

IN RECOGNITION OF THE NORTH-
WEST METROPORT CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce as it marks 30 years of service to the North Texas community.

Formed in 1986 as the Roanoke Business Association, this organization has enjoyed significant growth, expanding service to include Argyle, Haslet, Justin, Northlake, Trophy Club, and Westlake. In its 30 years of service, the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce has also grown from eight founding members to more than 420. These members—past and present—have worked diligently to create, promote, and enhance growth for the business community.

Since its inception, the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce has sought to positively impact leadership, stewardship, and business relationships for the benefit of all six of the communities it represents in the Northwest Metroport region.

There is no doubt that the Northwest Metroport Chamber of Commerce leaders and members have made meaningful contributions to their communities and the North Texas region, and I am grateful for their steadfast service.

IN HONOR OF JENNIFER FRIZZEL
FOR HER 15 YEARS OF SERVICE
AT PLANNED PARENTHOOD OF
NORTHERN NEW ENGLAND

HON. ANN M. KUSTER

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Ms. KUSTER of New Hampshire. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to offer my sincere gratitude for Jennifer Frizzel as she moves on after fifteen years from her role leading public policy work for Planned Parenthood of Northern New England.

Throughout Jennifer's long career as an advocate for reproductive rights and improved access to family planning resources, she has helped support women across New Hampshire in obtaining well-deserved quality healthcare. Whether it's been advocacy to protect buffer zones outside of clinics or fighting against a lawsuit to prevent the opening of a Planned Parenthood in downtown Manchester, Jennifer has made invaluable contributions to our state and the country. Her commitment and compassion have improved the lives of countless women in need, and she has cultivated a better future for Granite State women and families.

On behalf of New Hampshire's Second Congressional District and all those who have benefitted from Jennifer's work, I thank her for her incredible service and congratulate her on all that she has accomplished. I wish her the best of luck in the years ahead, and I look forward to our continued work together to make New Hampshire an even better place to live, work, and raise a family.

IN SUPPORT OF H. RESOLUTION
724

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 724. This is an important resolution and I am proud to support it.

The recent wave of sexual harassment allegations has been an important moment for our country. The last many months represent a sea change in how we, as Americans, talk about and respond to allegations of sexual misconduct.

Fortunately, it has empowered women to share their story through the #MeToo movement. This movement has made the country realize that allegations of sexual harassment touch all pockets of society, including, sadly, the Congress of the United States.

These allegations have exposed numerous allegations against congressional offices. This is concerning because it tells us that those who come to our nation's capital and serve the country they love must contend with unwanted harassment.

Further still, and prior to this thoughtful legislation, victims of abuse had to contend with the separate and various office policies, if any at all, of every individual member. This is disorienting and unhelpful.

Congress must set the example. That is why I am proud to support H. Resolution 724. H. Res. 724 would set mandatory anti-harassment and antidiscrimination policies for house offices.

Additionally, this Resolution would establish an Office of Employee Advocacy to provide legal assistance and consultation to employees of the House regarding procedures and proceedings under the Congressional Accountability Act.

And, critically, it would list sexual harassment as a violation of the House code of official conduct.

Mr. Speaker, if we are going to be able to speak with a moral voice about the problem of sexual harassment, then we must begin with this institution.

That is why I am proud to support this legislation.

HONORING THE MEMORY OF
GEORGE P. SHADID

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of retired State Senator George P. Shadid, of Peoria, Illinois, who devoted his life to serving his community and the State of Illinois. George left us on February 3rd, and will be greatly missed by family, friends, former colleagues, and his community.

George was born on May 15, 1929 to Edna Massad Shadid and Philip A. Shadid; one of nine children born to the proud Lebanese immigrants. On May 30, 1953, George married Lorraine K. Unes. They had two children, George Jr., who sadly passed away in 2005, and James, who currently serves as chief U.S.

District Judge for central Illinois. George and Lorraine were also blessed with four grandchildren.

Throughout his life, George embodied the role of a true public servant, dedicating his life to serving others. He started his long career in public service as a police officer for the Peoria Police Department. After serving in that capacity for twenty-three years, in 1976 he was elected Sheriff of Peoria County. In 1993, George was appointed to serve as State Senator of the 46th District of Illinois, representing Peoria, Tazewell and Fulton counties. In the Senate, George became lifelong friends with then State Senator Barack Obama. He retired from the Senate in 2006. He was a mentor and friend to many, and was admired by colleagues on both sides of the aisle. He will be remembered for his great sense of humor, his honesty, and his commitment to finding commonsense, bipartisan solutions with the goal of bettering his community and the State of Illinois.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to again formally recognize the late George Shadid on his extraordinary work and service to the State of Illinois. I am grateful for George's contributions to our community, and my condolences are with his loved ones at this difficult time. It is because of dedicated and selfless leaders such as former Senator Shadid that I am especially proud to serve Illinois' 17th Congressional District.

THE 70TH ANNIVERSARY OF SRI
LANKA'S INDEPENDENCE

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD the following Proclamation:

Whereas, Sri Lanka is a free, independent, and sovereign nation—a unique country with a rich history, dating back to its flourishing civilization of the 2nd Century B.C.;

Whereas, Sri Lanka is celebrating the 70th Anniversary of its independence;

Whereas, Sri Lanka has developed its economy based on its agriculture, cultivation of semi-precious stones, and manufacturing industries. And although Sri Lanka experienced invasions and rule by the Portuguese, Dutch, and British, Sri Lanka regained independence through a peaceful and constitutional process in 1948;

Whereas, after 70 years of independence, Sri Lanka has emerged as a key South Asian country committed to democracy, free market economics, and sound development policy;

Whereas, this year also marks the 70th Anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic relations between free Sri Lanka and the United States of America and bi-lateral relations between the U.S. and Sri Lanka have always been strong;

Whereas, trade and investment between the U.S. and Sri Lanka continue to grow. Recent U.S. goods exports were \$372 million. U.S. exports consisted primarily of industrial machinery, medical instruments, aircraft parts, lentils, paper, specialized fabrics and textiles for use in the garment industry, fruits, and pharmaceuticals. Sri Lanka is currently the

115th largest export market for U.S. goods. Corresponding U.S. imports from Sri Lanka were \$2.88 billion;

Whereas, as Sri Lanka celebrates seven decades of freedom, this is a wonderful opportunity for us to pay tribute to all of her national heroes and freedom fighters who fought for independence and extend congratulations to the approximately 100,000 Sri Lankans in the U.S., whose communities have made economic and social impacts throughout various communities across America;

Whereas, Sri Lanka's rich history of over 2,500 years, and its tremendous progress as a nation in 70 years alone, proves Sri Lanka's tremendous potential for the rest of the 21st Century and the future beyond; now be it *Resolved*, That in commemoration of Sri Lanka's 70th year of independence, members of the United States House of Representatives congratulate the government of President Maithripala Sirisena and Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and look forward to working with the government of Sri Lanka, Sri Lankan Americans, and the Sri Lankan community in the United States for years to come.

RECOGNIZING TEENS AGAINST DIFFERENCE AND PALM BEACH COUNTY SUBSTANCE ABUSE COALITION YOUTH IN ACTION

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, opioids are prescribed to reduce acute pain and are used as anesthesia during surgery. But, as we are all too aware, they have a high potential for abuse. Approximately 2.4 million Americans are currently battling an opioid-use disorder.

In 2015, over 33,000 Americans died from an opioid-related overdose. In 2016, this number jumped to over 42,000. These tragic numbers show a worsening epidemic, which has been declared a national public health emergency.

Mr. Speaker, this epidemic significantly impacts our nation's youth, with the rate of non-medical use of opioids by adolescents and teens doubling from 1991 to 2012. The rate of teen drug overdose deaths skyrocketed 19 percent from 2014 to 2015, with 772 drug overdose deaths reported nationwide for teens aged 15 to 19.

Students throughout Palm Beach County, Florida have responded to this emergency in an effort to save lives by raising community awareness of the epidemic and by reaching out to elected officials to urge them to action.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing these students and the work they have done to address this national public health emergency.

ECONOMIC JUSTICE IN THE BLACK COMMUNITY

SPEECH OF

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 5, 2018

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, as we all know, February is Black History Month. It is a time

to reflect on the progress we have made in this country in the pursuit of equality and justice and to honor the people whose hard work and sacrifice contributed in that endeavor.

While we certainly have made progress in many areas, I think it is also important to acknowledge the problems that still persist so that we may continue the work of those who we honor, not just in February but throughout the year.

We will hear a lot about 2018 being the 50th anniversary of the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., but it is also the 50th anniversary of the Poor People's Campaign, which Dr. King championed before his death.

The Poor People's Campaign came to Washington in the spring of 1968 and set up a shantytown called Resurrection City where thousands lived on the National Mall, just a short distance from where I stand here tonight.

A central part of the Campaign was the drafting of an Economic Bill of Rights, which called for:

"A meaningful job at a living wage;"

"A secure and adequate income for all those unable to find or do a job;"

"Access to land for economic uses;"

"Access to capital for poor people and minorities to promote their own businesses;" and

The "ability for ordinary people to play a truly significant role in the government."

Fifty years later, we are still fighting for these same economic rights.

In 1968, a nonwhite family in America had a median wealth of about \$3,000 while white families had a median wealth of around \$60,000.

The wealth gap since then has only expanded, with black families holding a median wealth of \$17,000 versus \$171,000 in white families—a wealth gap of a factor of ten.

Homeownership—an important tool for wealth creation—is only 42 percent for black families but 68 percent for white families.

Retirement savings for black families is now around \$25,000 but over \$157,000 for white families.

It is important to note that Hispanic families have to deal with a wealth gap just as bad as black families.

In the greatest country in the world, your economic security should not be so closely tied to your race or your zip code.

In his Nobel Prize address in 1964, Dr. King noted: "There is nothing new about poverty. What is new, however, is that we have the resources to get rid of it."

Mr. Speaker, we, as members of Congress have a responsibility to use those resources to address the problem head on.

Certainly, we in the Congressional Black Caucus are committed to solving the problems of the wealth gap and economic inequality to bring our country closer together.

We must promote policies that increase job creation in low-income communities; strengthen our social safety nets, not take away benefits; invest in training programs so workers can transition to high-skilled, high-wage jobs, and make investments in revitalizing schools, infrastructure, and neighborhoods.

Families of color, and all American families, deserve equal access to economic opportunity. They deserve better jobs, better wages, and a better future.

HONORING MARGOT CISNEROS TORRES WHO IS RETIRING

HON. FILEMON VELA

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. VELA. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the distinguished career of Executive Director of Human Resources for San Benito Consolidated Independent School District (SBCISD), Margot Cisneros Torres who is retiring. As a director, principal, assistant principal, and educator, Mrs. Torres dedicated her life to bringing knowledge to others.

Mrs. Torres received her Bachelor of Arts degree from The University of Texas Pan American and her Master of Education in Educational Administration from the University of Texas in Brownsville. She holds Provisional Secondary Teaching Certificates in Secondary English and Spanish Grades 6–12, Mild Management Certificate PK–12, and Professional Superintendent Certificate PK–12.

Prior to serving as the Executive Director for Human Resources at SBCISD, Mrs. Torres worked for the Brownsville Independent School District for 26 years in many positions including high school English teacher, Assistant Principal, Human Resource Specialist, and Principal. Additionally, she served as a school principal at Point Isabel Independent School District for three years. Mrs. Torres will be completing an impressive 31 years in education upon her retirement at the end of this academic year.

The presence of Mrs. Torres will be missed at San Benito Consolidated Independent School District, but her legacy as a leader will be felt for years to come. Please join me in wishing Mrs. Torres and her family all the best as she begins the next chapter in her life.

HONORING DR. CARTER G. WOODSON OF HUNTINGTON, WEST VIRGINIA

HON. EVAN H. JENKINS

OF WEST VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 6, 2018

Mr. JENKINS of West Virginia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Carter G. Woodson and to celebrate his legacy with my friends at Marshall University. Dr. Woodson is a former resident of Huntington, West Virginia, and is known as the "Father of African-American History." He believed in the importance of education, served as a principal of his alma mater Douglas High School, and later earned a doctorate in history from Harvard University. Dr. Woodson pioneered the observation of Black History Month and devoted his life to documenting the important contributions African Americans have made to our nation's history.

The Carter G. Woodson Lyceum at Marshall University has the great honor to welcome Librarian of Congress Dr. Carla Hayden who will speak directly to the community and students of Marshall University. I extended my wishes for a successful event celebrating the life of Dr. Woodson and all that he has achieved.

I want to thank Professor Morris for his continued dedication to honoring the work of Dr. Woodson every year. He continues to ensure