

COMMENDING THE PACIFICA
INSTITUTE FOR ITS WORK

HON. SUZAN K. DELBENE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Ms. DELBENE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend the Pacifica Institute in Bellevue for their work to generate interfaith dialogue and promote cross-cultural ties. Pacifica Institute has built up ties of mutual understanding and strengthened communities throughout the state of Washington.

Pacifica Institute has continually engaged the community in activities to foster shared experiences. Their efforts have helped remove barriers, building confidence and trust to create a peaceful society through newfound relationships.

Through their vision of promoting social justice through shared networks, Pacifica Institute has provided our district with the opportunity to foster mutual appreciation in a respectful environment.

I'm pleased to join Pacifica Institute in their annual Ramadan Interfaith Friendship Iftar in Redmond this weekend. I am looking forward to coming together with members of our community to celebrate various religious backgrounds.

As President John F. Kennedy said, "If we cannot end now our differences, at least we can help make the world safe for diversity." Pacifica Institute works to do just that. Its commitment to educating communities serves as a positive voice bringing people together to combat prejudice and intolerance.

TIBET AND THE VISIT OF HIS HO-
LINESS THE DALI LAMA TO
WASHINGTON, D.C.

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, His Holiness the Dalai Lama will be in Washington, DC next week. As the spiritual leader of Tibetans, the Dalai Lama is an energetic and unfailing ambassador for human rights and the rights of the Tibetan people. Sadly, his visit reminds us again about the dire situation of the Tibetan people inside China.

The Tibetan people have a right to practice their religion, preserve their culture, and speak their language. They have a right to do so without restriction or interference. The Chinese government does not agree. To them, the Tibetans are a people to be pacified. Their faith and culture are problems to be solved, not a heritage to be preserved, honored, and protected. To them, the Dalai Lama is an agitator and revolutionary, not a world-renowned and respected voice for peace and harmony.

The recent State Department Human Rights Report offered a withering criticism of the Chinese government's oversight of Tibetan and Tibetan areas of China. It said the "government engaged in severe repression of Tibet's religious, cultural and religious heritage by, among other means, strictly curtailing the civil rights of China's ethnic Tibetan population, including the rights to the freedom of speech,

religion, association, assembly, and movement."

I am the Chair of the Congressional-Executive Commission on China. Our reporting on Tibet draws similar conclusions about China's rough oversight of Tibetans. Over the past several years, the Chinese government has constructed more obstacles to efforts by Tibetans to preserve their culture and religion.

Sadly, we know that Tibetans have used self-immolations as a protest against the religious and political oversight of the Chinese government.

It is difficult to fathom the despair and desperation felt by Tibetans who take this last act of defiance. The Chinese government has blamed the Dalai Lama and "foreign forces" for self-immolations instead of looking at how their own policies created such deep grievances.

The Chinese government also expanded its efforts last year to transform Tibetan Buddhism into a state-managed institution. They sought to undermine the devotion of the Tibetan people to the Dalai Lama and control the process of selecting Buddhist leaders.

One Chinese government official admitted that control over the selection of Tibetan Buddhist leaders, including the next Dalai Lama, was "an important political matter" and a critical part of the Chinese government's "sovereignty over Tibet."

The Chinese government wants a Tibetan Buddhism that is attractive to tourists, but which allows the Communist Party to completely manage its affairs.

The UN Special Rapporteur on Religion said recently criticized China's efforts to control Tibetan Buddhism and the process of selecting leaders. He said "the Chinese government is destroying the autonomy of religious communities . . . creating schisms, and pitting people against each other in order to exercise control."

This is exactly what the Chinese government has done to other religious groups, including Catholics, Protestants, Muslims, and Falun Gong. When the faithful don't fall in line, they are jailed, harassed and bribed until they do.

Religious freedom is an essential part of dealing with the grievances of the Tibetan people, but China's answer is always the same—control, manage, and repress. It is counterproductive and it violates China's international obligations.

The China Commission has a prisoner database that contains records on 643 known Tibetan political and religious prisoners. 43 percent of those detained are monks, nuns, and religious teachers. Almost all were imprisoned since 2008.

Substantive dialogue between the Dalai Lama's representatives and the Chinese government and Communist Party have not occurred in the past five years. This is the longest break since the dialogue started in 2002.

A government "White Paper" on Tibet, published this April, states that China will "only talk with private representatives of the Dalai Lama" to discuss "the future of the Dalai Lama" and how he can "gain the forgiveness of the central government and the Chinese people."

Instead of asking for the Dalai Lama's forgiveness for the decades of brutal repression, the Chinese government asks for his. This is the state of affairs in Xi Jinping's China.

This is unfortunate and counterproductive. If China's goal is to build a "harmonious society" in Tibet, it cannot be done without the Dalai Lama.

He is the spiritual leader of the Tibetan people. His views are widely shared by those in Tibetan society, he can be a constructive partner for China in addressing continuing tensions, and deep-seated grievance, in Tibetan areas.

In our dealings with Chinese government and officials, Members of Congress and the Administration should affirm the peaceful desires of the Tibetan people for greater autonomy and freedoms within China.

We should stress that China's policies are counterproductive, they are brutal, and they hurt China's international prestige.

We also need to speak with a unified voice to end the repression of the Tibetan people. U.S. leadership on this issue is critical, because our allies in Europe and Asia can be bullied by Chinese threats of economic boycotts.

U.S. officials must demonstrate that Tibet matters, human rights matter, and religious freedom matters to U.S.-China relations and China's future stability and prosperity.

RECOGNIZING DELEGATES AT THE
CONGRESS FOR FUTURE MED-
ICAL LEADERS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize five high school students from the fourth district of Colorado, who were selected to represent the state of Colorado as delegates at the Congress for Future Medical Leaders. The students are Carter Goodard of Frederick Senior High School, Alexandria Rivera of Sky View Academy, Victoria Rubio of Silver Creek High School, Anna Schulhoff of Legend High School, and Megan Weigand of Erie High School.

The Congress of Future Medical Leaders is an honors program that recognizes exceptional high school students who are pursuing careers as a physician or in medical research.

These students are the future leaders of the medical field and our country. Through their studies, they have embodied the meaning of hard work and perseverance to achieve their goals, and will better the health of future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize these five students for their hard work and service to their community. I wish them luck in their future endeavors.

RHODE ISLAND VETERANS OF
FOREIGN WARS 97TH ANNUAL
STATE CONVENTION

HON. DAVID N. CICILLINE

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. CICILLINE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the men and women of the Rhode Island Veterans of Foreign Wars, which is holding its 97th Annual State Convention this Saturday.

All of us are fortunate to live in a free and safe society because of the brave actions and extraordinary sacrifices of the men and women who have worn the uniform of the United States Armed Forces.

We owe our troops, veterans and their families our gratitude and deep respect, in addition to the exceptional care and benefits they have earned while serving our great nation.

The Rhode Island VFW has been the leading voice for veterans and their families in my home state for decades.

I am proud to work with them to strengthen mental health services, expand job training opportunities, and ensure that all of Rhode Island's veterans have the tools and resources they need to get ahead.

Rhode Island is home to more than 70,000 veterans today. They are all our heroes.

I congratulate the Rhode Island Veterans of Foreign Wars on their 97th Annual State Convention, and I look forward to joining them this Saturday.

HONORING MR. MARK DELLINGER

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mark Dellinger who will retire after 31 years of public service with Lake County in California.

After growing up in New York and the Midwest, Mr. Dellinger moved west to pursue higher education. He earned his Bachelor of Science from Northern Arizona University and then earned his Master's Degree in Geography from the University of Idaho.

Mr. Dellinger joined the Lake County Planning Department's Resource Management Division as a Geothermal Coordinator in 1984 and joined the Special Districts office in 1992 as a Resource Manager. Mr. Dellinger joined Calpine in the private sector to manage compliance for geothermal power plants in 2001, but returned to Lake County as the Administrator of Special Districts in 2002. In this position, he was responsible for fiscal, personnel, and project management.

For his work on the Southeast Geysers Effluent Pipeline Project, or "Flush to Flash," Mr. Dellinger received the Geothermal Resources Council Special Achievement Award in 1997. This project, co-led by Mr. Dellinger and Eliot Allen, used treated wastewater to recharge the geothermal steam field in Lake County. The Special District Leadership Foundation also awarded Mr. Dellinger the Special District Administrator Certification in 2011 after he completed a rigorous examination demonstrating his expertise in management and governance.

Mr. Speaker, Mr. Dellinger dedicated his career to ensuring that the residents of Lake County, California had access to high quality public services. Therefore, it is fitting and proper that we honor him here today and extend our best wishes for an enjoyable retirement and many happy memories to come with Carol, his wife, and their sons Jared and Quinn.

RECOGNIZING DELEGATES AT THE CONGRESS OF FUTURE SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY LEADERS

HON. KEN BUCK

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. BUCK. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize six high school students from the fourth district of Colorado, who have been chosen to represent the state of Colorado as delegates at the Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders. The students are Jamison Cavanagh of Ponderosa High School, Tanner Cavanagh of Ponderosa High School, Victoria Messmore of Legend High School, Dominic Plaia of Chaparral High School, Amber Storch of Fort Morgan High School, and Caleb Vannest of Greeley West High School.

The Congress of Future Science and Technology Leaders is an honors program that recognizes exceptional high school students who are pursuing careers as engineers, scientists, or technologists.

These students are the future leaders of the STEM fields and our country. Through their studies, they have embodied the meaning of hard work and perseverance to achieve their goals, and will advance science and technology for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to recognize these six students for their hard work and service to their community. I wish them luck in their future endeavors.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$19,230,270,048,404.99. We've added \$8,603,392,999,491.91 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

HONORING DR. ELLA WHITE CAMPBELL

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise before you today to recognize Dr. Ella White Campbell—a passionate educator who devoted her life to improving the lives of her neighbors.

A South Carolina native, Dr. Campbell moved to Maryland at a young age and graduated at the top of her class from the historic Wiley H. Bates High School in Annapolis while helping to care for her siblings. She later earned three degrees—including one Doctoral Degree—from Morgan State University, Johns

Hopkins University and the University of Maryland.

Dr. Campbell began her teaching career at a middle school in the Cherry Hill neighborhood of Baltimore City, where residents were so impressed with her leadership abilities, they asked her take over the local recreation center. She eventually chaired the city's English Department and was promoted to Assistant Principal. She helped design a curriculum that increased test scores of hundreds of students.

You would be hard pressed to find a community organization that Dr. Campbell did not, at some point, belong to or lead. While too numerous to mention in their entirety, Dr. Campbell was President of the Gwynnvale Civic Association, President of the Liberty Road Community Council, President of the Liberty Randallstown Coalition, President of the Stevenswood Improvement Association and Founder of the Randallstown NAACP chapter.

Dr. Campbell advocated tirelessly for better schools, recreation facilities, libraries and public transportation in her community. I had the privilege of working with Dr. Campbell for many years. Believe me, you did not want to find yourself on the wrong side of Dr. Campbell because you can bet she had already briefed the community on her position—and convinced them to agree. She was instrumental in securing \$1 million to implement the Liberty Road Streetscape Project, helped to stop area flooding through the Red Run Dam project and established the Liberty Assistance Center for county residents in need.

A decorated member of the Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Dr. Campbell is listed in the Who's Who in The East, Who's Who in America and Community Leaders of the World. Perhaps most importantly, she was a devoted wife, mother, grandmother and great-grandmother.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor the life and legacy of Dr. Ella White Campbell. Although she will be sorely missed, Dr. Campbell's impact on Baltimore County and people's lives—including my own—will last forever. She was a true inspiration.

TRIBUTE TO TIM CADDELL, GOVERNMENT RELATIONS ADMINISTRATOR

HON. DAVID W. JOLLY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 10, 2016

Mr. JOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize Tim Caddell, a member of our local government who is retiring after 15 years of public relations work in Pinellas Park.

Mr. Caddell joined the Pinellas Park staff in 2001. He initially served as Public Events Director, planning events such as the Harvest Moon Festival and Country in the Park. Towards the end of his first year, he took on the role of Public Information Officer cultivating and maintaining vital relationships with the local media outlets. Additionally, he led an important effort in Tallahassee lobbying on behalf of Pinellas Park when the city was in need of funds for drainage improvements at Park Boulevard.

Finally, in 2008, he was promoted to Government Relations Administrator where he