

evolving and growing to ensure that every neighborhood in Pierce County is a thriving and safe place for all its residents. I wish them the best in this effort and pledge my commitment to supporting them however I can.

IN RECOGNITION OF MS. SHARON  
"NYOTA" TUCKER, J.D.

**HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2019*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a distinguished scholar, dedicated attorney, and true visionary, Ms. Sharon "Nyota" Tucker. Nyota was honored for her contributions to academia and her community on Saturday, April 13, 2019, at the University of Georgia School of Law.

A native of Dublin, Georgia, Sharon "Nyota" Tucker was born to the union of Mr. Willis Tucker and Mrs. Cornelia Tucker. During her junior year of high school, she joined six of her fellow classmates from Oconee High School in the integration of the previously all-white Dublin High School. This first-hand experience with desegregation convinced her that becoming a lawyer was the most effective means of combating racism, upholding the constitutional rights outlined in the Declaration of Independence, and forcing a system to correct itself. Nyota went on to earn her Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science from Howard University, before becoming the first African-American woman to receive a Juris Doctorate degree from the University of Georgia in 1974.

Upon becoming a member of the State Bar of Georgia in 1974, she served in a number of legal and academic positions, including staff attorney in the Albany office of the Georgia Legal Services Program; legal intern with the Earl Warren Fellowship Program in the San Francisco office, NAACP Legal Defense Fund; and associate with the Albany, Georgia Law Firm of Mary Young & Associates. During Nyota's impressive tenure at Albany State University (ASU), she served as a faculty member and pre-law advisor, as well as a dual role as ASU's University Counsel (for eight years) and ASU's Chief of Staff (for five years). Her time at ASU allowed her to work with some of the brightest, most creative, and determined students in higher education.

Nyota has been recognized numerous times for her professional and community work. She has received several Teacher of the Year Awards in addition to the 2015 Trailblazer Award by the UGA Black Law Student Association; the Justice Leah Ward Sears Award for Distinction in the Profession by the Georgia Association of Black Women Attorneys in 2016; the USG Chancellor's Recognition for Distinguished Service to the University System of Georgia in 2016; and both the 2018 and 2019 Beverly Burton New Board Member of the Year Award for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Georgia and the Southeast Region. Moreover, on April 13, 2019, the University of Georgia School of Law unveiled a portrait of Nyota honoring her impeccable legacy and influential leadership.

Former Congresswoman Shirley Chisholm once said that "Service is the rent that we pay for the space that we occupy here on this

earth." Nyota has paid her rent many times over and still continues to give a prodigious amount of love and service back to her community. She has served on the Board of Trustees for the Harry S. Truman Scholarship Foundation, the Board of Directors for Liberty House, and as a member of the Advisory Committee on Law and Criminal Justice at the Washington Center. She currently serves on the Board of Directors for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Albany and a member of the Dougherty County Hospital Authority Board.

Nyota has accomplished many things in her life, but none of these would have been possible without the enduring love and support of her loving children, Nairobi (deceased), Sadiqa, and Macharia; and her granddaughter, Imani.

Madam Speaker, today I ask my colleagues to join my wife, Vivian, and me, along with the more than 730,000 residents of Georgia's Second Congressional District, in recognizing and commending Ms. Sharon Nyota Tucker, J.D., on receiving a well-deserved effigy recognizing her commitment and contributions to her community and academic field.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MRS.  
KATHLEEN FINER

**HON. TED LIEU**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2019*

Mr. TED LIEU of California. Madam Speaker, today I rise to celebrate the life of Mrs. Kathleen "Kay" Finer, who passed away on March 2, 2019 at the age of 68. Kay was a dedicated member of and leader in the business community in Los Angeles County's South Bay.

Born on October 14, 1950, Kay grew up and attended school in Inglewood; after attending El Camino College, Kay started her career in the fashion industry before taking time off to raise her family. She was an active member in civic life, serving as a reserve officer for the City of Palos Verdes Estates and organizing a neighborhood watch group.

Kay also devoted herself to promoting local businesses, as a volunteer with the Malaga Cove Business Association and President and CEO of the Palos Verdes Peninsula Chamber of Commerce from 2005 to 2010. She also involved herself with a myriad of nonprofit organizations; she served as director of Community Helpline, which offers a confidential, safe, and empathetic space to talk for individuals experiencing mental health crises. Her energy, commitment, and warm smile helped her make a difference in the community she loved.

Kay is survived by her daughter, Jessica, and grandson, Colt. I hope that Kay's family takes comfort in knowing her memory will live on in the people, businesses, and organizations she touched through her work.

HONORING MAJOR GENERAL WALTER PIATT FOR HIS SERVICE TO FORT DRUM AND ON HIS CONFIRMATION TO DIRECTOR OF ARMY STAFF

**HON. ELISE M. STEFANIK**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2019*

Ms. STEFANIK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize a lifetime of dedicated service. Major General Walter Piatt will be assuming his new role as Director of Army Staff at the Pentagon after serving as Commanding General of the 10th Mountain Division at Fort Drum for the past two years.

Major General Piatt's military career has spanned nearly 40 years and taken him all over the globe. He has previously served at the Pentagon as the Director of Army Operations, Readiness, and Mobilization and then as the Director of Operations, Army Rapid Capabilities Office. Through all that, his roots in the North Country remained strong. Major General Piatt served in the 10th Mountain Division twice, from 1999 to 2003 and from 2012 to 2013. During his tenure commanding Fort Drum, Major General Piatt led efforts to strengthen ties to the local community on the premise that a ready post and division depends heavily on the strength of the surrounding communities. His leadership has not only been beneficial to those stationed at Fort Drum but everyone in the surrounding communities as well. While we are sad to see him leave the North Country, I know I speak for everyone in New York's 21st Congressional District when I wish Major General Piatt great success in his new role and thank him for his service.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND THE CONTRIBUTIONS OF VIETNAMESE AMERICANS

**HON. J. LUIS CORREA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2019*

Mr. CORREA. Madam Speaker, today, I am introducing a House Resolution recognizing the accomplishments and contributions of Vietnamese Americans. I represent one of the largest Vietnamese communities in the United States, and I am proud to recognize the valuable contribution of 1.7 million Vietnamese Americans living in this nation. The United States is home to the largest number of individuals of Vietnamese descent outside of Vietnam. Currently more than 70,000 reside in California's 46th Congressional District.

In the aftermath of the Vietnam War, approximately 800,000 Vietnamese refugees fleeing persecution resettled in the United States. Today, Vietnamese Americans contribute to American society through their work in business, education, science and technology, engineering, mathematics, literature and the arts, gastronomy, the armed forces, and public service at every level of government.

Vietnamese Americans add to the rich cultural and religious diversity of our nation. As a

member of the Congressional Vietnam Caucus, it is critical that we continue to represent and celebrate our Vietnamese families, friends, and neighbors, and recognize their significant contributions to American society.

HONORING THE LIFE OF OSCAR  
DUNCAN

HON. STEPHANIE N. MURPHY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2019*

Mrs. MURPHY. Madam Speaker, I rise to honor my constituent, Oscar Duncan, who passed away on April 10th, at the age of 75.

A long-time resident of Geneva, Florida, Oscar Duncan lived an extraordinary life, and leaves behind an enduring legacy. He was a soldier, a law enforcement officer, and a successful small business owner.

Above all, Oscar was the Duncan family patriarch. He and his beloved wife Bernice were married for 44 years, and he was fiercely protective of her. Heaven help the person who said a cross word to Bernice in Oscar's presence.

Together, they had 10 children, which led to 22 grandchildren, which led to 23 great-grandchildren. That's more than a family. That's an army.

My office spoke to one of Oscar's four sons, Hannibal Duncan, about Oscar's life. Hannibal made clear that those who knew his father best had the greatest respect and affection for him.

Oscar was born and raised in Tampa, at a time in our nation's history when African-Americans were treated unequally under both law and custom.

Adversity made Oscar strong, as fire forges steel. Everything Oscar Duncan achieved in life, he had to fight for. Nothing was given to him; he earned it all.

Out of high school, Oscar volunteered for the U.S. Army, serving for five-and-a-half years, including tours in Korea and Germany, and rising to the rank of sergeant.

The same qualities that made Oscar a good soldier made him a great man. Discipline, intelligence, toughness, fairness, self-confidence, the capacity to suppress fear and doubt, a sense of purpose. He was a natural leader that others wanted to follow.

After leaving the service, Oscar earned two degrees at an Orlando-area college and became a police officer in Eatonville, famed as the first city in the country to be organized and governed by African-Americans.

In 1971, Oscar was a member of the first class of black deputies selected to join the Orange County Sheriffs Office, which had officially desegregated in the early 1960s but had accepted only a handful of African-Americans in the ensuing years. For nearly a decade, Oscar woke up every day and worked to keep central Florida safe, always the consummate professional.

Then, in his mid-30s, Oscar decided to walk a different path. He left law enforcement and opened Duncan's Food Mart in Eatonville, located next to the dry cleaning shop that Bernice ran. It became an iconic institution in the city. Oscar did everything at the store—cooking and cleaning, manning the cash register, and handling the finances. The kids were ex-

pected to help as well, and it was here they absorbed their father's lesson that success demands sacrifice.

According to Hannibal, Oscar explained his decision to change careers by saying that, "at some point in your life, you have to choose between being a mouse and being a man." For Oscar, being a man meant striking out on his own, answerable to no one but himself. It also meant giving back to the African-American community he cherished—creating jobs, economic activity, and a place for folks to gather and enjoy each other's company.

Oscar ran the store for nearly 20 years, until he suffered a series of strokes and his health began to unravel. Hannibal said his father died like he lived—no complaints, no self-pity. Just dignity and toughness.

Oscar Duncan was a man until his final breath. He will be deeply missed.

I ask my congressional colleagues to join me in offering our condolences to those he loved and to those who loved him.

PROMOTING HUMAN RIGHTS FOR  
PALESTINIAN CHILDREN LIVING  
UNDER ISRAELI MILITARY OCCU-  
PATION

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, April 30, 2019*

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Madam Speaker, it is my hope that Members of Congress and the American people can stand united in the belief that justice, human dignity, and human rights are values we share and promote. Certainly, when it comes to protecting the rights of children we should be able to find universal agreement that ensuring their safety and well-being is a priority.

Today, I am introducing legislation to protect children from abuse, violence, psychological trauma, and torture. This bill condemns the targeting of children with the intent to intimidate, mistreat, and abuse in a manner designed to leave lifelong scars. This abuse is completely preventable. Unimaginably, it is abuse that is perpetrated not only with intent, but systematically applied to intimidate, control, and create fear amongst families, communities, and an entire population. And, unbelievably, it is in part funded by U.S. taxpayers.

The children this legislation seeks to protect are Palestinian who have lived their entire lives under Israeli military occupation. The perpetrator of this system of child abuse is the Government of Israel and its military, police, and intelligence apparatus occupying the Palestinian West Bank. And, it is U.S. tax dollars provided by Congress, the unregulated \$3.8 billion military aid package to Israel, that helps to cover the cost of Israeli soldiers arresting, interrogating, and abusing children, some as young as 9-years old, in the name of Israeli security.

The legislation I am introducing—Promoting Human Rights for Palestinian Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act—is expressly intended to end U.S. support and funding for Israel's systematic military detention, interrogation, abuse, torture, and prosecution of Palestinian children. This bill not only highlights actions by the Government of Israel that violate international humanitarian

law by their treatment of Palestinian children in detention, it affirmatively declares that equality, human rights, and dignity for Palestinians and Israelis are the values the American people expect the U.S. government to advance.

On March 16, 2019, the Israeli newspaper Haaretz ran an in-depth expose detailing the detention and mistreatment of Palestinian boys by Israel's military. It identifies Omar, a ten-year old boy who "looks small for his age." Omar was arrested by Israeli soldiers last December as he played in front of his house because "he threw pebbles at birds that were chirping in the trees." Soldiers saw Omar, caught him, knocked him down, and kicked him. Omar wet his pants. The Haaretz story states, "The 10-year old is one of hundreds of Palestinian children whom Israel arrests every year: the estimates range between 800 and 1,000."

Why would one of the world's most advanced and powerful military forces, a nation that possesses nuclear weapons, send soldiers to attack, terrorize, and detain a 10-year old boy? There can be no justifiable explanation.

On April 1, 2019, only weeks ago, CNN reported on armed Israeli soldiers entering a primary school in Hebron to arrest a 9-year old boy and his 7-year old brother. Such a story is simply too extreme a violation of human rights and decency to be rational. Yet, it happened and there is video footage (provided by the Israeli human rights organization B'Tselem) of the soldiers in the school and the principal and teachers trying to protect the children. Eventually, CNN reports 9-year old Zein was "frog-marched away and taken to an army vehicle." Neighbors said the boy "was taken off to a nearby military post."

In a terrifying description, the Israeli newspaper Haaretz tells what happens to the Palestinian children victimized by Israel's system of occupation and military detention: "They're seized in the dead of night, blindfolded and cuffed, abused and manipulated to confess to crimes they didn't commit."

Since 2000, it is conservatively estimated that more than 10,000 Palestinian children have been detained by Israeli security forces. The brutality and trauma inflicted on Palestinian children by Israel's occupation and system of military detention in the West Bank has been extensively documented by credible international human rights monitors, including Human Rights Watch, Amnesty International, Israel's B'Tselem, United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Defense of Children/Palestine, and the U.S. Department of State.

Israel's system of military detention of Palestinian children must be condemned and it must stop. At a minimum, U.S. funding for this state-sponsored child abuse must be explicitly prohibited by law and fully monitored and enforced by the State Department. The detention and ill-treatment of Palestinian children is a cruel and intentional tactic of Israel's military occupation. It is intended to terrorize, inflict fear, and send an unmistakable message that Palestinian lives lack value.

Promoting Human Rights for Palestinian Children Living Under Israeli Military Occupation Act amends a provision of the Foreign Assistance Act known as the "Leahy Law" (22 U.S.C. 2378d) to prohibit funding for the military detention of children in any country, including Israel. The bill explicitly declares that