

my constituent, Ms. Becky Mudd. Becky ran a 263-mile course from Huntington Beach, California to the border of Arizona in nine days to raise public awareness of and funds for pediatric cancer research. Over the nine day period, Becky ran daily and dedicated parts of her journey to different forms of childhood cancer. She dedicated the first day of her run to Samuel Jeffers who at age 8 lost his life to brain cancer. The Jeffers family was Becky's support crew during her run.

As Becky neared the halfway point of her run in the city of Banning, California, the police chief rode alongside her on a bicycle. Becky made a brief stop at Banning City Hall to meet with families who had lost children to cancer. She surpassed her fundraising goal, raising more than \$7,500 to support the Pediatric Cancer Research Foundation. Through her activism, Becky has touched the lives of families and children who have been affected by pediatric cancer.

Becky is supporting a tremendous effort to raise public awareness of a disease that this year is estimated by the American Cancer Society to affect 10,380 children in the United States under the age of 15. Her daily efforts to bring pediatric cancer to the forefront honors the memory of her two sisters, Robin Ross and Rhonda Ross, both of whom lost their lives to cancer.

Becky was born and raised in Orange County, California. She is a resident of my 48th Congressional District in Laguna Beach, California and a longtime employee of the Orange County Water District. I commend and applaud her unstinting work to support pediatric cancer research. It is my honor to join with my colleagues in recognition of Becky Mudd.

HONORING HENRY JABLONSKI

HON. H. MORGAN GRIFFITH

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. GRIFFITH. Mr. Speaker, I submit these remarks to commemorate the life of my colleague and friend Henry Jablonski of Christiansburg, Virginia, who passed away on April 26, 2015.

Born in Wilmington, Delaware, Henry went on to attend the University of Delaware, where he studied physics. He went on to work for Hercules, Inc. in Salt Lake City, Utah, Princeton, New Jersey, and Radford, Virginia. He married fellow Wilmington native Norma while in Salt Lake City. The pair were married for 53 years before Norma passed away in 2012. In Princeton his son Neil was born, and his daughter Jennifer was born in Radford.

Henry truly was a rocket scientist, having worked in Utah to demonstrate the reliability of the Minute Man and Polaris missile stages. In 1967, Henry moved to Southwest Virginia in order to assist in designing a Hercules automated manufacturing facility for propellants.

After 36 years of service, Henry retired from Hercules Inc./Alliant Techsystems in 1995. Later, he returned to work at the Radford Army Ammunition Plant at Valente Systems, Inc., where he provided engineering and management services for a manufacturing operation.

Additionally, Henry was very involved in public service. He was elected to the Mont-

gomery County Board of Supervisors for four terms, and served from 1982–1997 as the county's District D representative. During that time, Henry was elected Chairman of the Board for three years and Vice Chairman for seven years.

From 1982–1997, Henry also served on the Montgomery County Public Service Authority (as Chairman for two years and as Vice Chairman for two years) and the New River Valley Planning District Commission (again as Chairman for two years and Vice Chairman for two years).

Additionally, Henry was active with the Montgomery County Regional Economic Development Commission (from 1988–1993), the New River Valley Development Corp. (from 1985–1997, Vice President and Board of Directors), the MBC (Montgomery County, Blacksburg, Christiansburg) Development Corp. (from 1990–1997, Board of Directors), the Montgomery County Planning Commission (from 1994–1996), the Montgomery County/Floyd County Regional Library—Main Branch Building Commission (from 1986–1987), the Montgomery County School Site Selection Committee (from 1996–1997), and the Riner Fire Station Building Committee (from 1984–1985, Chairman).

Henry served on the Boards of Directors of the Warm Hearth Village and the Montgomery Museum and Lewis Miller Regional Art Center. Henry was the chairman of and a writer for the museum's book project committee. This committee lead to the publication of the 772-page book Virginia's Montgomery County, which covers the history of the county.

Further, Henry served in the United States Air Force Reserves from 1958–1963, and graduated from the Aircraft and Engine Mechanics School at Sheppard Air Force Base in Texas.

Henry is survived by son, Neil Jablonski and wife, Dianna, of Spotsylvania, Virginia; daughter, Jennifer Jablonski, of Columbia, South Carolina; and sisters, Pat Allen, of Kansas City, Missouri; Nannette Cannon and husband, Jim, of Wilmington, Delaware, and Mary Julia Stachecki and husband, Chester, of Dover, Delaware. Henry was predeceased by cherished wife, Norma.

A man whose legacy and love for family, neighbors, and community will long be remembered, Henry will be greatly missed. I am honored to pay tribute to Henry's many contributions. My thoughts and prayers go out to his family and loved ones.

INTRODUCTION OF THE GUN SHOW LOOPHOLE CLOSING ACT

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to introduce today the Gun Show Loophole Closing Act—critical legislation to keep dangerous weapons away from criminals and other prohibited persons. First proposed by my friend and former colleague Rep. Carolyn McCarthy, I am humbled to continue her important effort to end gun violence, and this legislation would take an important step forward.

States across the country, including my home state of New York, have recognized the

danger posed by this significant gap in our gun laws that allows complete strangers to buy and sell guns without the background check requirements Congress passed in the Brady Bill. I'm proud that there is momentum around the country to update our gun laws and ensure that weapons do not end up in the wrong hands—but the fact is that we need a federal solution to this national problem. The Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives has cited gun shows as a “major trafficking channel”, and lax gun show regulations in one state can allow guns in the hands of criminals in communities many states away.

The Gun Show Loophole Closing Act will close this gap in existing law and give the ATF the resources and authority it needs to ensure that gun shows do not facilitate dangerous gun sales. The legislation will make sure that law enforcement knows the details about shows and that records are kept on firearm sales. These common-sense measures will bring consistent national standards to gun shows, help combat gun trafficking, and keep guns out of the wrong hands.

I hope my colleagues will join me to support this important effort.

NATIONAL DEFENSE AUTHORIZATION ACT FOR FISCAL YEAR 2016

SPEECH OF

HON. MADELEINE Z. BORDALLO

OF GUAM

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 1735) to authorize appropriations for fiscal year 2016 for military activities of the Department of Defense and for military construction, to prescribe military personnel strengths for such fiscal year, and for other purposes:

Ms. BORDALLO. Mr. Chair, I rise to discuss several important provisions included in H.R. 1735, the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2016. The bill provides critical authorities to support our men and women in uniform.

In particular, I appreciate the leadership of Readiness Chairman, Rep. ROB WITTMAN of Virginia, and the way we have worked together to address the readiness of our United States military. The underlying bill takes important steps to provide authorities and funds to support for the readiness of our military to meet the full spectrum of threats.

However, I have concerns about an amendment that is in en-bloc package 1 and sponsored by Congressman HANNA of New York. While I do not oppose the entire en-bloc package I am concerned about the potential impacts of Mr. HANNA's amendment on reverse auctions. In last year's defense bill we carried a provision that provided a framework to conduct reverse auctions in the Department of Defense. I am concerned that Mr. HANNA's amendment, as offered, is too broad and does not allow ample time for the DoD to implement what we required just months ago.

The amendment would restrict the use of reverse auctions on procurement of certain items for the protection of Federal employees or members of the Armed Forces. Such broad language could include items that are more

appropriately procured through reverse auctions. There is also no evidence that reverse auctions have been harmful in the procurement of any personal safety devices including bullet-proof vests.

Finally, the amendment includes a definition of design and construction services that is overly broad and could preclude contracting officials from using reverse auctions to save the government significant funding. For example, it defines design and construction services to include interior design and landscape design. Use of reverse auctions may be an appropriate way to save the government significant funding.

Ultimately, I appreciate the gentlemen's intent to provide a government-wide framework for reverse auctions but I am concerned the language is overly broad and could have the unintended consequences for contracting officers and potentially add costs instead of save the government valuable funding. I look forward to working with Mr. HANNA of New York and Ms. MENG of New York to address their concerns during Conference Committee on the FY16 NDAA.

INTRODUCTION OF THE RACIAL PROFILING PREVENTION ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON
OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce a bill, the Racial Profiling Prevention Act, to reestablish a federal grant program for states that desire to develop racial profiling laws, collect and maintain appropriate data, design programs to reduce racial profiling, and train law enforcement officers. We were successful in getting the program included in the Safe, Accountable, Flexible, Efficient Transportation Equity Act: A Legacy for Users (SAFETEA-LU) in 2005. Although the program was just a small piece of the large SAFETEA-LU bill, nearly half of the states competed and ultimately participated in the program for multiple years. This experience speaks to state desires to deal with their own policing and profiling issues and to the usefulness of the program to states. Racial profiling is a form of racial discrimination that has been thrust back into the forefront of national concern by the tragic deaths of Black men by police and national demonstrations and disturbances, most recently in Baltimore, Maryland.

Racial profiling on roads built with federal funds is a violation of Title VI of the 1964 Civil Rights Act, because it amounts to a government subsidy of discrimination. However, while racial profiling remains more widespread in our country than most other forms of discrimination, there is little experience in developing legislation in this sensitive area to address racial profiling while allowing for appropriate law enforcement. My bill would help states to better develop their racial profiling laws and help train law enforcement to avoid these problems.

My bill imposes no mandates on states. It simply authorizes a grant program, but does not require states to participate. However, it provides resources that many states and localities clearly need if they are to curb racial profiling.

RECOGNIZING AMERICAN MUSIC LEGEND AND MISSISSIPPI NATIVE B.B. KING

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and legacy of one of Mississippi's favorite sons and one of the icons of American music, Riley B. ("B.B.") King. Born on a plantation between Indianola and Itta Bena, Mississippi, on September 16, 1925, B.B. King was raised in the Mississippi Delta and went on to become the unquestioned "King of the Blues."

Like many great musicians, B.B. King began his music career in church—singing in the choir of his grandmother's church in Kilmichael, Mississippi. Eventually, he went on to earn nickels and dimes for playing the guitar in the surrounding area. Mr. King was then introduced to Beale Street in Memphis and the Sonny Boy Williamson's Radio Show where he received his big break and gained his nickname "Beale Street Blues Boy" which was ultimately shortened to "B.B."

In the 1950's, B.B. King embarked on what would be a legendary touring career. This included a record-setting 342 appearances in 1956 with his band throughout the country in many venues ranging from those on the so-called "Chit'lin Circuit" to symphony concert halls. B.B. King often spent three hundred days out of the year performing on the road—even well into his 80's.

In one of the most unruly experiences he had on the road, he was playing a concert hall where a fight broke out, a kerosene lamp was knocked over and a fire was started in the hall. B.B. realized that in the rush, he left his beloved guitar in the hall and ran back in to get it. He later discovered that the fight broke out over a woman named Lucille and he decided to name his guitar after her as a reminder to never do anything that crazy again. To this day, his trademark, black Gibson guitars are called "Lucille."

B.B. King had one of the most identifiable and unique guitar styles in music history. He integrated complex string blends and his left hand vibrato which created an almost vocal-sounding guitar sound. This sound can be heard on his many hits including "Three O'Clock Blues," "The Thrill Is Gone," and "Stormy Monday."

B.B. King's awards and honors are almost countless. He was inducted into the Blues Hall of Fame in 1984 and into the Rock and Roll Hall of Fame in 1987. He has received the Grammy Lifetime Achievement Award, Kennedy Center Honors and the Presidential Medal of Freedom for his contribution to American music. Additionally, he has been bestowed honorary doctorates from Tougaloo College, Mississippi Valley State University, Rhodes College, Yale University and Brown University.

Although he had such immense success all over the world, B.B. King never lost touch with his Mississippi Delta roots and each year returned to his hometown of Indianola to give a concert at the B.B. King Homecoming Blues Festival. His iconic impact on music is a source of great pride for all Mississippians—especially those in the Delta.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my colleagues join me in celebrating the life and legacy of B.B. King. His work ethic and talent were immeasurable and his impact on American music is undeniable. He was a great bluesman, a great Mississippian and a great American. The "King" may have died today but his music will live on forever.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE BROADENING OPPORTUNITIES THROUGH EDUCATION ACT

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, education is the key to building a workforce prepared to meet the needs and challenges of the 21st century global economy. However, every year more than 1.2 million students drop out of high schools across the United States.

Students who drop out of high school not only reduce their opportunity to learn, but also tend to earn less over the course of their life and are often less prepared to compete in the workforce. Adults who drop out of high school and do not receive their GED earn on average 41 percent less than their counterparts who completed high school.

In addition, reducing the high school dropout rate could provide a significant boost to our economy. A study by researchers at Columbia University estimates that the net economic benefit per student graduating high school is approximately \$127,000.

Mr. Speaker, that is why today I reintroduced my Broadening Opportunities Through Education Act. This legislation provides additional resources to states that raise the age of compulsory school attendance through age 17. These resources are designed to ensure that students at risk of dropping out receive the support they need to reach their fullest potential. These funds would go towards establishing or expanding work-based programs that integrate academic and career-based skills through career and technical training and apprenticeships; implementing early warning systems to help high schools and middle schools to identify struggling students and implement evidence based interventions; and increasing support systems for students through activities such as student advising and one-to-one mentoring.

As Congress continues to work on strategies to address our deficit and grow our 21st century economy, we cannot forget that our greatest asset is the knowledge base of our workforce. I encourage my colleagues to co-sponsor the Broadening Opportunities Through Education Act and help me bring this program to fruition.

REMEMBERING THE LIFE OF MR. WILLIAM "BILL" CLEMENS

HON. TIM RYAN

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. RYAN of Ohio. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Mr. William "Bill" Clemens,