforted by an abiding faith and the Holy Spirit in the days, weeks and months ahead.

CODE OF ETHICS FOR THE  
AMVETS NATIONAL SERVICE  
FOUNDATION'S ATTORNEYS IN  
FACT

**HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I submit the following code of ethics for AMVETS' Attorneys-in-Fact. AMVET is one of America's leading veterans' service organizations with over 250,000 members with a proud history of assisting veterans.

An attorney in fact is a person who is authorized to perform business-related transactions on behalf of someone else (the client), but not necessarily authorized to practice law. In order to become someone's attorney in fact,

a person must have the client sign a power of attorney document (VA Form 21-22).

**RULES OF PROFESSIONAL CONDUCT**

Rule 1: All AMVETS attorneys in fact will be honest when dealing with veterans and surviving family members. They will do the same when dealing with Department of Veterans' Affairs (VA) employees and other officials.

Rule 2: AMVETS attorneys in fact will submit quality claim packages for issues that may be granted; not sheer quantity to swell report numbers.

Rule 3: The attorney in fact claimant relationship is confidential by law and VA regulation. It will be protected at all times. The mandate to protect privileged information continues forever and applies equally to any clerical staff assigned to the office.

Rule 4: The attorney in fact will pursue a course of continuing education. They must stay current with new laws, regulations, VA's policies and procedures as well as all AMVETS policies and procedures promulgated by the AMVETS national service director.

Rule 5: The attorney in fact will determine all issues that occurred in-service. This is done through discussions with the client and a review of their supporting documents and records.

Rule 6: The attorney in fact will not sign off on any rating decisions that do not fully address, or defer for additional development, all issues contained in the claim.

Rule 7: Hardship claims will be expedited and closely monitored by the AMVETS attorney in fact to ensure a rapid decision and release of compensation and other benefits needed by the client.

Rule 8: AMVETS' attorney in fact will participate in all VA staff/veteran service organization (VSO) meetings called by the VA if available. Additionally, they will request staff meetings if problems arise due to VA's internal policy and procedures that need to be addressed.

Rule 9: AMVETS' attorney in fact will ensure VA examinations are complete, accurate and meet the current guidelines necessary for accurate rating decisions. Anything less than a complete examination may result in the client being denied benefits that are deserved under the current law.

Rule 10: It is not ethical for an attorney in fact to ask veterans to change their power of attorney (POA) from one VSO to another. Veterans represented by another organization should be referred to the organization that currently holds the power of attorney. However, if a veteran has a valid claim and insists on AMVETS' representation, then the POA may be accepted.

Rule 11: It is highly unprofessional to make any derogatory comments about another VSO.

Rule 12: AMVETS attorney in fact will establish rapport to educate and advise the client in the basics of VA law, policies procedures so they understand what documentation is required for their claim.

Rule 13: AMVETS will file an appeal only if the reason to appeal is based in fact (evidence contained in the client's record) or law (VA's failure to grant the benefit requested violates provisions contained in 38 Code of Federal Regulations). If a client wishes to file an appeal that the VA may never grant under the current law, then the AMVETS attorney in fact will not represent the claim since it has no merit.

Rule 14: Appeals should only be used as the last resort since they are a three to five

year process. Other avenues such as a request for reconsideration based on overlooked evidence of record or new and material evidence should be used first.

Rule 15: An AMVETS attorney in fact will not tell a client that they may not file an appeal. However, they will explain to a client, based on current law, what they must do in order to win an appeal. If the client is unable to provide the necessary records then AMVETS will not represent that claim as an appeal.

Rule 16: Under no circumstances will an AMVETS' attorney in fact solicit or accept any monetary gifts, goods or products in appreciation or compensation for their professional services.

Rule 17: AMVETS attorney in fact will never present a membership application to a veteran during the initial claim process. Doing so is akin to extortion. However, if a client requests a membership application, then they will be provided with one after they explain that membership is not required for their services.

60-YEAR CLASS REUNION OF THE  
1955 CLASS OF PAUL LAURENCE  
DUNBAR HIGH SCHOOL

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, October 1, 2015*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in celebrating the class of 1955 of Paul Laurence Dunbar Senior High School in the District of Columbia as it celebrates its 60-year class reunion Saturday, October 3, 2015, its reunion committee and particularly Donald R. Wines for his phenomenal leadership with the Dunbar Alumni Federation, and Dunbar High School itself in history and today. I am fortunate to be an alumna of Dunbar High School and a member of this distinguished class.

Dunbar High School, which started in a church basement, was the first public high school for African Americans in the United States and remained segregated until 1954, when the District of Columbia was one of the six Brown v. Board of Education jurisdictions that successfully challenged segregated schools in the United States. Dunbar was instrumental in making the District of Columbia a bulwark of education for almost a century, attracting students from across the District, who were drawn by the school's excellent reputation. That same reputation was reinforced by Dunbar's remarkable record of graduating more distinguished African Americans than any high school in the country. Among them were Edward Brooke, the first Black popularly elected United States Senator; Robert C. Weaver, the first Black Cabinet member; Benjamin O. Davis Sr., the first Black general in the U.S. Army; Wesley Brown, the first Black graduate of the U.S. Naval Academy; Charles R. Drew, the discoverer of blood plasma; and Mary Jane Patterson, the first African American to achieve a college degree. Dunbar also drew teachers with advanced degrees who would have been college professors but for segregation in higher education that persisted at the time.