

and disadvantaged. Mrs. Lawson served her community well as she promoted the power of faith and prayer. She will most assuredly be remembered for her leadership at the historic Wheeler Avenue Baptist Church, helping to establish two charter schools, her support for the Ensemble Theater, and her immeasurable love for children.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, Mrs. Lawson will be missed dearly by a host of family and friends. The family includes her husband, four children (Melanie, Cheryl, Eric, and Roxanne) as well as her grandchildren. Mrs. Lawson will be celebrated and memorialized in the Houston community as a faithful Christian lady, wife, mother, and community leader.

IN RECOGNITION OF BARBRA
STREISAND IN RECEIVING THE
PRESIDENTIAL MEDAL OF FREE-
DOM

HON. TED LIEU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize a constituent of California's 33rd Congressional District who is one of our nation's most gifted artists, and compassionate humanitarians. Barbra Joan Streisand, who was recently awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom by President Obama.

In the sixth decade of her career, Streisand has captivated generations of music and movie lovers, young and old alike. Through her creative work, Ms. Streisand has received countless honors including two Academy Awards, four Peabody Awards, eight Golden Globes, and the National Medal of Arts and Kennedy Center honors. Further, the three films she has directed to date have received 14 Oscar nominations. In 1984, Ms. Streisand became the first woman and only woman to win a Golden Globe for Best Director, which she won for the film *Yentl*.

A long time record setter as a recording artist, her 1963 album entitled *The Barbra Streisand Album* amassed six nominations for Album of the Year and five for Record of the Year—more than any other female artist in history. Since then she has won a total of 10 Grammys and released 52 gold albums, 31 platinum albums and 18 multi-platinum albums, topping the list of album sales by a female singer.

Yet Ms. Streisand's most enduring legacy is her tireless activism and generous philanthropic mission. Established in 1986, the Streisand Foundation has brought millions of dollars to ensure the legacy of numerous organizations promoting voter education, civil rights, higher education, veterans' assistance, and the preservation of our environment. Ms. Streisand's work on the crucial issues of climate change and healthcare have been exceptional, raising and contributing money to fight AIDS and heart disease, as exemplified by the recent naming of the Barbra Streisand Women's Heart Center at Cedar Sinai Hospital in Los Angeles.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Ms. Streisand and her extraordinary achievements.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF
GEORGE DAVIS

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to remember the life of George Davis; a friend, an honorable leader, and a valued member of our Toledo community.

George Davis was born in Toledo, Ohio on July 11, 1927 to Polly Ann and George Davis. He grew up on Scott Street and from the age of 6 sold newspapers and did odd jobs to help his family in the Depression.

He was a Scott High School student when he went to work at Willys-Overland Motors at the age of 15. He retired in 1993 as a representative for Local 12, United Auto Workers. George was a veteran of the Army Air Corps.

George Davis became the first African-American appointed as a union steward and served as chairman of the Jeep unit. He sat on the Jeep executive committee and, when the former American Motors Corporation owned the Toledo plant, George was a leader in a UAW intracorporate council. When he retired, he was on the state board of UAW's Community Action Program.

George Davis served the Toledo Branch, NAACP, as the President, first vice president, chairman of committees and as a nuts-and-bolts member. In 2012 he was among the honorees recognized at an annual luncheon of the African American Legacy Project of Northwest Ohio.

George Davis is survived by his sons, George III, Larry, Calvin and Norman; stepdaughters Helen and Patricia Webb; stepsons Walter Webb III and Robert Webb; four grandchildren; three great-grandchildren, as well as step-grandchildren and step-great-grandchildren. His wife of 25 years, Gladys, died in 2002.

George Davis was a great leader in all realms—his family, his church, his chosen profession as a union officer, his civil rights advocacy, and as a valued community leader whose opinion was sought and appreciated. He was blessed with an exceptional mind and an exceptional instinct. He knew how to read people, how to anticipate them, and how to counsel them. He had a gift for politics in the best sense. His goals were to serve people and to take their cause to those who could make a difference. And he did. He was an honorable leader, an indefatigable ally, and a courageous and unyielding advocate for people whose voices needed uplifting. He had a God given talent to accomplish good works, and he did.

George Davis led our community to a better place every day of his working life, which extended to the day of his homegoing. May God bless him and bring peace to his family and friends as they bear this enormous loss. And may George Davis' precious talents, good nature, and unyielding spirit carry his legacy forward and inspire others to emulate his life.

TRIBUTE TO KIMBERLY WAYNE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Kimberly Wayne of Des Moines, Iowa, for being named a 2015 Woman of Innovation at the eighth annual Women of Innovation Awards hosted by the Technology Association of Iowa. Overall, they honored 10 women with innovation awards. The award highlights today's extraordinary women and recognizes leaders in science, technology, engineering and math.

Kimberly was recognized as a Diversity Champion. She is a founder of Jewels Academy, a nonprofit that encourages young women to take part in science, technology, engineering, and math programs and uses Biblical principles of learning and character building. Kimberly's organization plays a key role in today's technology-driven society, especially for those children who may not otherwise have the opportunity to take part in this type of program.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to represent leaders like Kimberly in the United States Congress and it is with great pride that I recognize her for utilizing her talents to better both the community of Des Moines and the state of Iowa. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating Kimberly on receiving this esteemed designation and wishing her nothing but continued success.

HONORING AMICUS POLONIAE—
FRIEND OF POLONIA—VOLUN-
TEER FREE LEGAL CLINIC ON
THEIR 25TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Amicus Poloniae—Friend of Polonia—Volunteer Free Legal Clinic on their 25th anniversary this October. On the third Saturday of each month since 1990, a large group of attorneys and other volunteers have gathered to meet and provide legal advice to individuals who would normally not be able to afford to hire an attorney.

In 1990 Edward Moskal, the president of Polish National Alliance, met with an attorney to discuss an idea of helping people access legal aid and representation to Chicago's Polish community. Since then, the Clinic has provided attorneys, interpreters, clerks and other volunteers for thousands of individuals seeking help. Today, Frank Spula, the current president of PNA, continues to support Amicus Poloniae.

The Clinic has also received continued support from the Polish National Alliance and the Chicago Volunteer Legal Services Foundation. CVLS has even recognized regular volunteers with a Distinguished Service Award.

Mark Dobrzycki is the current chief administrator who administers the monthly meetings. Preceding him was Marianna Lach, who ran the meetings from the conception of the clinic

until her passing in 2005. Attorneys Robert Groszek and Alexander Fiedotjew serve as the co-chairs. Alexander has volunteered with the Clinic since the start along with Zygmunt "Ziggy" Sokolnicki.

Mr. Speaker, as the representative of a large portion of Polish constituents, I applaud Amicus Poloniae for their tireless work and dedication to the thousands of people in need. I ask that my colleagues join me in recognizing and congratulating Amicus Poloniae on a successful past quarter-century.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND LEGACY OF RATIBU JACOBS SHADIDI

HON. NORMA J. TORRES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Mrs. TORRES. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ratibu Jacobs Shadidi, who passed away on December 10, 2015 at the age of 72.

Ratibu was an active member of the community who provided great service to the residents of the Inland Empire through his compassionate nature and commitment to promote the welfare of others. His service to the public began at an early age when he joined the United States Army in 1961. Later, upon moving to Riverside in the 1970s, he worked as a Field Representative for California State Senator Ruben Ayala and helped many in the community receive assistance from state agencies. He then operated a local firm and became known for publishing a directory of enterprises operated by women and minorities, which is distributed throughout California to promote small businesses.

A man of faith, Ratibu taught Sunday school at the Temple Missionary Baptist Church in San Bernardino. He is credited with inspiring several of his peers to become spiritual leaders and was known for seeing things in people that they couldn't see in themselves. Ratibu also is known in the community for forming the Inland Area Kwanzaa Group, and had hosted the annual Kwanzaa Karamu for more than two decades. In 2007, he published a memoir in which he describes how his belief system helped guide him through difficult times in his life.

For his contributions to the community and for his many other achievements, I would like to honor Ratibu Jacobs Shadidi and his family. While Ratibu will truly be missed by residents of the Inland Empire, his legacy will continue through all of those that knew him. He is survived by his wife of 34 years, former-California State Assemblywoman Wilmer Amina Carter, and their three daughters.

RECOGNIZING AARON PEARSON, RETIRED OFFICER OF THE SPRINGFIELD POLICE DEPARTMENT, FOR BEING INJURED IN THE LINE OF DUTY PROTECTING THE SPRINGFIELD COMMUNITY

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Aaron Pearson, retired officer of the

Springfield Police Department, for his dedication to protecting the Springfield community as well as his courage and perseverance after being injured in the line of duty.

On January 26, 2015, Officer Pearson was struck below the left eye with one of several rounds fired at him while responding to a request for backup. As a result of his injuries, doctors predicted that Aaron would likely never walk or talk again, but he never gave up. Aaron persevered through months of difficult rehab and less than five months later he made enough progress to throw the first pitch at the Springfield Cardinals game. His actions have shown an incredible example of courage in the face of seemingly insurmountable odds. This November, he was awarded the Springfield Police Department Purple Heart for enduring this adversity.

Officer Pearson served his community with passion throughout his time with the Springfield Police Department. Before his retirement, Aaron's accomplishments exemplified this and those who worked with him in the line of duty had great respect for his professionalism.

Mr. Speaker, Aaron Pearson has worked tirelessly to protect his community and better those around him; I extend to him my deepest appreciation for his courage and dedication to ensuring the safety of the Springfield community. His efforts have not only contributed greatly to the Springfield community, but have made me proud to serve the people of Missouri's seventh Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FEMA HELP AND EDUCATION FOR LOCAL PARTNERS ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 17, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the FEMA Help and Education for Local Partners Act (FEMA HELP Act). The bill addresses concerns raised by states and local governments about the lack of comprehensive information about the various federal assistance programs available during and in the aftermath of a natural or man-made disaster. The bill creates a federal multi-agency team, led by the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), to provide coordinated assistance to state, local, tribal, and territorial leaders in implementing a comprehensive approach to recovery and utilizing the full range of federal resources across agencies and programs.

The number and costs of federally declared disasters has been on the rise over the last 30 years. For example, total damages from 1972's Hurricane Agnes were \$2.1 billion, 1999's Hurricane Floyd caused \$6 billion in damage, while Hurricane Sandy resulted in \$65 billion in total damage. With the multiple disaster assistance programs offered by federal agencies in the aftermath of a disaster, the federal government needs to work together with state, local, tribal, and territorial leaders to provide the right types of aid on time to meet critical needs. At a recent Transportation and Infrastructure Committee Subcommittee on Economic Development, Public Buildings, and Emergency Management roundtable, a state representative suggested

that the federal government provide a "menu of resources" so that state, local, tribal, and territorial leaders and their residents can look for government resources in one place.

To address the current lack of coordination, the FEMA HELP Act is designed to require federal agencies to work together in a collaborative manner with state, local, tribal, and territorial leaders and provide them with guidance on federal assistance programs. To accomplish this aim, the bill directs FEMA to convene and manage multi-agency federal teams to work with and provide coordinated assistance to state, local, tribal, and territorial leaders in implementing a comprehensive approach to recovery and utilizing the full range of federal funding resources across agencies and programs. The bill also requires FEMA's coordinating officers be trained in the range of applicable funding programs. The multi-agency federal team would include FEMA, the Federal Transit Administration, the Federal Highway Administration, the Department of Housing and Urban Development, the Small Business Administration, the Department of Defense, and the Army Corps of Engineers. The bill also directs FEMA to create a clear and consistent set of guidelines and criteria for making and communicating decisions on funding eligibility and requirements. To retain institutional knowledge, the bill requires federal teams to minimize staff transitions and ensure there is adequate information transfer when staff transitions occur.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 644, TRADE FACILITATION AND TRADE ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, December 11, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to raise my opposition to H.R. 644 the Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act of 2015.

In August, China devalued the renminbi by 4.4 percent which caused a drastic drop in the U.S. stock market. Currency manipulation has real life consequences and affects U.S. jobs and our economy. When China devalues their currency, U.S. exports rise in price and our workers and consumers suffer.

Considering the implications of currency manipulation, it is baffling that this bill does not have any Currency CVD provisions but instead inserts legally insignificant terms that are unenforceable. Rather than focus on protecting the American economy and jobs, Republicans have used H.R. 644 to weaken CVD provisions, eliminate text which prohibits imports made by forced or child labor and to insert partisan language to limit future discussions on climate change.

What started as a strong bill with wide bipartisan support has degenerated into a weak bill that does not shield our economy from the machinations of foreign governments. And for that Mr. Speaker, I must oppose this legislation.