

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. KYRSTEN SINEMA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Ms. SINEMA. Mr. Speaker, I would like to reflect that if I had been present I would have voted aye on roll call number 534, aye on roll call number 535, nay on roll call number 536, aye on roll call number 537, nay on roll call number 538, aye on roll call number 539, aye on roll call number 540, nay on roll call number 541, aye on roll call number 542, aye on roll call number 543, aye on roll call number 544, nay on roll call number 545, aye on roll call number 546, aye on roll call number 547, aye on roll call number 548, and aye on roll call number 549.

URGING CONGRESS TO SUPPORT FARM TO SCHOOL

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring attention to a vital childhood nutrition program in desperate need of funding. In the Healthy, Hunger-Free Kids Act of 2010, Congress established mandatory funding of \$5 million annually for a farm to school competitive grant and technical assistance program. This program allows communities to provide local foods in schools. Programs like this boost farm income while also fostering experiential food education for our children. Farm to school empowers children and their families to make informed food choices while strengthening the local economy and contributing to vibrant communities. The proven benefits such as food security, sustainable farming education, as well as long-term healthy lifestyle choices have been invaluable to communities all over the United States. Unfortunately, demand for the program is more than five times higher than available funding, which is why I urge Congress to support the Farm to School Act of 2015.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,152,638,934,294.38. We've added \$7,525,761,885,381.30 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF OCTOBER AS DOMESTIC VIOLENCE AWARENESS MONTH

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month and to reaffirm our commitment to ending domestic violence in this country.

Established 24 years ago, Domestic Violence Awareness Month exists to raise awareness across the country regarding the prevalence of domestic violence and opportunities for victims. Americans of any gender, age, religious group, neighborhood, income level, and racial or ethnic background are at risk.

The statistics are simply staggering. Every minute, nearly 20 people in the United States are physically abused by an intimate partner—amounting to more than 10 million women and men in the United States a year. Horrifically, one in three women will experience an incident of domestic violence, while one in four men have been victims of some form of physical violence by an intimate partner within their lifetime. Daily, more than 20,000 calls are placed to domestic violence hotlines nationwide. This epidemic has far-reaching consequences in our communities; domestic violence is the third-leading cause of homelessness among families, and over 10 million children are exposed every year.

A key step in working toward ending domestic violence in this country is to increase awareness, engagement, and education surrounding this issue. To this end, we are fortunate to have the efforts of exemplary organizations, including South Shore Women's Resource Center, The Women's Fund of Southeastern Massachusetts, We Can, and Cape Cod Center for Women, working to provide stability, shelter, and safety for victims of domestic violence throughout my district and the Commonwealth. Similarly, Jane Doe Inc. promotes a simple yet critical message: men are essential partners in the fight to end domestic violence and sexual assault against women. Jane Doe Inc.'s White Ribbon Campaign has proven to be a positive way to send the message that violence against women is unacceptable.

Mr. Speaker, I urge everyone to join me in continuing our efforts by recognizing October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month. There is much work yet to be done, but, as these tireless Massachusetts organizations have demonstrated, together, we can make a difference.

HONORING NATIONAL COLLEGIATE HONORS COUNCIL 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ELIOT L. ENGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. ENGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the National Collegiate Honors Council as they celebrate their 50th anniversary this year. The National Collegiate Honors

Council represents 800 colleges and universities and is composed of 325,000 students dedicated to achieving educational excellence in diverse subject curriculum areas, in order to achieve professional career goals.

In my district, the Iona College Honors Program attracts the most talented and motivated students from all majors and disciplines. The honors program challenges students to develop their talents, stretch their capabilities, and prepare themselves for postgraduate study and professional careers. In order to mentor and challenge Iona's exceptional students, the honors program provides them individual academic and career counseling, small class sizes, and advanced courses. Iona College honors students go on to achieve prominence in a diverse range of professional fields including law, advertising, banking, education, and law enforcement. Grounded in an interdisciplinary rigorous curriculum marked by an accelerated course of study, students in the Honors Program embody the mission of Iona College, the Christian Brothers, and Catholic higher education.

The National Collegiate Honors Program, after decades of growth and experience, continually prepares our students for successful professional careers. I invite my colleagues to join me in recognizing the program's contributions to our nation's educational and professional communities for the last 50 years.

CELEBRATING THE 40TH ANNUAL MEETING OF THE AGING & IN-HOME SERVICES OF NORTHEAST INDIANA, INC.

HON. MARLIN A. STUTZMAN

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. STUTZMAN. Mr. Speaker, I want to acknowledge the 40th anniversary and celebrate the accomplishments of Aging & In-Home Services of Northeast Indiana, Inc. AIHS is a private, non-for-profit social service organization serving seniors and persons with disabilities of all ages since 1975. It is the Area III Agency on Aging as designated by the U.S. Administration on Community Living and the State of Indiana. As such, it is the primary resource for older adults, persons with disabilities, and their caregivers, and a funding source of services including support for the Councils on Aging in their nine-county service area: Allen, Adams, DeKalb, Huntington, LaGrange, Noble, Steuben, Wells, and Whitley.

The organization works tirelessly to strengthen local and statewide systems for advocacy and protection of older adults, and other at-risk vulnerable populations. In 2014 AIHS touched the lives of more than 57,000 individuals through its continuum of programs to support safe and independent living at home. All services are provided regardless of race, age, color, religion, sex, disability, national origin or ancestry.

In the past year, the agency has received national recognition for strategic leadership and initiatives in bridging the gap between traditional Older Americans Act programs and the new healthcare model of service provision and payment sources, including:

Administration on Community Living (ACL), U.S. Department of Health & Human Services,

invitation to prestigious “thought leaders” roundtable.

Hartford Foundation invitation to multidisciplinary “Change AGENT” conference of geriatric specialists from across the United States.

Co-presenters with National Institute on Health and ACL at National Association of Area Agencies on Aging conference on Recruiting Older Adults into Research.

Community-based Care Transitions Program, funded by Centers for Medicare & Medicaid Services, achieved milestone of assisting 10,000 patients in reducing hospital readmission in 11 hospitals across 32 counties.

National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA) “Standards for Long-Term Services and Support and Medical Care” Learning Collaborative, selected as 1 of only 10 organizations nationwide.

Rosalynn Carter Institute on Caregiving National Summit, invited to present showcasing achievements of evidence-based chronic disease telephonic support featuring staff, local caregiver and their care recipient.

The organization’s 40th Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony will be held on Wednesday, October 28, 2015, at the Parkview Mirro Center in Fort Wayne, Indiana. Joan Lunden, a cancer survivor, journalist, television host, and renowned caregiver will be the featured speaker. I ask that my colleagues join me today in celebrating this organization’s service to the most vulnerable of our citizens in northeast Indiana, and extend our best wishes for their future.

IN RECOGNITION OF STEVEN D. CHAN, D.D.S.

HON. ERIC SWALWELL

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Mr. SWALWELL of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Dr. Steven D. Chan on his upcoming installation as President of the American College of Dentists. I am honored to recognize Dr. Chan’s distinguished career and contributions to the City of Fremont.

Dr. Chan is a third-generation Californian, born and raised in Los Angeles. After receiving his undergraduate degree from UCLA, he earned his dental degree from Georgetown University and completed his residency at Martin Luther King/Los Angeles County Hospital. Dr. Chan has had a practice in pediatric dentistry in Fremont for over 30 years. Dr. Chan’s professional honors include Fellowships in the Academy of Dentistry International, American Academy of Pediatric Dentists, and the International College of Dentists.

In addition to his professional accomplishments, Dr. Chan is also a dedicated leader in the City of Fremont. His leadership in the community includes serving as Chair of Ohlone Community College’s Oversight Committee and as Commissioner of the City of Fremont Library Commission. He has been honored as the Citizens for a Better Community’s Citizen of the Year, the Asian Business Alliance Business Owner of the Year, and the Asian Pacific Islander American Public Affairs Business Leader of the Year.

Dr. Chan’s exceptional leadership will be well-matched for his new role as the President

of the American College of Dentists. He will be the first Asian American to lead this highly respected organization. I know his wife, Sue, and their two sons are very proud of Dr. Chan’s achievement. On behalf of his wonderful family, I want to congratulate Dr. Chan on this tremendous honor.

CELEBRATING THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE AMERICAN SOKOL ORGANIZATION

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 150th Anniversary of the American Sokol Organization. As one of the first organized gymnastics and fitness organizations in the United States, I would like to congratulate the American Sokol Organization on this important milestone and applaud them for its continued efforts to provide fitness, educational, and cultural programs to their communities. The American Sokol Organization will celebrate this anniversary on November 14, 2015 at the Women’s Athletic Club of Chicago, and as a Co-Chair of the Czech Caucus, I am pleased to see them mark such an important date.

The anniversary celebration taking place in Chicago will feature two important guests. I want to take this opportunity to congratulate Petr Gandalovic, Ambassador of the Czech Republic to the United States, and Kristyna Pellouchoud Driehaus, KMD Foundation, American Friends of the Czech Republic and Chicago Czech Center for taking part in this magnificent celebration as Honorary Co-Chairs.

On March 19, 2015, I attended a wreath laying ceremony marking the 25th Anniversary of Vaclav Havel’s speech to a joint session of Congress and dedicating his bust’s new and permanent location in Freedom Foyer. This event was attended by leaders of Congress, and Czech Ambassador to the United States, Petr Gandalovic.

The first American Sokol unit was founded by Czech and Slovak immigrants, Karel Prochazka, Jaroslav Vostrovsky, and E.B. Erben, in Saint Louis, Missouri in 1865. At that time, large numbers of immigrants were flocking to the United States and these founders created community centers for their children to learn and engage in fitness activities—these centers were the first American Sokols.

During the first 50 years of the organization, many American Sokols were formed throughout the United States, and all of these units were incorporated into the American Sokol Organization on January 1, 1917. Today, well into its second century in service, American Sokol remains an organization dedicated to the physical, mental, and cultural enrichment of its members. American Sokol has been shaping the lives of Olympians, diplomats, artists, athletes, and most importantly, the families in the communities in which we serve.

Sokol is the Czechoslovak word for falcon, and it is an appropriate symbol since the falcon is a bird that has great love for freedom, as well as strength, courage and agility. The Sokol philosophy strives for physical fitness for their members, believing that to maintain a

free nation, its people must be physically and morally strong.

American Sokol members represent a wide age range. Members range from preschool children to retired adults. This diversity allows older members to pass on the benefit of their wisdom and experience to the young people in a personal way. In combining Czechoslovak culture, the American heritage, and American Sokol ideals, this organization has contributed greatly to the welfare of the United States. Many American Sokol members have served their country with distinction, in World War I, World War II, the Korean War, and the Vietnam conflict, and beyond.

I am proud to join with American Sokol members in the 9th Congressional District of Illinois, which I am honored to represent, and members of American Sokol Organization in the City of Chicago and all over the United States, as they celebrate their 150 years of excellence, achievement, and contributions to the greatness of the United States.

H.R. 597 “REAUTHORIZING OF EXPORT-IMPORT BANK OF THE UNITED STATES”

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, October 27, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, as a senior member of the Homeland Security Committee, I rise to speak on H.R. 597, which reauthorizes the Export-Import Bank for four years.

It is unfortunate that it has taken this body so long to get to this point and it was inexcusable that the House Republican leadership allowed the Ex-Im Bank authorization to expire on June 30, 2015 before.

That intransigence made it necessary for a bipartisan majority of this House to resort to a discharge petition as the vehicle to bring this legislation to the floor.

Mr. Speaker, the Ex-Im Bank enables U.S. companies, large and small, to turn export opportunities into real sales that help to maintain and create U.S. jobs and contribute to a stronger national economy.

For more than 80 years the Ex-Im Bank has helped Texas businesses generate over \$29 billion in exports, \$4.3 billion of which originated from businesses in the 18th Congressional District of Texas.

In May of this year I hosted Export-Import Bank President Fred. P. Hochberg for a historic tour of vital and thriving small businesses in the 18th Congressional District.

We toured Frenchy’s Sausage Manufacturing which is a company that currently services over 200 businesses.

Frenchy’s Sausage recently completed an expansion of plant facilities to accommodate the tremendous growth the company has experienced.

We also toured Tejas Tubular, a company that built and opened their casing facility in 2005 to process larger diameter API casings and, which in 2011 opened the ERW tubing plant in Stephenville, Texas, and has processed more than 14 million joints of tubing and casing.

Mr. Speaker, when operating on a level playing field, American exporters can compete against anyone.