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SOROS MUST STOP MEDDLING IN THE DEMOCRATIC PROCESS OF OTHER NATIONS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, billionaire George Soros is undermining our democratic allies in Europe. For decades he has spent billions of dollars financing activists, journalists, and politicians to challenge democratically elected leaders who do not prescribe to Mr. Soros' left-wing worldview. His meddling in foreign politics is far from a noble cause and should be discouraged.

Mr. Soros has targeted much of his efforts on our NATO ally Hungary, where he opposes the policies of the democratically elected prime minister. By trying to subvert an elected leader, Mr. Soros and his network of well-paid activists are working against the will of the Hungarian people. Through his propaganda networks and so-called "policy institutes" he is trying to manipulate public opinion to support his left-wing causes and tarnish the image of our Hungarian allies.

Like every sovereign democratic nation, Hungarians have the right to elect their own leaders and not be the target of some billionaire's schemes. Mr. Soros is even using his lavishly funded organizations to lobby other European states to pressure Hungary. This is unacceptable. We too, as an independent free nation, do not want big money or foreign influences meddling in our political process.

Mr. Soros must cease undermining our freedom-loving allies. His foreign wealth should not afford him outsized influence to push his left-wing agenda on the people of Hungary. If we want money and foreign influence out of politics here, we must expect that wealthy Americans show the same respect abroad.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS NATIONAL SPEECH AND DEBATE ASSOCIATION TEAM

**HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN**

OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the 28 young men and women from the Northern Mariana Islands who competed laudably at this year's National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament in Fort Lauderdale, Florida in June. Members of the Marianas team in both the junior and senior divisions performed excellently, some even placing in the top 10 in the country.

The Junior Team earned handsomely with Elaine Fernandez of Francisco Sablan Middle School and Jonathan Wolf of Dandan Middle School both making it to the finals and placing

number five in the nation in their categories, Story Telling and Humorous Interpretation, respectively. Vladimir Palma of Hopwood Middle School placed in the semi-finals, finishing top eight in the nation.

Placing in the quarter finals for the Junior Team were Jonathan and Lars Wolf, who finished top 24 in the nation, with Jonathan also placing top 24 in Poetry Reading. Vladimir Palma placed top 30 in the nation in Prose Reading.

The rest of Junior Team members performed excellently and included Patreisha Concillado and Elaine Fernandez from Francisco Sablan Middle School; Dane Hodges and Cevina Huang from Saipan International School; Juliet Innocencio, Oceana and Issa Teigita from Dandan Middle School; Vivien Liu and Edgardo Palma from Hopwood Middle School; Jill Mallari from Mount Carmel School and Christian Pamintuan from Green Meadow School.

On the Senior Team, Kate Ishida of Marianas High School placed in the semi-finals, earning number 12 in the nation in Poetry Reading. She also placed in the quarter finals in Prose Reading, finishing in the top seven percent in the nation. Elizabeth Rose Jones of Kagman High School placed in the quarter finals and earned number 15 in the nation in Expository Speech.

Senior Team members who placed highly include Shea Hartig of Saipan International School who places in the top 17 percent in the nation for Impromptu Speech and top 38 percent in Poetry Reading. Su Min (Melody) Woo of Grace Christian Academy finished in the top 36 percent for Prose Reading. Nina Validismo of Kagman High School, Jeremiah Fernandez of Saipan Southern High School and Elijah Joshua Pajarillaga from Grace Christian Academy all placed in the top 40 percent in the nation in their respective categories: Story Telling for the two former and Impromptu Speech for the later.

The rest of the Senior Team members performed superbly and included Neamah Fernandez from Saipan Southern High School; Jeff Melchor from Mount Carmel School; Esther Park, Kelvin Wolf, Joseph Zhang and Emma Timmons from Marianas High School; and Lanz Jabez Victoria from Grace Christian Academy.

These young orators were able to compete at such a high level with the guidance of all their coaches. The Junior Team was coached by Criselda Aldan from Mount Carmel School, Cary Bertoncini from Saipan International School, Lorelisa Espiritu from Great Meadow School, Maria Mettao from Francisco Sablan Middle School, Victoria Nishida from Hopwood Middle School, and Kristine Wolf from Dandan Middle School. Junior team coordinator and CNMI Representative to NSDA was Harold Easton.

The coaches for the Senior Team were Frank Borja from Saipan Southern High School, Grace Duran from Grace Christian Academy, Joy Jones from Kagman High School and Dencio Manglona from Marianas High School.

In addition to their performances in competition, the team was also able to meet fellow orators from the continental United States, at last connecting with a network of fellow students passionate about speech and debate. The team also made contact with colleges and universities that especially recruit speech and de-

bate students. Overall, it was a thoroughly enriching experience.

Please join me in congratulating the Marianas Team for their exceptional performances at the 2018 National Speech and Debate Association National Tournament.

RECOGNIZING THE WHITAKER FOUNDATION

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Whitaker Foundation and its pivotal role in developing the Biomedical Engineering Society (BMES), which is now in its 50th year.

The Whitaker Foundation was founded in 1975 by Uncas A. Whitaker and other residents of Arlington, VA. Since its inception, the Whitaker Foundation has nurtured educational opportunities at universities across the United States through grants, faculty recruitment, and new educational programs, including no fewer than 30 biomedical engineering programs. These programs have increased the size and diversity of our engineering workforce by attracting the broadest representation of students to the pursuit of biomedical engineering.

BMES began in Atlantic City, NJ with a gathering of 83 founding scientists and engineers eager to make an impact upon medical care and human health. Since then, BMES has nurtured new disciplines within engineering, biomedical engineering, and bioengineering, which have led to new industries, career opportunities, and educational programs across the globe.

We honor the Whitaker Foundation today for its investment in BMES as we also celebrate BMES's 50th anniversary. In promoting BMES, the Whitaker Foundation created a permanent home for the educational and career development of biomedical engineers nationwide and promoted the development of biomedical engineering as the distinct discipline it is today.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 100TH BIRTHDAY OF DELIMA "DEL" GENARD

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Delima "Del" Genard, a resident of Acushnet, Massachusetts, who turns 100 years young on August 18th.

Del was born in Thetford Mines, Quebec, Canada in 1918 to parents Cesaire and Rose Anna Darcy. She was one of six children, with four brothers and one sister. Her family moved to the United States when she was an infant. During the Great Depression, Del left school in the 6th grade and began working to help support her family.

In 1939, Del became a United States Citizen, and two years later she married Alcide Genard on November 20, 1941. She was a devoted and loving stay-at-home mother to their three children: Priscilla, Robert, and Florence. During World War II, Del took care of

her family while her husband was deployed overseas. Then, in 1957 she returned to work as a seamstress until retiring at the age of 62. In her free time, she enjoyed dancing the Quadrille, attending Whiss parties at church, going to the movies, attending clambakes, and going for long walks.

Today she can be found playing cards and bingo, doing puzzles, and going on day trips with friends. Above all, she enjoys spending time with her growing family. Family is incredibly important to Del, who has 18 grandchildren, 31 great-grandchildren, and four great-great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor Delima "Del" Genard on this joyous occasion of her 100th birthday. I ask that my colleagues join me in wishing her many more years of health and happiness.

HONORING THE QUEENS JEWISH COMMUNITY COUNCIL'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GRACE MENG

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Ms. MENG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today, to recognize the 50th anniversary of the Queens Jewish Community Council (QJCC), an organization that serves as a non-political, non-partisan body for communication and action for the residents and organizations of Queens. Since it opened its doors in January of 1968, the QJCC has been a tireless advocate, and dedicated in its service to, the Greater Jewish community in the borough of Queens.

Mr. Speaker, I believe that thanks in part to the tremendous efforts and commitment of the board members' staff and volunteers led by Executive Director Cynthia Zalisky and President Michael Nussbaum, the QJCC has truly established itself as a beacon of chesed in our local Queens community. Unwavering in its advocacy, the QJCC continues to fight for those in need, especially the many families who are battling hunger and poverty. Each year more than one-thousand of the Jewish poor, elderly and homeless turn to the QJCC for its limitless compassion and support services.

The Queens Jewish Community Council has not only cultivated a reputation for investing in its community, but also for being able to provide social services to those in need to improve their quality of life regardless of race, creed, age, religion, color, disability, national origin, sex or marital status. Responding to the needs of its community, QJCC provides immigrant services, kosher meals-on-wheels, a food pantry, medical insurance facilitation, domestic violence counseling, and much more. Through this multitude of top-notch programming focusing on the economic, social and cultural well-being of the Jewish Community, the QJCC has established itself as a leading voice for its local constituency.

I am proud to stand to commemorate the Queens Jewish Community Council's 50th anniversary. I look forward to seeing what the future will bring for this trailblazing organization.

COMMEMORATING 83RD ANNIVERSARY OF SOCIAL SECURITY ACT OF 1935

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 83rd anniversary of the passage of the landmark Social Security Act of 1935, the most famous of the New Deal measures and perhaps the most beneficial and consequential government program in American history.

On August 14, 1935, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt signed into law the Social Security Act of 1935 and made good on the Democratic Party's commitment to provide income security to Americans in their old age.

Social Security has transformed what it means to grow old in this country.

For 83 years, Social Security has represented a bedrock promise to the American people: that a lifetime of work will be rewarded with the peace of mind, certainty, and sense of security of a stable retirement.

As we celebrate the 83rd anniversary of the Social Security Act of 1935, we should reflect also on the real-life transformative impact America's most successful program continues to have on millions of Americans each year.

Social Security has been a stable and secure source of income for millions of seniors and families, many of whom desperately need it, over these last more than seven decades.

In the 18th Congressional District of Texas, Social Security is the primary economic lifeline for more than 91,000 seniors and disabled persons. Social Security's economic impact also goes well beyond the seniors and families receiving benefits.

It also benefits state economies and local businesses all across the country.

In the 18th Congressional District of Texas, Social Security recipients inject more than \$97 million into the local economy annually; nationwide, this figures is \$775 billion.

When more than 58 million Americans use the purchasing power of those benefits, they are supporting businesses with dollars they would not have without Social Security.

It is shameful that there are congressional Republicans who continue to promote various plans to privatize or partially privatize Social Security—plans that would rob seniors of the economic security they count on.

Over the last 83 years, House Democrats have protected and strengthened Social Security; and now and in the future, House Democrats will always act to preserve Social Security and safeguard the rights of our nation's seniors.

And as we look to the future, we can celebrate that what was put in place in 1935 with the Social Security Act of 1935 has given us the foundation for a secure and prosperous future for all Americans.

RUSSIA STILL OCCUPIES GEORGIAN TERRITORY 10 YEARS LATER

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, August 17, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, 10 years ago, Russian tanks rolled across the border into the independent nation of Georgia. I was there and saw the little green men with my own eyes. After five days of bloody fighting, with thousands of innocent Georgians displaced from their homes, the conflict ended with a pledge by Russia to pull back its forces.

Ten years later, however, Moscow's troops remain on Georgian territory, occupying a third of the country. The Kremlin claims these Russian troops in Georgia are just noble peacekeepers, but this is a bold-faced lie. They are a heavily armed battle-group waiting to provoke tiny Georgia into another fight. They routinely engage in "creeping occupation," slowly taking more and more territory by moving the border line in the dark of night. They have committed horrific human rights abuses against the Georgian people, often harassing civilians and denying Georgians the ability to move about their country freely. The continued presence of Russian troops on Georgian soil presents a major violation of international law, setting a precedent for other rogue regimes to follow.

America's response at the time was condemnation and sanctions but this proved insufficient to fully deter future aggression. Only years later, the Obama administration removed the punishing sanctions against Russia as part of its foolish "reset" with the Kremlin. We now know this demonstration of weakness only encouraged further aggression from Russia, with it again invading a neighboring state in 2014. This time, it seized and annexed Crimea from Ukraine, another independent sovereign state that Russia had sworn to respect.

After 10 years of illegal occupation of Georgian territory, we need to do more to help our Georgian friends resist the Russian bear. Following the collapse of the Soviet Union, Georgia emerged as a beacon of hope in a region full of turmoil and corruption. This is exactly why Russia invaded. Russia hoped to break this beacon of hope 10 years ago, but Georgia has remained defiant. We must be defiant with our friends to prevent further acts of aggression and hopefully begin to reverse Moscow's deadly expansionism.

As co-chair of the Congressional Georgia Caucus, I have long seen that major vulnerabilities remain that Russia could exploit. While military cooperation and training has improved significantly, Georgia still lacks the technology and resources to realistically deter and defend itself from future Russian aggression. Georgia is a small country, with a GDP around \$14 billion. It cannot afford to compete with the might of the Russian military alone. That is why I have introduced H.R. 6219, the Georgia Support Act, with my Georgia Caucus co-chair, Rep. CONNOLLY. Through this important bill, we hope to significantly enhance Georgia's ability to combat and deter Moscow's wicked activities.

Putin must be shown that his dream of rebuilding the Soviet Empire is impossible. And we must show our freedom loving friends