

however, helicopter service was restored in New York City, the major target of the attacks. Yet, even 12 years after the attacks, TSA and FAA and particularly the Secret Service still will not permit commercial helicopters to fly to D.C., unlike all other cities in the United States.

The bill I reintroduce today would begin a systematic investigation that fully takes into account the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the real and substantial threat that terrorism poses. To accomplish its difficult mission, the bill authorizes a 21-member commission, with the president designating nine members and the House and Senate each designating six members, to investigate the balance that should be required between openness and security. The commission would be composed not only of military and security experts, but, for the first time at the same table, also experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology, and psychology. To date, questions of security most often have been left almost exclusively to security and military experts. They are indispensable participants, but these experts should not alone resolve all the new and unprecedented issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the security/access balance required by our democratic traditions, a diverse group of experts needs to be at the same table.

For years, parts of our open society have gradually been closed down because of terrorism and the fear of terrorism, on an often ad hoc basis. Some federal buildings such as the U.S. Capitol have been able to deal with security issues, and continue their openness to the public. Others, like the new Department of Transportation headquarters, remain mostly inaccessible to the public. These examples, drawn from the nation's capital, are replicated in public buildings throughout the United States.

After 9/11, Americans expected additional and increased security adequate to protect citizens against the frightening threat of terrorism. However, in our country, people also expect their government to be committed and smart enough to undertake this awesome new responsibility without depriving them of their personal liberty. These times will long be remembered for the rise of terrorism in the world and in this country and for the unprecedented challenges it has brought. Nevertheless, we must provide ever-higher levels of security for our residents and public spaces while maintaining a free and open democratic society. What we have experienced since Oklahoma City and 9/11 is no ordinary threat that we expect to be over in a matter of years. The end point could be generations from now. The indeterminate nature of the threat adds to the necessity of putting aside ad hoc approaches to security developed in isolation from the goal of maintaining an open society.

When we have faced unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the good sense to investigate them deeply before moving to resolve them. Examples include the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman-Robb Commission),

and the Kerner Commission, which investigated the riots that swept American cities in the 1960s and 1970s. In the aftermath of the 2013 Navy Yard shooting, I wrote to the President of the United States requesting the establishment of an independent panel to investigate issues raised by that tragedy and to evaluate how to secure federal employees who work in facilities like the Navy Yard that are a part of a residential or business community. However, this bill seeks a commission that would act not in the wake of a tragedy but before a crisis and before erosion of basic freedoms takes hold and becomes entrenched. Because global terrorism is likely to be long lasting, we cannot afford to allow the proliferation of security measures that neither require nor are subject to civilian oversight or an analysis of alternatives and repercussions on freedom and commerce.

With no vehicles for leadership on issues of security and openness, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt 19th-century approaches, such as crude blockades, unsightly barriers around beautiful monuments, and other signals that our society is closing down, all without appropriate exploration of possible alternatives. The threat of terrorism to an open society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society of free and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level commission of experts from a broad array of disciplines to help chart the new course that will be required to protect our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

HONORING LIEUTENANT COLONEL
RAY SCHAAF

HON. JOHN R. CARTER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Lieutenant Colonel Ray Schaaf, U.S. Army, Retired of Round Rock, Texas as he celebrates his 90th birthday on April 24, 2015. Even with nearly a century of living behind him, he remains a vibrant part of his growing central Texas community.

Born in Colorado, LTC Schaaf entered the Army in June 1943. After rigorous training, he arrived in England the following year where he bravely flew combat missions with the 381st Bomb Wing over Europe. His post-war military career saw this brave aviator serve in Korea, China, Greenland, and numerous bases in the U.S. LTC Schaaf retired in 1970 and made his home in the Lone Star State.

Following his retirement, the warrior became an artist. A skilled handyman, LTC Schaaf makes jewelry and restores saddles. He's an avid painter and is especially adept in the centuries-old craft of knife making. This determination to live life to its fullest is a reminder to us all to make the most of every day.

Family remains at the center of his life. LTC Schaaf married his beloved Marge. They brought four children into the world and were united through feast and famine. Now a proud

grandfather of nine, great-grandfather of fourteen, and great-great-grandfather of one, he has the pleasure of watching his beautiful family grow and prosper.

All should marvel at the extraordinary times LTC Schaaf has witnessed. In his nine decades of living, he defended freedom on foreign shores, watched a humble midwesterner take mankind's first steps on another world, and marveled at technological advances beyond any of his dreams. He saw how America has been defined by extraordinary men and women who fought for a country brave enough to confront its past imperfections and hopeful enough to embrace a better tomorrow.

LTC Ray Schaaf's patriotism, citizenship, and commitment to service reflect the very best values of both the Greatest Generation and Central Texas. Let April 24 continue to be a celebration of one of our nation's heroes who devoted his life to keeping us free and making America a beacon of hope in the world. Along with his friends, family, and loved ones, I wish him both a happy 90th birthday and all the best in the years ahead.

RECOGNIZING BUCKS COUNTY
CHILDREN AND YOUTH SOCIAL
SERVICES AGENCY

HON. MICHAEL G. FITZPATRICK

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Mr. FITZPATRICK. Mr. Speaker, for 50 years, the Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services Agency has been protecting the children of Bucks County.

Through investigating reports of child abuse and neglect, providing for the temporary care of children not able to remain with their own families and working to develop community-wide social service programs that empower kids and their families, Children and Youth has played a vital role in our community for decades—a fact we celebrate this anniversary.

As a former County Commissioner, I've had the opportunity to work side-by-side with the committed staff and leaders that make this agency the success it is. Their work has promoted safer, healthier communities and played a part in strengthening the lives of thousands of children.

Our children are our greatest resource. And, through the dedicated efforts of Bucks County Children and Youth Social Services, Bucks County's future is brighter.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DONALD S.
POWERS

HON. TODD ROKITA

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Mr. ROKITA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a notable Hoosier, Mr. Donald S. Powers, who passed away on April 21, 2015. I would like to express my gratitude for his community service and economic development in my hometown of Munster, Indiana. Most important to me, he was a friend and mentor who was always ready to provide sound guidance. He was among my very first supporters

in my first run for Indiana Secretary of State, and he, Margo, and their family have been close friends for nearly my entire life. More than that though, many people who call Northwest Indiana home can rightfully claim the same kind of relationship with Don Powers.

Mr. Powers proudly fought for our nation during World War II as a Navy fighter pilot and was called into service again during the Korean War. I know it was an honor for him, as a member of the United States Navy to protect the country he loved, the greatest nation the world has ever seen. His fearless exploits as a fighter pilot on an aircraft carrier would shape his business approach leading to a willingness to take risks that others would not.

After his contributions to our nation, Mr. Powers moved to Munster from Kentucky, where he spent many years farming and managing farms for others. He was a graduate of Indiana's 4th District beloved Purdue University. He also helped develop Purdue University Calumet where he served on the university's board of trustees for 15 years, including several as president.

Mr. Powers went on to establish a real estate firm and developed much of Munster's residential neighborhoods. He also developed the golf course community of Briar Ridge that many of the region's families call home. His annual Purdue golf outings at the course were major fundraisers that brought Boilermaker coaches and athletes into town.

In 1973, Mr. Powers took part in the creation of Community Hospital in Munster, voted one of "America's 50 Best Hospitals" seven years in a row. In 1989, he developed the Center for the Visual and Performing Arts, home to the Northwest Indiana Symphony Orchestra and South Shore Arts. His efforts in developing Munster led to nationwide accolades for the community, even making Forbes Magazine's "25 Top Suburbs for Retirement."

Mr. Powers was highly regarded in the community for his philanthropic and business endeavors. He served on the Board of Directors of the Munster Medical Research Foundation and most recently as the CE of Community Healthcare System. He personally funded nursing scholarships at Purdue University and Indiana University Northwest. Mr. Powers received many honors including the Northwest Indiana Quality of Life Council's Lifetime Achievement Award, the Lifetime Achievement Award and Entrepreneurial Excellence Award from the Northwest Indiana Small business Development Center. He was twice recognized as a Sagamore of the Wabash recipient, by Indiana Governors.

Mr. Powers leaves behind his beloved wife Margo, daughter Frankie Fesko, three grandchildren, Heather, Donald and Timothy, and six great-grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his first wife, Trena. Indiana and the nation lost a committed leader, but his legacy can be found in the hundreds of lives he positively affected over the years.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during roll call vote numbers 171, 172,

173 on April 23, 2015, due to my participation in the Presidential Delegation to the Republic of Armenia for the centenary commemoration of the Armenian Genocide.

I would like to reflect how I would have voted:

On roll call vote no. 171 I would have voted YES.

On roll call vote no. 172 I would have voted YES.

On roll call vote no. 173 I would have voted YES.

COOPERATION BETWEEN THE U.S., JAPAN, AND KOREA

HON. LORETTA SANCHEZ

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, 2015 marks the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II. As we seek America's rebalance to Asia, I firmly believe that further cooperation between the U.S., Japan and Korea will play a pivotal role for peace and prosperity throughout the Asia-Pacific region as well as the globe. To this end, we are working hard to promote cooperative efforts through the House Armed Services Committee.

Japan is a valued and trusted ally of the U.S. They have been a model world citizen for 70 years and is a leader in global foreign aid distribution. Japan and the U.S. have a bright future together and I welcome Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe to address a Joint Session of Congress on April 29th.

One thing stands between this day and that bright future and Prime Minister Abe can eliminate that obstacle during his address to the Joint Meeting of Congress: He can make a formal apology to, and say that his government takes legal responsibility for, the more than 200,000 young women and girls from across Asia, but mainly from Korea, who were forced to become sex slaves during World War II by the Imperial Armed Forces of Japan. These are the euphemistically termed "comfort women."

The scholarship on this topic and the personal testimonies of the surviving women is voluminous and settled. Everywhere, that is, except in the mind of Prime Minister Abe and his government. Previous Japanese officials and governments have accepted the country's responsibility for creating and maintaining the comfort women system, as well as Japan's colonial and wartime aggression.

He has denied that these women were coerced, coerced and conscripted against their will to serve in "comfort stations," forced into sex slavery. He says they were ordinary prostitutes of the time. He has denied documented evidence of coercion. He has called the personal testimonies of the women "baseless, slanderous lies." He dispatched envoys to the United Nations, to ask it to overturn an exhaustive report affirming the coercion of the comfort women and recommending Japan take responsibility, and to McGraw-Hill Education publishers, to ask them to change textbook language about the comfort women. Thankfully, both bodies refused the Japanese attempts to whitewash the past.

Not only do these efforts defame the women, they destabilize the entire East Asia

region. And these are not just issues relegated to history. Violence against women in wartime and military sexual assault continues to occur to this day. For these reasons, I hope the Japanese Prime Minister Abe's visit and speech to the Joint Meeting of Congress will lay the foundation for healing and reconciliation, in particular in bringing closure to the pain and suffering endured by the Comfort Women who've waited with their very lives for an unequivocal apology.

More specifically, Mr. Abe must seize the opportunity of his Washington visit to reaffirm the 1995 Murayama Statement and 1993 Kono Statement as they were issued, and also uphold the previous Japanese government's positions and views on aggression, colonial rule and coerced sexual slavery by using clear, unequivocal and specific language.

This House has given a rare and special honor to the Prime Minister: An opportunity to address a critical ally on a grand stage. I hope Mr. Abe does the right thing.

RECOGNIZING THE BICENTENNIAL OF THE GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY FEDERAL CHARTER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, April 28, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask the House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Georgetown University during the bicentennial year of its federal charter. A 200 university year charter in the nation's capital is a special occasion to be celebrated not only for Georgetown alumni but also for the nation's capital, which has enjoyed countless educational benefits from having one of the nation's most distinguished universities in our city.

Founded more than two centuries ago by Bishop John Carroll, Georgetown became only the second school in the nation's history to acquire a federal charter from Congress. Today, the university remains true to its founder's Roman Catholic and Jesuit values. Georgetown graduates have gone on to not only change the nation but the world. The university continues to produce leaders at home and abroad. The list of its distinguished alumni is replete with public servants and foreign dignitaries, including former President William "Bill" Clinton. For the past two centuries, Members of Congress who have either been alumni or staff of the University are too numerous and noteworthy to name. I am proud to continue as a tenured member of the Georgetown Law School faculty, teaching one seminar each year, after having served as a permanent professor at the law school before my election to Congress. Currently, there are 15 Members of Congress, most of them alumni, who are affiliated with the university.

Mr. Speaker, I ask the House to join me in applauding 200 years of the Georgetown University federal charter, and the university's outstanding contributions to the nation's capital and the nation itself. The university's esteem and success continue to grow and we anticipate its continued success for years to come.