

HONORING MISS QUANESHIA BAKER

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 honor a multi-talented young lady, Miss Quaneschia Baker. Miss Quaneschia Baker, a resident of Rolling Fork, MS, is the eldest of two, raised in a single parent home.

She is a 2015 Honors graduate of South Delta High School. Quaneschia plans to attend the University of Mississippi and pursue a degree in political science with the dream of becoming an attorney. Quaneschia, an all-around student, excelled in both academics and extracurricular activities. Quaneschia scored a perfect score on the Algebra I and Mathematical MCT exam. She scored in the highest category on the Algebra I, Biology I, English II, and World History state exams. She held the title of Miss South Delta twice, once in middle school and the other in high school for having the highest grade point average in school.

Quaneschia is a member and officer of various academic and extracurricular activities. She is the President of the class of 2015 and member of the 4H Club, Student Council, Peer Council, Jackson State University's Teen Drinking Prevention Council and the Mayor's Youth Council. Quaneschia is a member of the Future Farmers of America (FFA) organization, where she competed in eight different competitions: Parliamentary Procedure, Opening and Closing Ceremony demonstration, Floriculture, Nursery Landscape, and Horticulture. Also, she was the highest scoring silver coin individual on her team while competing in Kentucky at the National FFA competition.

Miss Baker has volunteered with the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality and the Legacy Village by conducting research and informing the community of environmental safety. Other community activities Quaneschia has been involved in include: landscaping the Vocational complex, mentoring 5th graders, adopting a senior citizen, directing the annual Delta Marathon, serve as tour leader during the Annual Deep Delta Beat Festival, reading to children at Ripley Blackwell head start and South Delta Elementary school and participating in a school supply giveaway.

Having achieved so much at a young age, Miss Baker strives every day to reach her goals while remembering this quote from Aristotle, which states, "We are what we repeatedly do. Excellence, then, is not an act, but a habit."

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Miss Quaneschia Baker for her hard work, dedication and a strong desire to achieve.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION**HON. TODD C. YOUNG**

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to correct the record and express my support of Mr. KING's amendment to the Military Construction and Veterans Affairs and Related Agencies Appropriations Act.

In the midst of the appropriations amendment series for this bill, I was mistaken about which amendment was being considered and accidentally voted against Mr. KING's Davis-Bacon prohibition amendment on the floor.

When these types of amendments have come up in the past, I have always voted to prohibit the Davis-Bacon prevailing wage requirements from applying to federally funded projects.

Last Congress, I voted in favor of Mr. KING's amendment in two different appropriations bills and in the 112th Congress, I voted in favor of eight different Davis-Bacon prohibition amendments in various appropriations and transportation bills.

The Depression-era Davis-Bacon Act is fundamentally flawed, continues to create inefficiencies and inflates the cost of our construction projects.

I want to make it clear that I am supportive of the King Amendment and it was my intention to vote "aye" both then and in the future.

RECOGNIZING STEVEN LUCYSHYN**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the life of a veteran and member of the Rochester community, Steven Lucyshyn.

Rochester is a vibrant city with a rich history including the members of its community who ranged from activists to philanthropists to technological pioneers, and the businesses that were the front-runners of their time in their respective fields. The contributions made by Rochesterians inspire their fellow community members on a daily basis. Steven is no exception. Born in 1919, Steven was a hard-working man who carried on the spirit of Rochester in his day-to-day life as a husband, father, and friend.

But he went well beyond that. In the midst of World War II, Steven answered the call to serve his country and joined the Armed Forces. On June 12, 1941, Steven enlisted as a Private and proudly served in the Warrant Officers branch of the U.S. Army. Steven displayed this immense bravery while fighting in the Battle of the Bulge. Serving one's country requires an immense amount of courage and valor that few of us are capable of displaying. It is without hesitation that we honor the life of Steven, his love for his family and the contributions that he made to this country and the Rochester community.

Steven was predeceased by his beloved wife of 66 years, Amelia, who together, raised two children, Michael Lucyshyn and Janice Schillaci; had two grandsons, Samuel J. (Becky) Lucyshyn and Michael J. Schillaci; and four great-grandchildren, Zoe, Dominic, Mia, and Jessica. As his family and friends mourn his passing, let this record celebrate his life and service to our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, during the evening of Thursday, April 30 and on Friday, May 1, 2015, I took medical leave to make an appointment related to my recovery from a surgical procedure and was unable to be present for recorded votes. Had I been present, I would have voted:

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 183 (on agreeing to the conference report for S. Con. Res. 11), "YES" on rollcall vote No. 184 (on agreeing to the Van Hollen Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 185 (on agreeing to the first Mulvaney Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 186 (on agreeing to the second Mulvaney Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 187 (on agreeing to the Nadler Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 188 (on agreeing to the Blumenauer Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 189 (on agreeing to the Pocan Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 190 (on agreeing to the Hice Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 191 (on agreeing to the King (IA) Amendment to H.R. 2029),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 192 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 2029, with instructions),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 193 (on passage of H.R. 2029),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 194 (on passage of H.J. Res. 43),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 195 (on agreeing to the first McClintock Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 196 (on agreeing to the Ruiz Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 197 (on agreeing to the Griffith Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 198 (on agreeing to the first Swalwell Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 199 (on agreeing to the Byrne Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 200 (on agreeing to the second McClintock Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 201 (on agreeing to the Ellison Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 202 (on agreeing to the second Swalwell Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 203 (on agreeing to the Quigley Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 204 (on agreeing to the Garamendi Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 205 (on agreeing to the Hudson Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 206 (on agreeing to the Sanford Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 207 (on agreeing to the Burgess Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 208 (on agreeing to the Rothfus Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 209 (on agreeing to the Gosar Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 210 (on agreeing to the Blackburn Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 211 (on agreeing to the McClintock Amendment to H.R. 2028),

“NO” on rollcall vote No. 212 (on agreeing to the first LaMalfa Amendment to H.R. 2028),

“NO” on rollcall vote No. 213 (on agreeing to the second LaMalfa Amendment to H.R. 2028),

“YES” on rollcall vote No. 214 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 2028, with instructions),

“NO” on rollcall vote No. 215 (on passage of H.R. 2028).

HONORING JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, this May we celebrate Jewish American History Month, to recognize the social, political, and cultural history of America’s Jewish community. I am pleased to recognize the myriad contributions Jewish Americans make every day to improve our City, State and Nation often in the face of unspeakable discrimination and adversity. America is blessed to have such a vibrant community that impacts so many lives through the spirit of *tikkun olam*, or repairing the world.

It is my great honor to represent the Upper Manhattan Congressional District and the Bronx, which is home to many distinguished institutions, such as The Jewish Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University, and Touro College, as well as almost thirty active synagogues of all denominations. I am proud that my dearly respected friend, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who is world-renowned for his efforts to promote peace and justice, has been recently knighted by Pope Francis and made a member of the Papal Order of St. Sylvester at a ceremony in New York.

Over the years, I have worked closely with New York based institutional organizations like the Jewish Community Relations Council, Met Council of Jewish Poverty and the American Jewish Committee on a variety of issues. I have led past efforts to assist Jews seeking refuge from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, and I am proud to have worked with my colleagues in Congress on various bills to fight anti-Semitism and racism. Just recently I supported a resolution urging the Administration to combat anti-Semitism globally. As a strong supporter of Israel, I will continue to advocate for stability in the Middle East. I congratulate Jewish people everywhere for their contributions to our community and to our country. To them I say Shalom and Kol Tov.

HONORING NIA DORROUGH

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 honor a goal oriented student at Quitman County Middle School.

Nia Dorrough was born on November 29, 2002 to Tawanda Dorrough. She is the granddaughter of Melvin and Virginia Dorrough. Nia is a straight A student who has been on the Superintendent’s List since kindergarten. She is an active member of the Quitman County

Middle School’s Student Council. She also represented the Language Arts department in her schools coronation as Miss Language Arts for her astounding scores. When Nia was at Quitman County Elementary School, Nia volunteered to help raise money for her school to build a new playground by collecting box tops. Some of Nia’s goals include: helping medical researchers gain funding to find a cure for cancer and other diseases. She aspires to do this by becoming a successful lawyer with her own law firm. Nia is an active member in her community and works as a Junior Secretary for Burrell Chapel M. B. Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nia Dorrough, as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

CONGRATULATING WEST KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) on recently being named one of the top three community colleges in America by the Aspen Institute.

Selected from 1,123 community colleges nationwide, this marks the second time WKCTC has been chosen as Finalist-with-Distinction in addition to having been ranked as a top ten finalist every year the Aspen Prize has been awarded since its launch in 2011.

Created by the Aspen Institute, The Aspen Prize is the nation’s preeminent recognition of high achievement and performance in America’s community colleges and is awarded every two years. The prize recognizes institutions for outstanding outcomes in four areas: student learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

WKCTC students graduate and transfer at rates that exceed the national average by eight percent and asserts no gap in graduation rates between minorities and other students—a rare occurrence in most of the nation’s colleges and universities. Working to draw first-generation students into college, WKCTC faculty and staff consistently track student learning and completion outcomes and use this data to improve teaching and guidance practices. These efforts have resulted in an increase in student retention and degree completion, and place them among the very best in graduating students who are prepared for meaningful employment and/or success after transferring to a four-year institution.

WKCTC has been a primary player in efforts to expand economic growth, from a high-tech industrialized training facility for area companies to adding programs in anticipated growth areas, including marine technology, logistics and operations management.

Community colleges today enroll more than 40 percent of all U.S. undergraduates—7 million students—working toward degrees and certificates. While fewer than half of all community college students graduate nationwide, Aspen Prize finalist institutions demonstrate

community colleges can help students achieve higher levels of success while in college and after they graduate.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College, located in Paducah, Kentucky, stands among these leading institutions and I am pleased to see its success once again being acknowledged.

UNITING AND STRENGTHENING AMERICA BY FULFILLING RIGHTS AND ENSURING EFFECTIVE DISCIPLINE OVER MONITORING ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2048, the USA Freedom Act.

In the wake of last week’s 2nd Circuit Court Decision, I want to commend Chairman GOODLATTE, Ranking Member CONYERS, Congressman SENSENBRENNER, and Congressman NADLER, for crafting legislation that makes meaningful reforms to many NSA surveillance programs—including Section 215 of the Patriot Act—and is a departure from the untenable status quo. However, despite these positive reforms, this bill fails to address Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act, an even more invasive program than Section 215 which allows the government to collect both data and content of Americans without a warrant.

Last year’s version of the USA Freedom Act similarly scaled back many of the surveillance programs the NSA currently has at its disposal. Unfortunately, Section 702 was not one of them. Throughout the process, we were repeatedly assured by Chairman GOODLATTE and Congressman SENSENBRENNER that there would be a real future effort to address Section 702. At that time, Rep. SENSENBRENNER stated, “Section 702 of FISA has been improperly used to obtain the content of Americans’ private communications without a warrant, which is unconstitutional under the Fourth Amendment and a blatant violation of Americans’ civil liberties.”

Like Rep. SENSENBRENNER, I have also consistently said that Section 702 opened the door to some of the most troublesome surveillance practices that have come to light in recent years. Last year, I strongly supported the effort to fix those aspects of Section 702. Unfortunately, as I indicated last year, last minute changes stripped out provisions that would have “prevented the NSA from being able to search government databases for foreign communications content of American citizens without a warrant.” When those important provisions were removed, Chairman GOODLATTE and Rep. SENSENBRENNER pledged that we would address these reforms without delay.

Unfortunately, here we are a year later and Chairman GOODLATTE and Rep. SENSENBRENNER still have not allowed for a full debate and vote on this issue. Despite the Chairman’s supposed support to end Section 702, when Congresswoman LOFGREN offered an amendment during markup of the USA Freedom Act to prohibit these warrantless backdoor searches, Chairman GOODLATTE said, “this is