

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PLYMOUTH FRAGMENT SOCIETY

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATING

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the 200th Anniversary of the Plymouth Fragment Society of Plymouth, Massachusetts.

This exceptional organization was founded on February 13, 1818 with the goal of aiding families living in poverty. In response to the Embargo Act of 1807 and the War of 1812, Marie de Verdier Turner gathered with 183 women to sew garments for the poor. Their mission was expanded to provide aid such as milk, fuel, and rent to those who needed assistance. As one of the oldest continuously operating charitable organizations in the country, they have adapted to the changing needs of the community, guiding Plymouth through prosperous times and economic downturns, including the Great Depression.

The Plymouth Fragment Society, which was founded and run by dedicated and determined women, exemplifies the work women did for our communities long before they had the ability to engage in politics or business. Those who carry on this legacy remind us all of the power of dedicated individuals and their ability to effect lasting change.

Mr. Speaker, I am proud to honor the 200th Anniversary of the Plymouth Fragment Society for their dedication to bettering their community. I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking them for their invaluable service and wishing them all the best in the many years to come.

INTRODUCTION OF THE MCINTIRE-STENNIS ACT DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA EQUALITY ACT

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to introduce the McIntire-Stennis Act District of Columbia Equality Act, which would amend the McIntire-Stennis Cooperative Forestry Act (Act) to make the District of Columbia eligible for funding. The District is treated as a state under federal programs with a few exceptions, most of them simply oversights or failures to update. This legislation would rectify the exception in the Act, ensuring equitable treatment for the District and allowing the District to benefit from the important funding opportunities available under the Act.

The Act provides U.S. states and territories with formula funds to support state-designated institutions' cooperative forestry research programs. The Act defines "State" to include Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam. The District's notable, but faulty, absence from this definition makes it ineligible for grant funds that would support research at the University of the District of Columbia's (UDC) College of Agriculture, Urban Stability, and Environmental Science, a program that complements the city's ongoing forestry efforts.

UDC is the nation's only urban land-grant university.

We appreciate that Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, and Guam are included under the definition of "State," though, unlike the District of Columbia, their residents do not pay federal income taxes. It would be particularly troubling if the District, whose residents pay the highest amount per capita in federal income taxes, which support farm and other federal programs, were to continue to be excluded.

We have heard that the District may be excluded because of its lack of local timber production. However, the Act says, "[i]n making such apportionments, consideration shall be given to pertinent factors including" local timber production. Proximity to timber is, therefore, only one in a non-exclusive list of factors that are part of the larger analysis regarding the apportionments. Excluding the District from the definition of "State" merely because it is not located in an area with a timber industry runs counter to the intent of the Act. While timber production can be a factor in determining the amount of state allocations, there is no reason that the District should be excluded from the Act.

We believe, therefore, that the omission of the District must have been the result of an oversight during the original drafting of the Act. However, as you can imagine, this omission has serious consequences for the District, rendering UDC ineligible for these formula grant funds. Passage of this bill would allow students and researchers in the nation's capital to take part in this important forestry program.

I urge my colleagues to support this important bill.

RECOGNITION OF THE
#WEARINGIRISH CAMPAIGN

HON. BRENDAN F. BOYLE

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the #WearingIrish social media campaign started by Margaret Molloy, and the Irish designers that will be recognized by the campaign this year.

For the past two years, Molloy has been encouraging her friends and family to wear Irish clothing and jewelry during March and highlighting their fashion choices by using the hashtag #WearingIrish. What started as a small endeavor has grown into a movement that has captured the attention of everyone from the President of Ireland to the top fashion industry leaders in New York City.

She launched the WearingIrish NYC 2018 competition this past March, which will bring Ireland's best fashion and accessory designers to the United States where they will have the opportunity to showcase their talent and gain exposure to leaders in the American fashion industry. Out of 170 applicants, 10 winners will make their way to the iconic Grand Central Terminal in New York to debut their collections.

The winning brands represent the best of modern Ireland: Áine, Alison Conneely, Bláithín Ennis, De Bruir, Inner Island, Jennifer Rothwell, Natalie B. Coleman, Sands and Hall,

The Tweed Project, and Triona. They should be commended for their impressive accomplishments in their field.

I believe that this competition comes at an important time for the U.S.-Ireland relationship. This modern friendship is built not just on shared heritage, but also on strong commercial and economic partnership. The #WearingIrish campaign embodies this spirit and only strengthens the bonds between our two nations. I congratulate Margaret and all of the winning designers on their efforts to make this possible. Their passion for Ireland resonates deeply with my own Irish-American heritage and embodies the forward facing, mutually beneficial relationship our two nations enjoy.

CELEBRATING THE CAREER OF
DR. HORACE MITCHELL

HON. KEVIN MCCARTHY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today alongside my colleague, Congressman DAVID VALADAO, to honor Dr. Horace Mitchell, President of California State University, Bakersfield (CSUB). Dr. Mitchell joined CSUB as its fourth president in 2004, and will be retiring after a near 50-year career in education later this month.

Horace began his professional career at his alma mater of Washington University, Missouri, where he received his PhD in Counseling Psychology. As a member of the faculty, he served in multiple positions, including Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences, Assistant Professor of Education and Black Studies, and Chair of the Black Studies Program. He went on to serve the University of California, first at Irvine for 17 years, and then Berkeley for nearly 10 years, before learning of an opportunity nestled in the southern part of California's San Joaquin Valley. It was at this school—CSUB—where Dr. Mitchell would leave perhaps the greatest mark of his decades-spanning career. Upon his arrival, Dr. Mitchell announced his goal of making CSUB the pride of the California State University System. Over the next decade, he worked tirelessly to make that vision a reality.

Dr. Mitchell saw an untapped potential in the students he served, and dedicated his career to helping the student body of CSUB reach heights they had never seen before. Under his guidance, CSUB attained both its highest enrollment rate, as well as its highest graduation rate in the University's 53-year history. CSUB has seen its profile rise under Dr. Mitchell's tenure and is frequently cited as one of America's top public universities for both its undergraduate and post-graduate programs. Additionally, Dr. Mitchell was the driving force behind CSUB's transition to National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) Division I athletics, allowing the Roadrunners to bring Bakersfield's best athletic talent to the national stage.

More than anything else, Dr. Mitchell will be remembered as a leader who put his students first, factoring the well being of CSUB's student body in every decision he made as President. To cultivate a more supportive learning environment, Dr. Mitchell changed CSUB's

academic calendar from a quarter system to a semester system, offering students more time to focus on the demands of their curriculum. Upon the opening of the CSUB Children's Center, Mr. Mitchell donated his own money to furnish improvements to the center so that CSUB's students could attend courses knowing that their children would receive the best quality childcare a university could offer. For some, work is a means to a paycheck, but Dr. Mitchell's care and concern for the students and faculty at CSUB and the Bakersfield community was a labor of love and dedication.

Mr. Speaker, we join friends, family, students, and faculty of California State University, Bakersfield, and the entire California State University System, in thanking Dr. Mitchell for his commitment to bettering the standard of education in the Bakersfield community and beyond. A man who made Bakersfield his home for 14 years, Dr. Mitchell saw the best that our community had to offer and, in turn, made it his goal to give back to that community. It has been an honor to count Dr. Mitchell as one of our friends, and we will always value the advice and guidance he dispensed over the years on everything from education policy to community volunteerism. After many years in public service, we know that Dr. Mitchell looks forward to spending more time with his wife, Barbara, his children, and his grandchildren. Horace will be missed in the world of CSUB, but we salute his lifetime of service on behalf of our community. We wish him the best as he begins this new chapter of his life.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. JEWEL
SCOTT

HON. EMANUEL CLEAVER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. CLEAVER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate a constituent in my district who went above and beyond to serve our community. Jewel Scott began her work nearly two decades ago in Missouri's Fifth Congressional District, which I proudly represent. Furthermore, her efforts and contributions to the region are nothing short of remarkable.

Of her many accomplishments, Scott is most known for her work with the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City, an organization of chief executive officers representing various influential companies in the area. After serving as the Director of Research and Planning, Scott was named the Executive Director of the Civic Council in 1994. Since then, Scott has spearheaded a myriad of projects and initiatives focused solely on the council's four main objectives: innovation economy, human capital, vibrant communities, and leadership development. She has worked tirelessly to uphold the organization's standards and mission of accelerating growth in the region's prosperity and quality of life.

Aside from her work with the Civic Council, Scott boasts a lifelong career of community based innovation and development through her multifaceted involvement with various organizations within the Greater Kansas City area. Currently, she occupies a seat on the Missouri biotechnology association executive committee and is on the board of directors for

both the University of Kansas Advancement Board and the Kansas City Convention and Visitor's Association.

Although she would be the last to admit it, it is my personal belief that her benevolent ambition and persevering dedication has made a profound impact on the community as a whole. Therefore, it is with a sense of bitter-sweet pride that the community must now congratulate Scott on her retirement from the Civic Council of Greater Kansas City. I speak on the behalf of the entire district when I say thank you Ms. Jewel Scott.

Mr. Speaker, please join me and all of Missouri's Fifth Congressional District in expressing our sincerest congratulations to Jewel Scott for her monumental achievements in her community and her tireless efforts in promoting education, innovation, and commerce, not only within her city limits, but throughout the state. I urge all my colleagues and fellow citizens across the country to join me in showing our appreciation to Ms. Jewel Scott's accomplishments and service.

RECOGNIZING MELODY HERZFELD

HON. THEODORE E. DEUTCH

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. DEUTCH. Mr. Speaker, today I rise in recognition of Melody Herzfeld from Parkland, Florida, for being named the fourth recipient of The Tony Awards and Carnegie Mellon University's Excellence in Theater Education Award. Under her guidance, her students have been able to turn to music and theatre to combat the tragedy that they suffered.

Ms. Herzfeld is the director of the Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School Drama Department, where she has been teaching drama since 2003. In that time, she has been responsible for putting on over 50 productions. Her theatre program, Children's Theatre Project, has received numerous Critics Choice awards and South Florida Cappies, which celebrate excellence in regional student theatre and journalism.

On February 14, as the tragic events unfolded at their school, Ms. Herzfeld hid 65 of her students in her office for two hours. Since then, we have seen her students demand their own space on the national stage. While some began to speak out and call for reforms, others turned to theatre and music to make their voices heard. Ms. Herzfeld's students performed their original song titled, "Shine," for national audiences at the CNN Town Hall on February 21 and at the March for Our Lives on March 24.

Mr. Speaker, the Excellence in Theater Education Award recognizes a K-12 theatre educator in the U.S. who has demonstrated monumental impact on the lives of students and who embodies the highest standards of the profession. This is why it is no surprise to us that Ms. Herzfeld was selected to receive this award by a panel of judges comprised of the American Theatre Wing, The Broadway League, Carnegie Mellon and other leaders from the theatre industry.

Mr. Speaker, today I ask this body to recognize Ms. Herzfeld for her endless dedication to both her students and the arts.

Melody Herzfeld represents the kindness and warmth that I see from teachers across

the State of Florida. We thank her for her outstanding leadership and guidance during such a difficult time.

GEORGIA INDEPENDENCE DAY

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, this year we celebrate the 100th anniversary of the establishment of the First Republic of Georgia. Georgia first declared independence from Russia in 1918 and was free of Moscow's shackles till the Red Army invasion in 1921.

After the fall of the Soviet Union, Georgia once again gained independence and has since been a beacon of hope in a region full of turmoil and corruption. Their faithful commitment to a strong democracy with free and fair elections serves as a shining example for other countries in Eastern Europe.

Georgia has become one of the most valued partners of the United States and the European community. Russia however does not respect Georgia's independence and has occupied large portions of its territory since 2008.

The hungry Russian Bear wants a return to its imperial days. The Kremlin will not stop until all former Soviet republics return to its orbit.

The United States must remain dedicated to upholding Georgia's sovereignty, territorial integrity, and independence. So that in another hundred years, we will still be standing side-by-side with a democratic and prosperous Georgia.

And that's just the way it is.

CONGRATULATING THE UNITED
STATES MERCHANT MARINE
ACADEMY

HON. THOMAS R. SUOZZI

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 7, 2018

Mr. SUOZZI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate the United States Merchant Marine Academy, located in Kings Point, in my Congressional district, for 75 years of dedicated service to our country.

Acta Non Verba—the school's motto—Acta Non Verba, that's deeds not words, something we all need to strive for.

The midshipmen and graduates of the Academy have exemplified this school's motto by faithfully serving the United States in times of war and peace and for that we are eternally grateful.

Since its founding in 1943, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy has developed a rich history of military and maritime service. It's the only service academy whose students engage in combat during times of war.

In fact, 142 of its students gave their lives on behalf of our country during World War II. In 1974, the U.S. Merchant Marine Academy became the first service academy to admit women.

After the 9-11 terrorist attacks, staff and midshipmen evacuated civilians from Lower