

RECOGNIZING MCKINLEY TECHNOLOGY HIGH SCHOOL'S COMMITMENT TO STEM EDUCATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of McKinley Technology High School for their commitment to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics enrichment, and for participating in my annual Science and Technology Braintrust.

The teachers at McKinley Technology High School are committed to ensuring that our country's youth is exposed to a STEM curriculum, which is paramount to the future of our country. A prevalent theme amongst successful STEM professionals is the curiosity and drive instilled by their teachers at a young age. We must continue to invest in schools that highlight a STEM education, so that all students will have an opportunity to one day be an astrophysicist, doctor, engineer, or a geologist.

Mr. Speaker, McKinley Technology High School is a true advocate of STEM education and deserves recognition for its work. With great pride I can say that because of this school's commitment to STEM education, our country's youth is gaining the skills needed to compete in a rapidly globalizing world.

ON H.R. 5719

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, today, the House voted on another unpaid-for tax cut by approving H.R. 5719, which would increase the deficit by more than \$1 billion. I believe the bill's purpose has merit. It can encourage companies to share more profits with their employees and help create more new businesses. If we could vote on the fully-offset Senate version, it would certainly have my support. But I opposed this bill because Republicans have our priorities backwards. While Republicans refuse to provide aid to national emergencies—like helping stop the spread of the Zika virus, or providing funds for the people of Flint, Michigan—unless every dollar is offset by cuts in other parts of the budget, we continue to vote on more billion-dollar tax cuts without offsetting a single penny.

TRIBUTE TO ELOISE AND HAROLD DINSMORE

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Eloise and Harold Dinsmore of Farragut, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. They were married on August 3, 1956.

Eloise and Harold's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 60th anniversary, may their commitment grow even stronger as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 60th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

“VAN JONES: HOW TPP THREATENS OUR PROGRESS ON CLIMATE CHANGE” ON 14 SEPTEMBER 2016

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Ms. LEE. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following op-ed.

In the past month, wildfires forced tens of thousands of people across California to evacuate their homes. Over the same period, historic floods in Louisiana destroyed or damaged more than 60,000 homes, uprooting families and ruining lives.

Whether fire or water, we know that human-induced climate change is making natural disasters more frequent and more intense.

So why are some in Washington pushing hard for a policy that would make climate change considerably worse?

This fall, Congress is likely to vote on the Trans-Pacific Partnership—an agreement among 12 nations along the Pacific Rim. While billed as a “free trade” deal, most of the TPP is actually about creating new rights for multinational corporations, including the big polluters most responsible for the climate emergency.

Under the TPP, the biggest global firms—including many responsible for offshore drilling and fracking—would be able to sue American taxpayers over laws and regulations that are meant to protect public health and the environment. Rather than suing in regular courts, these corporations would, through the TPP, be able to sue before unaccountable arbitration panels—each panel made up of three corporate lawyers—who could award unlimited cash compensation. Similar rules in other trade deals have already made possible nearly 700 such lawsuits—including efforts to challenge the U.S. rejection of the Keystone XL pipeline and a moratorium on fracking in Quebec.

What does this mean for California?

TPP would allow multinational corporations that own gas-fired power plants from Alameda County to San Diego County to threaten state restrictions on carbon emissions—including some of the new world-leading standards recently passed in Sacramento. The deal would also vastly increase the number of fracking firms and offshore drilling companies that could challenge our protections.

But it's not about just dirtier air and water or more susceptibility to climate risks. It's also about jobs.

Because TPP would threaten a successful California rebate program for green technologies that are made in-state, the deal could result in the elimination of good-paying green jobs in fields like solar and wind manufacturing and energy efficiency. Green jobs employ all kinds of people—truck driv-

ers, welders, secretaries, scientists—all across the state. These jobs can pull people out of poverty while protecting the planet.

Given that California has lost an estimated 413,000 manufacturing jobs since America entered NAFTA and the World Trade Organization, we can't afford to pass a new trade deal and again undermine people's livelihoods.

But there's good news. Labor, environmental and social justice leaders now oppose the TPP, as do both major presidential nominees, House Democratic Leader Nancy Pelosi, and Senate Democratic Leader Harry Reid.

Still, some in Washington are scheming to pass the TPP during Congress's “lame duck” session after the election. While most members of California's Congressional delegation firmly oppose the deal, some remain on the fence.

As the consequences of climate change get clearer, the case against the TPP gets stronger.

RECOGNIZING CENTRAL CITY PUBLIC CHARTER SCHOOL, BRIGHTWOOD CAMPUS'S COMMITMENT TO STEM EDUCATION

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to congratulate the students, parents, and faculty of Central City Public Charter School, Brightwood Campus for their commitment to science, technology, engineering, and mathematics enrichment, and for participating in my annual Science and Technology Braintrust.

The teachers at Central City Public Charter School, Brightwood Campus are committed to ensuring that our country's youth is exposed to a STEM curriculum, which is paramount to the future of our country. A prevalent theme amongst successful STEM professionals is the curiosity and drive instilled by their teachers at a young age. We must continue to invest in schools that highlight a STEM education, so that all students will have an opportunity to one day be an astrophysicist, doctor, engineer, or a geologist.

Mr. Speaker, Central City Public Charter School, Brightwood Campus is a true advocate of STEM education and deserves recognition for its work. With great pride I can say that because of this school's commitment to STEM education, our country's youth is gaining the skills needed to compete in a rapidly globalizing world.

TRIBUTE TO JAN AND JOHN HUSMANN

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Jan and John Husmann of Council Bluffs, Iowa, on the very special occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary on July 30, 2016.

Jan and John's lifelong commitment to each other and their family truly embodies Iowa values. As they reflect on their 50th anniversary,

may their commitment grow even stronger as they continue to love, cherish, and honor one another for many years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I commend this great couple on their 50th year together and I wish them many more. I ask that my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives join me in congratulating them on this momentous occasion.

NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

HON. XAVIER BECERRA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. BECERRA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the opening of the National Museum of African American History and Culture this Saturday, September 24, 2016.

As the nineteenth museum to join the Smithsonian Institution, the National Museum of African American History and Culture joins the world's largest museum, education, and research complex. It is the only national museum devoted exclusively to the documentation of African American life, history, and culture.

When the Smithsonian was founded in 1846, the United States was a far less perfect union than the one we live in today, and the idea of a museum that would tell the story of African Americans could hardly have been imagined. Yet there can be no denying that the story of America and its vitality, resilience, and optimism are rooted and reflected in the African American experience.

In the words of Lonnie G. Bunch III, founding director of the National Museum of African American History and Culture, "there are few things as powerful and as important as a people, as a nation that is steeped in its history."

As Members of Congress, we have the privilege of representing the entirety of the American people and working in the "People's House" and under the glorious dome of our U.S. Capitol and its crowning feature, the Statue of Freedom. In the pages of history, you will find extensive information about the architect of the Capitol, the artist who designed the Statue of Freedom, and the foundry owner who was commissioned for the casting of the statue. What is less known is the story of Philip Reid, the enslaved laborer of the foundry owner who was the only known slave working on Freedom and instrumental to its successful casting in bronze.

Philip Reid worked on the casting of Freedom from 1860 through 1862, despite the beginning of the Civil War and its toll on construction of the Capitol. When the statue was finally completed and placed atop the Capitol Dome in 1863, Reid had become a free man thanks to the Compensated Emancipation Act signed by President Lincoln.

The story of Philip Reid is the story of America, and only one of the many histories and cultural contributions that will be shared with the American public at the National Museum of African American History and Culture. Like the building of the U.S. Capitol, the creation of this museum has taken almost a century, but its time has finally come.

Today, we celebrate its opening and its tribute to generations of Americans past, present

and future and the defining way in which our country has been shaped by our African American brothers and sisters.

Mr. Speaker, in closing, I recall the words of the Harlem Renaissance poet Langston Hughes who wrote that "America is a dream . . . not my dream alone, but our dream. Not my world alone, but your world and my world." Let us all share in this great dream made real together.

INTRODUCTION OF A RESOLUTION COMMEMORATING THE OPENING OF THE SMITHSONIAN'S NATIONAL MUSEUM OF AFRICAN AMERICAN HISTORY AND CULTURE

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. LEWIS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer a bipartisan resolution which recognizes the opening of the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture (NMAAHC) on Saturday, September 24, 2016. I am so proud that over 110 of my colleagues from both sides of the aisle have joined me as original cosponsors.

This weekend will mark a historic moment in our Nation's history. Hundreds of thousands of people will convene in Washington, D.C. on the National Mall to celebrate and welcome this historic institution which is dedicated to documenting African American life, history, art, and culture. Many people in this body, across the nation, and around the world shall celebrate this great day.

Tonight, I applaud Dr. Lonnie Bunch, III, the Founding Director, Kinshasha Holman Conwill, the Deputy Director, Cheryl Smith, Chief of Staff, and the hundreds and thousands of people who worked so hard to make this dream a reality. For over 10 years, they have toiled day in and day out to prepare for the opening and operation of the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

I know that the leadership and staff of the Museum have labored tirelessly for years and years—designing the building, raising funds, envisioning the exhibits, collecting artifacts, conducting research, and meeting with the many people across this country and around the world who are so excited about this historic moment. Mr. Speaker, I thank each and every one of them for their hard work, dedication, and determination to the National Museum of African American History and Culture.

Mr. Speaker, the National Museum of African American History and Culture took over 100 years to evolve from a dream to a reality in the Nation's Capital on the National Mall. The most recent congressional effort began with the late former Congressman Thomas "Mickey" Leland from Texas who revitalized the legislation in 1985. I was proud to continue his work and fought for 15 years for the bill to pass the House and Senate before finally being signed into law by President George W. Bush.

It was a long, hard, labor of love, and there were so many wonderful Members on both sides of the aisle and the dome, who helped accomplish this mission which spanned generations, decades, and movements. In 1993,

the late Senator Paul Martin Simon from Illinois introduced a companion to the House legislation. Beginning in 2001, former Senator Sam Brownback from Kansas, former Senator Max Cleland from Georgia, and former Senator Chris Dodd from Connecticut joined the House coalition which included Representatives William "Bill" Clay from Missouri, J.C. Watts, Jr. from Oklahoma, and Jack Kingston from Georgia who helped take this bipartisan, bicameral effort across the finish line.

Mr. Speaker, I would be remiss if I did not also thank some of the former congressional staff who worked for so many years to pass the legislation which authorized the Museum—Tammy Boyd in my office; Kern Watson with former Rep. J.C. Watts; LaRoche Young with former Sen. Sam Brownback; and Donni Turner with former Sen. Max Cleland. They refused to give up; they refused to give in, and we thank them for their hard work and service.

On the eve of this long-awaited day, I join with more than 110 of my colleagues in congratulating Smithsonian Institution's family, the countless staff, and many volunteers of the National Museum of African American History and Culture on their persistence, their determination, and—very, very soon—on their success.

Tonight, we should all be proud, and each and every one of us must take the necessary hours, days, weeks, and months to visit, learn, explore, and reflect on the Smithsonian's National Museum of African American History and Culture and all that it signifies and entails.

TRIBUTE TO THE CLARINDA LIONS CLUB

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, September 22, 2016

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 70th anniversary of the Clarinda Lions Club of Clarinda, Iowa. The members of this service club exemplify the Lions motto: "We Serve." The Clarinda Lions Club members demonstrate this philosophy of selfless volunteer service each and every day.

The Clarinda Lions Club was chartered by Lions International in June 1946. Lions International began in 1917, when a Chicago businessman encouraged his local business club to go beyond business and focus on improving their communities and the world. After contacting other service groups to join this new effort, Lions International was born. Lions Clubs offer a number of services to the communities they serve. The Clarinda Lions Club puts on an annual pancake meal to raise funds to benefit the community, sponsors the Santa House during the holiday season, and participates in the SightFirst international program to help restore sight and prevent blindness. They also assist local residents with repurposing unwanted prescription glasses and send glasses overseas to people who have limited vision care.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud and congratulate the Clarinda Lions Club for the difference they continue to make in their community. Over the past 70 years, their members have been dedicated to helping and serving others, and it is a great honor to recognize them today. I urge my colleagues in the United States House of