

a beat. You never could predict what was coming next, but you just knew it would be memorable. There will never be another like "Gramm".

When Sarah's family moved near her beloved Chesapeake Bay, to the Eastern Shore of Maryland in 2009, she accompanied them. She was a resident at the Berlin Maryland Nursing Center for five years and was cognitive and witty up until her passing on May 9, 2015. One of her greatest joys was living to see President Barack Obama elected twice, and to see Loretta Lynch confirmed as U.S. Attorney General. As she said, "I never thought I would live to see all of this".

Mr. Speaker, I urge Members of Congress to join me in honoring the memory of Sarah Elizabeth Williams. Our wonderful memories of her will sustain us all.

CONGRATULATING KASSIE MCKNIGHT FOR COMPETING IN THE SCRIPPS NATIONAL SPELLING BEE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Kassie McKnight for her achievement in representing southwest Missouri at the Scripps National Spelling Bee.

Kassie is a Bolivar native and was an eighth grader at Bolivar Middle School during the time of the competition. She worked hard to get to the top, going through her local spelling bee in Bolivar to the Southwest Missouri Regional Spelling Bee at Missouri State University in Springfield. Kassie competed against 34 other spellers through 64 tough rounds at the regional competition, ultimately spelling "exacerbate" correctly to secure her spot at the 2015 Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington. Kassie was one of 285 contestants to compete in the esteemed national bee.

These accomplishments took a great deal of hard work, including hours of practice and completion of numerous spelling drills, not to mention the ability to spell many difficult words that are rarely used in everyday conversation. I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Kassie on a job well done. It is great to represent in Congress such amazing talent found in the Missouri's Seventh Congressional District.

IN HONOR OF STEVE BOLLINGER

HON. J. FRENCH HILL

OF ARKANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. HILL. Mr. Speaker, losing a father, mother, husband, or wife is an emotionally traumatic experience for any family. In addition to the burden faced by families that have experienced this type of loss, losing a head of household has severe economic implications for their journey forward. The Bollinger family learned this three decades ago, after unexpectedly losing their beloved Steve, leaving his wife, Lin, with four children and no income other than social security and several small in-

surance policies. Luckily, the Bollingers had a strong team behind them to help them through the immediate difficulties this presented.

During the Reagan Administration, Steve was Assistant Secretary for Community Planning and Development at the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Previously, he had run for Cincinnati City Council and served as the head of the Public Housing Authority of Columbus, Ohio, where he served honorably. His dedication rendered a sincere appreciation and respect from his colleagues, and these individuals would be the ones that summoned the means of supporting the Bollinger family until they won a worker's compensation claim that enabled them to return funds to the newly established Bollinger Foundation. And so, the group had a newly empowered mission: to support families that faced the same struggle.

I had the opportunity to work with Steve when I was a young staffer on Capitol Hill, working for the U.S. Senate Committee on Banking, Housing, & Urban Affairs. Steve came before the Committee to bring the Reagan Administration's deregulation of the Community Development Block Grant.

Steve, a young man at the age of 36, died while traveling to Savannah, Georgia, to speak to the Georgia Municipal League. Lin was pregnant with their fourth child, and Steve, who had been a public servant most of his adult life, had not had enough time to build a sufficient nest egg to properly take care of the future needs of his family.

Since its founding, the Bollinger Foundation has provided nearly three quarters of a million dollars to families who have lost a loved one, with assistance given to families of individuals having worked in community or economic development, or assisted housing, as Steve did.

The Foundation has helped countless families including families affected by the bombing of the Murrah Federal Office Building in Oklahoma City, in which the greatest loss of life and injury was to people who worked for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Numerous families have benefitted from the efforts of the Foundation and their committed members, and their efforts represent Steve's memory well. I am grateful for Steve, our friendship of long ago and or the continued work of the foundation bearing his name.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LOIS CAPPS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mrs. CAPPS. Mr. Speaker, I was not able to be present for the following Roll Call votes on June 3, 2015 and would like to reflect that I would have voted as follows: Roll Call 289: No.

IN HONOR OF RICHARD MILLER

HON. ELIZABETH H. ESTY

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Ms. ESTY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Richard Miller, a resident

of Cheshire, Connecticut, who passed away recently at the age of 100.

Mr. Miller dedicated his life to serving others and was a leader in the community. He served on various municipal boards including the town's Board of Education, Cheshire Hospice, and Senior Center. He also volunteered with countless civic organizations and societies and served three elected terms as the town of Cheshire's Police Commissioner.

Mr. Miller was a long time member of the First Congregational Church in my hometown of Cheshire, and was a very active member of the Rotary. He also established the Cheshire Food Drive, and raised funds for countless charitable organizations.

Mr. Miller was a civil engineer who worked with The American Brass Company and Anaconda Copper before completing his career with Platt Brothers & Company in Waterbury, CT in 1981.

He served our country in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for four and a half years, mainly concerned with the training of Special Engineer service and combat units at Fort Belvoir, Virginia. He was honorably discharged in April 1946 with the rank of Major CE.

Mr. Miller was an inspiration, and I know he is greatly missed by many, especially those in Connecticut's 5th Congressional District.

INTRODUCTION OF THE TRADE TRANSPAREN-C RESOLUTION

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to introduce the Trade Review Accountability Needs Sunlight and Preview of Any Regulations and Exact Negotiated Components Resolution, or the "Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution."

Congress has granted the last eighteen presidents the authority to negotiate trade agreements withdrawing significant Congressional participation in the process. The recent past has seen a transformation in this authority, originally established to serve as negotiating guidelines. Today, it is little more than Congressional consent to be a rubber stamp as this implementing legislation sometimes referred to as "Fast-Track" or "Trade Promotion Authority," grants sweeping authority to the Executive branch to negotiate trade deals. And it undercuts the Constitutional responsibility of Congress to regulate commerce with foreign nations as outlined in Article 1, Section 8 of the U.S. Constitution. Instead we are allowed merely an up or down vote.

Today, I introduce this resolution to take back our Congressional authority, and to shine light on the negotiation process and final text of these increasingly massive trade deals.

The Trade Promotion Authority currently under debate would usher through the top secret Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP) trade agreement. It would also grant that fast track authority for up to six years. During that time we would be prohibited from any Congressional amendments or hearings, and given at most 60 days to review any proposed trade deal. This is a very short window if you consider that the draft TPP is between 800–1000 pages.

My Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution will put a hold on consideration of any implementing “Fast-Track” bill for any trade agreement until the full, final text of that agreement has been available to the public for no less than 60 days. This includes the secretive TPP.

In its current form, the TPP would outsource good jobs, degrade global environmental and working standards and allow investor rights to overrun the rights of workers. The TPP is also packed with special-interest perks thanks to the more than 600 transnational corporations that weighed in on, and in some case wrote, the agreement in secret. Meanwhile the American people have still not been allowed to read it.

For six years the U.S. trade representative has kept the TPP buried under a top secret classification. Even Members of Congress can only read it in a secure room under the watchful eye of a security monitor. I visited that room to review several sections of the deal and was not allowed to make copies, keep notes, take pictures, or share anything I learned with anyone unless they have Top Secret security clearance, all under threat of prosecution.

Despite the secrecy, this deal has provisions the American people need to know about.

The Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution will reaffirm Congress’s Constitutional authority to set the terms for international trade. It will allow the American public time and sunlight to see the Trans-Pacific Partnership and future trade deals for themselves. As Members of Congress, we have a duty to our constituents to play the role mandated by the Constitution. Not allowing the people access to the full discussion would be a disservice to them. I urge my colleagues to support the Trade TRANSPAREN-C Resolution to ensure U.S. trade policy reflects American principles of representative governance.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. GUS M. BILIRAKIS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. BILIRAKIS. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to make two votes. On roll call vote 288, had I been present I would have voted “No.” On roll call vote 289, had I been present I would have voted “Aye.”

CELEBRATING THE LIFE OF MS. MARGARET JACKSON

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life of Ms. Margaret

Jackson, a well respected Harlem activist, business woman and all around exemplary human being.

Margaret Jackson serves her community not merely through rhetoric but in her noble actions. The Martin Luther King Jr. Democratic Club exemplifies excellent civic service and brings hope and joy to countless citizens by keeping the legacy of the Reverend Doctor Martin Luther King Jr. at the forefront of our collective cultural consciousness. Margaret Jackson was the president of that institution. Under her leadership, the club continued its core principle of continuing a sense of altruistic civic mindedness, the likes of which brought great pride to her community. She wasn’t, however, merely a member of but one institution focused on community service; she was instrumental to several. Ms. Jackson was the treasurer of the Harlem YMCA where she worked with competence, professionalism, and dignity, and a member of St. Phillip’s Episcopal Church where she served and worshipped with great dignity. She was the epitome of a civic minded spiritualist.

Margaret Jackson was an exceptional person, a polymath who mastered many trades and served the public in many ways. She not only made a great impact in the non-profit sector, but she owned several successful businesses. Margaret Jackson was president of two funeral homes, which she led with competence, humanitarian compassion, and a heartfelt and deeply meaningful sense of care towards the neediest among us: traits vital in the managing of a funeral home, where those who came to her needed compassion more than anything else. She also proved her economic expertise in her ownership of a successful realty corporation, which she ran skillfully and prosperously, but always with a civic minded wholly humanitarian desire to serve the needy.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues join me in recognizing this wonderful person and all of the good that she stood for. The United States is built upon the backs of its most civic and conscientious citizens.

HONORING CIVIL RIGHTS ACTIVIST REV. FREDERICK D. REESE

HON. TERRI A. SEWELL

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 4, 2015

Ms. SEWELL of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor renowned civil rights leader Rev. Frederick D. Reese, a pillar in the Selma to Montgomery marches of 1965. This courageous Alabamian is being honored on Saturday June 7, 2015, in my hometown of Selma, Alabama, for his service and contributions to education and politics, as well as the fight for equality and justice. I am proud to be a part of efforts to pay homage to one of the most influential Americans in history.

Dr. Reese was born November 28, 1929. A believer in education, he graduated from Ala-

bama State University and Livingston University, and studied and attended Southern University, the University of Alabama and Auburn University before receiving his doctorate of divinity from Selma University.

Dr. Reese is an historic figure of modern history known for his support of civil rights. Dr. Reese rose to national prominence as a civil rights leader following “Bloody Sunday.”

This beloved civil rights activist marched across the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, Alabama in 1965, along with hundreds of other supporters. By the mid-1960’s, Reese was President of the Dallas County Voter’s League and was also a local teacher who presided over the Selma Teachers Association. Discouraged by Selma’s efforts to hinder voter registration for African Americans, Dr. Reese advocated that teachers press the issue. Dr. Reese invited Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. and the Southern Christian Leadership Conference to lead Selma’s voting rights protest.

Dr. Reese has served the Selma and Dallas County community faithfully and his exemplary work and commitment to social justice is well known. Notably, Dr. Reese hasn’t left the community that he helped become the center of the civil rights movement in the 1960s. Dr. Reese has been quoted as saying his new fight is to inspire young people to lead purposeful lives.

“I tell young people today that they cannot rest on our victories,” Dr. Reese said. “We have to remain committed. That means registering to vote and participating in what this country has to offer. That means making a difference for others.”

Dr. Reese said that he marched so that everyone, regardless of color, could become a first-class citizen. Dr. Reese knows that you have to stand for what you believe in. He became nationally known for his beliefs and inspired others to stand as well. Dr. Reese has remained committed to education and service. He became a principal and a city councilman, serving 12 years on the Selma City Council. He also ran for mayor in 1984, and led a campaign to motivate Wal-Mart executives to hire African-Americans as store managers.

In 2000, in honor of his civil rights work, a stretch of more than three miles of U.S. Route 80, where he marched to Montgomery, was named the Frederick D. Reese Parkway. The F.D. Reese Christian Academy in Kokomo, Indiana, was also dedicated to him.

Dr. Reese has been the pastor of Selma’s Ebenezer Baptist Church since 1965. Although he is retired from teaching, he still works as a Baptist minister and delivers a sermon to his congregation each week.

On behalf of the 7th Congressional District, the State of Alabama and this nation, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the accomplishments of Reverend Dr. F.D. Reese. We pay tribute to his distinguished career and honor his contributions and leadership in the civil rights movement. My deep appreciation is expressed for his courageous, distinguished and on-going service.