

Rund, Daniel Mendoza, Victor Gonzalez, Myles Roberts, Blake Lindenmeyer, Seth Still, Chase Strader, Mario Cortez, Sam Crane, Alec Downs, Tony Salinas, Wyatt Fishel, Giovanni Salinas, Brandon Lebeter, Cole Hutton, Rey Garza, Ethan Still, Mason Gentry, Javi Leal, Pablo Rodriguez, Kaleb Byard, Jonny Garza, Dalton Pantier, Gavin Coombe, Luke Spencer, Tito Garcia, Clayton Kuhring, Jack Spencer, Alex Kauffman, Aaron Dudley, Grant McPherson, Jorge Garza, and Jack Nacke.

IN RECOGNITION OF RICHARD SHICKLE'S RETIREMENT

**HON. BARBARA COMSTOCK**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Mrs. COMSTOCK. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to recognize Richard Shickle, an extraordinarily gifted leader from the northern Shenandoah Valley, on his retirement.

Very proud of his roots in Frederick County, Richard Shickle has applied the values with which he was raised and the education he received at James Wood High School and Virginia Tech to have an extraordinary influence on the place he has always called home. Armed with a bachelor's degree in Public Administration and a professional designation as a Certified Public Accountant, Richard Shickle has spent decades as a strong and visionary leader of two of the most important institutions in the Shenandoah Valley, the Government of Frederick County and Shenandoah University.

Richard Shickle is the longest serving Chairman At-Large of a county board of supervisors in the Commonwealth of Virginia. For twenty years, he has served the citizens of Frederick County, four as Supervisor for the Gainesboro District, and sixteen as Chairman of the Frederick County Board of Supervisors.

Under Chairman Shickle's conservative leadership, Frederick County has experienced great economic growth that has included business relocations and expansions by H.P. Hood, Kraft Foods, Fisher Scientific, McKesson, O.N. Minerals and Navy Federal Credit Union.

The county's low taxes have fostered the growth of many small businesses while still providing for important capital improvement projects, including the Bowman Library, the Frederick County Public Safety Building, several schools including Millbrook High School, and the Frederick County Transportation Center.

And Chairman Shickle's penchant for careful planning has resulted in the Rural Areas Recommendation and Report, as well as the establishment of the Frederick County Economic Development Authority, which has proven to be an important economic development tool for the county.

As though the responsibilities of being Chairman of the Frederick County Board of Supervisors had not been sufficiently challenging, until recently, Richard Shickle also served, for 32 years, as Vice President for Administration and Finance of Shenandoah University during a period of rapid growth. In that capacity, he oversaw the offices of the university that are responsible for its administrative, financial, budgetary, and physical plant func-

tions; and coordinated its student employment, legal services and insurance programs.

In retirement, Richard will continue to serve on boards and commissions, generously offering his knowledge and wisdom to the many valley leaders who will be seeking his counsel. He and his wife, Louise Marie Grube Shickle, are also looking forward to spending more time with their four children, Denise, Lisa, Richard, Jr. and Martha, as well as their eight grandchildren.

As the member of the House of Representatives from Virginia's 10th Congressional District, I know that I echo the sentiments of the people of the northern Shenandoah Valley in expressing deep gratitude for the strong leadership and dedicated service of "favorite son", Richard C. Shickle, Sr., who has left such a positive and lasting mark on our valley community.

I also know I'm joined by thousands of others whose lives he has touched, in wishing him and Louise many interesting and satisfying years of retirement to come.

IN SUPPORT OF AFFIRMATIVE ACTION AND CAMPUS DIVERSITY

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, this morning I was at the Supreme Court observing the oral arguments in the case of Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin, No. 14-981.

The issue to be decided in the Fisher case is whether the undergraduate admissions policy of the University of Texas at Austin complies with the principles established by the Supreme Court in *Grutter v. Bollinger*, 539 U.S. 306 (2003).

In *Grutter*, the Court held that "obtaining the educational benefits of 'student body diversity is a compelling state interest that can justify the use of race in university admissions.'" 539 U.S. at 325.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to be a representative from a state that has played a pivotal role in the Supreme Court's educational equity jurisprudence, beginning with the landmark case of *Sweatt v. Painter*, 339 U.S. 629 (1950), won by Thurgood Marshall and which held that segregated law schools violated the Equal Protection Clause of the Fourteenth Amendment and laid the foundation for the landmark decision in *Brown v. Board of Education*, 347 U.S. 483 (1954).

Mr. Speaker, I would urge the Supreme Court to uphold the admissions policy of the University of Texas at Austin because affirmative action is needed to ensure the diversity on college campuses that will yield diversity in the ranks of America's future leaders.

In a globalized and increasingly interconnected world, the nation that succeeds is the one best positioned to adapt to a world of differences—cultural, religious, economic, social, racial, and political.

The key to success in a diverse global economy is learning to adapt and thrive in diverse communities where the next generation and its leader are educated and trained.

And that is why it is critical that the Court uphold the principle it established in *Grutter v. Bollinger* in 2002 that diversity in higher edu-

cation is such a compelling governmental interest that race-conscious admission policies are permissible if other alternatives are found to be inadequate.

This is the situation presented by the facts in *Fisher v. University of Texas at Austin*, which was reargued before the Court today.

Although the University of Texas's consideration of race is very narrow—just one of many factors in the admissions process—its impact has been significant in advancing educational benefits flowing from a diverse student body.

From 1997 to 2004, affirmative action in admissions at the University of Texas was barred by the infamous Fifth Circuit decision in *Hopwood v. Texas*, 78 F.3d 932 (5th Cir. 1996).

As a result of the University of Texas's inability to consider a qualified applicant's race in the admissions process, between 1997 and 2004 African-American students never comprised more than 4.5% of the entering class—far below the 13% of Texas high school graduates who are African Americans.

Worse yet, for the students attending the University of Texas, during that period, 4 out of every 5 of classes (79%) at the University had zero, or only one, African-American student.

Mr. Speaker, this is not the way to produce a generation of leaders for the 21st century.

With the Supreme Court decision in *Grutter*, the University of Texas could add race to other criteria considered in its individualized admissions policy.

And behold the results—28% of African Americans enrolled at the University were admitted at this stage of admissions process, a stark contrast to the 4.5% of the student body represented by African Americans in the preceding 7 years.

Mr. Speaker, affirmative action works; it is the right thing to do for our country.

Fostering educational diversity and greater opportunity is critical to our nation's future in a global economy and an increasingly interconnected world.

That is why diversity is supported by a broad cross-section of American society, including military leaders, major corporations, small business owners, educators, and students from all backgrounds.

An America that celebrates diversity in higher education will produce the leaders, inventors, entrepreneurs, diplomats, public servants, and teachers that will serve our nation well in the global economy of the 21st century.

And of the most important things that can be done to ensure this bright future is for the Supreme Court to affirm the judgment of the 5th Circuit and uphold the admissions policy of the University of Texas.

A MAJORITY OF IMMIGRANT HOUSEHOLDS RELY ON WELFARE

**HON. LAMAR SMITH**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, a recent report found that more than half of immigrant households (both legal and illegal) in the United States receive welfare benefits—compared to only 30% of native households.

The report by the Center for Immigration Studies (CIS) determined that welfare use increased significantly for households with children.

Almost half of immigrant households who have been in the country for more than 20 years still rely on welfare. This contradicts the commonly held notion that long-time immigrants don't consume government benefits.

Our immigration and welfare programs should not subsidize other nations' low-skilled workers who compete with struggling American families for scarce jobs.

The CIS report reminds us how much work remains before we have an immigration system that puts the interests of Americans first.

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SUPPORT FOR H.R. 1283

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, as co-chair of the Congressional Arts Caucus, I rise today in support of H.R. 1283, the Songwriter Equity Act. In today's evolving entertainment environment, songwriters sometimes don't get the credit or the pay they deserve—and it's time to change that.

H.R. 1283 will ensure that these artists receive fair pay every time someone listens to their song—whether from satellite radio or digital music services and downloads.

Congress established royalty rates of just two cents per copy in 1909, when Irving Berlin was beginning his career. Now, over 100 years later, the royalty rate has increased only to just over nine cents per copy. It's time to give songwriters the pay they deserve in today's dollars and cents.

Thank you to my colleagues Rep. DOUG COLLINS and Rep. HAKEEM JEFFRIES for their strong support of the arts here in Congress—I'm proud to support them, the arts, and this bill.

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HONORING CHRIS CORMAN

**HON. JASON SMITH**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Mr. SMITH of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Chris Corman for being awarded the American FFA Degree as a member of the National FFA Organization. Chris is a member of the Willow Springs Chapter of the FFA and, with four of its other members, received this prestigious award. FFA is an inter-curricular student organization for those interested in agriculture and leadership consisting of 629,367 members, aged 12–21. Chris is among the 463 FFA members from Missouri that received the American FFA degree, marking the highest number of recipients from any state.

As a past recipient of the American FFA Degree, I offer my highest congratulations as I understand the hard work and effort required to reach this goal. In order to obtain the American FFA Degree, a member must begin their pursuit of the award during their freshman year of high school through participation in

every level of the organization and leadership events.

As a former member of FFA, I can proudly say that my experience in the organization was invaluable learning about leadership skills and public speaking. It is my pleasure to recognize Chris Corman for receiving this prominent award before the United States House of Representatives.

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RECOGNIZING AISHA KARIMAH

**HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON**

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join me in recognizing Aisha Karimah, who is retiring from NBC4 Washington after 46 years of outstanding service to the District of Columbia and the national capital region.

Residents have seen Aisha at many of our charitable events in the city and region, but far more often, they have seen only her good works in many community campaigns. We could not count the people or the dollars Aisha's efforts have helped bring to our most successful community campaigns, among them: Beautiful Babies Right from the Start, Drug Free Zones, It Takes a Whole Village, Make the Right Call, Camp 4 Kids, Get Healthy 4 Life, Backpacks 4 Kids, Food 4 Families, and the NBC4 Health & Fitness Expo. In addition, Aisha produces two weekly news programs: Reporters Notebook and Viewpoint. A veteran television producer, Aisha also has generously lent her gifts to Howard University Television, including the Urban Health Report, Washington's Leaders and the Randall Robinson Program. Ms. Karimah is a particularly positive and dedicated role model for African Americans and for women entering journalism, and serves as a mentor to hundreds of young people. Aisha herself is a graduate of Howard University and Wesley Theological Seminary. She has been an extraordinary friend and guidepost to the District and to me ever since I have been a Member of Congress.

While Aisha has been engaged in a successful career in television and journalism, she also has been a devoted mother of two sons: Donnell, a graduate of American and George Washington universities, and Jay, a Howard University graduate.

Aisha Karimah's success, of course, has come from her tireless efforts, her love for her community and her drive to excel in her profession. However, Aisha gives all the credit to God. Aisha, a native Washingtonian who grew up on welfare in the District's Lincoln Heights public housing complex and started work at the age of 10, says her faith has helped her to rise to the top of her profession and serve her hometown at the same time. Aisha kept going at NBC4 despite illness. Now, after 46 years, often behind the scenes, bringing countless campaigns to our city and region, the time has come for Aisha herself to take a much deserved bow.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking and congratulating Aisha Karimah for excellence well beyond the call of duty for NBC4 Washington, the District of Columbia,

and the national capital region for 46 remarkable years.

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HUMANITARIAN AID TO THE  
PEOPLE OF UKRAINE

**HON. ANDY HARRIS**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, December 9, 2015*

Mr. HARRIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remind my colleagues of the humanitarian crisis that continues to unfold in Eastern Ukraine. While the media, and the world, focuses on the Syrian migrant crisis, winter is fast approaching for the millions affected by the conflict in Ukraine. As we speak, there are over 1.5 million people internally displaced, 1.1 million externally displaced, and more than 5 million people in need of humanitarian aid. Thousands have died in the fighting, and thousands more lie injured. Homes and schools are being destroyed, and the movement of goods and people is severely restricted. As temperatures edge toward zero, we must remember why Ukrainians find themselves in need. They are in need because of their rejection of Russian authoritarianism and of Vladimir Putin's aggressive expansionism. They are in need because they are fighting to defend their freedom and their democracy. We, the United States, as a beacon of liberty and democratic government, must demonstrate our solidarity with our Ukrainian brethren and our unwavering belief in the ideals for which they fight. We must provide food, we must provide shelter, we must provide blankets. We, as Americans, must provide support to those willing to stand up to Russia in defense of freedom and democracy. I call on my colleagues to join me in urging President Obama to increase humanitarian aid to the people of Ukraine.

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SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, December 10, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.