

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

A TRIBUTE IN RECOGNITION OF DR. EDISON O. JACKSON

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Edison O. Jackson, the President of Medgar Evers College of the City University of New York and a foremost leader in higher education who is now retiring after twenty years with the College.

Dr. Jackson was born in Heathsville, Virginia. He received a Bachelor of Science degree in Zoology, a Master of Arts degree in Counseling from Howard University, a Master of Divinity degree from New York Theological Seminary, and a Doctorate in Education from Rutgers University with an emphasis on the philosophy, function, role, and administration of urban educational institutions.

After an impressive twenty years in higher education, Dr. Jackson was welcomed to Medgar Evers College as its 5th President. He quickly formulated and implemented a new vision for the College's future, spearheading the creation of the Freshman Year Program, increasing student retention, creating three new academic schools, and restoring the institution's senior college status in 1994.

To increase the enrollment and academic success of African American males, Dr. Jackson established the nationally recognized Male Development and Empowerment Center to groom and guide men through their higher education career and to prepare them for the workforce. Consequently, Medgar Evers has increased its enrollment of African American men by 13 percent.

Dr. Jackson has served and/or holds membership in a number of prominent civic, educational, and community organizations. He has also written on issues of concern to educators regarding minority students, including student retention and the role of spiritual leadership in higher education.

Dr. Jackson has been honored for his decades of service and achievements from scores of elected officials, educational institutions, and community organizations.

Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize Dr. Edison O. Jackson, a visionary leader and an inspiration to all of New York.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to Dr. Edison O. Jackson.

CENTRAL DAVIDSON—THREE TIMES A CHAMPION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, a softball team at a high school in our congressional

district proved this year that even when you lose your key player for a large part of the season, when the whole team pulls together, greatness can still be achieved. Despite losing 2008 News & Record All-Area Player of the Year Chelsea Leonard to a knee injury on November 25, 2008, the Central Davidson High School softball team came together and finished its 21–7 season with a championship title. “We’ve been through some tough times this year,” Coach Gene Poindexter told The Dispatch. “Got knocked down a couple times. Got black eyes a couple of times. We just kept fighting, and we worked hard to get back in the playoffs; I can’t say enough about all these freshmen, sophomores and juniors. They’re a great bunch of kids who worked their tails off.” On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to congratulate the Spartans for winning their third consecutive 2A state softball championship.

The Spartans defeated Richlands by a score of 1–0 on Saturday, June 6, 2009. Freshman extraordinaire Carley Tysinger ripped a 1–0 pitch into left for a single to drive in the biggest run of the season and the only run of the title game. And that one-run lead was all that was needed with senior Chelsea Leonard on the mound. Leonard returned in time for the postseason and was named tournament MVP. Leonard threw a one-hitter with 19 strikeouts against Richlands in the title game.

The championship season was a team effort led by seniors Kelsey Rountree and Chelsea Leonard, juniors Haley Hanes, Laura Fritts, Haley Thore, Nicole Perry, and Mindi Morris, sophomores Kara Lohr, Whitney Lohr, Jazmine Charles, Emma Comer, and Megan Yountz, and freshmen Charity McGath, Carley Tysinger, Allie Stovall, and Lauren Bryant.

Also assisting the team during this season were assistant coaches Jim Welborn, Bryan Starnes, Greg Leonard, Sterling Charles, Mike Pickett, Jordan Stogner, Jodi Duncan, the voice of the Spartans, announcer Stuart Joontz, scorekeeper Mitzi Tysinger and last but not least, manager Xavier “Sabby” Rosales.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District, we would like to congratulate Principal Emily Lipe, Athletic Director and Head Coach Gene Poindexter, and everyone affiliated with the Spartans. Congratulations to Central Davidson on a spectacular season and for winning its third consecutive 2A state softball championship.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under

consideration the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the Foreign Service, and for other purposes.

Mr. SHERMAN. Mr. Chair, during consideration of H.R. 2410, the Foreign Relations Authorization Act, I voted for the Royce amendment regarding Eritrea. I know that Eritrea is sending a diplomatic delegation to the United States at the present time, and that sensitive negotiations are taking place in the region. It is my hope that Eritrea will dramatically change its policies as a result of this diplomatic action, and designation of Eritrea as a State Sponsor would be unnecessary. Had this provision been adopted in the House, it could have been (and would have been) removed from the bill in conference should such a change of policy come about. Therefore, I felt that the amendment was worthy of support at this stage of the legislative process notwithstanding the legitimate concerns raised by opponents of the amendment.

TRIBUTE TO MICHAEL J. WOOTTEN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. MORAN of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an exceptional man. On Wednesday, June 10th, the federal government and, in particular, the General Services Administration lost an exemplary public servant, a genuine and trusted friend, and a devoted husband and father. On that day Michael J. Wootten, lost his courageous battle with cancer. Mike was the epitome of a fine public servant. He was accurate, detailed, inquisitive, and thorough in his work. He left our federal government and federal workforce the richer for his service.

He began his legal career as a law clerk, serving the office of the 5th district solicitor, Richland County, South Carolina. When he arrived in Washington D.C., Mike served as Majority Staff Counsel to the Committee on the Judiciary of the United States Senate. As full Committee staff counsel, Mike was responsible for issues of Administrative Law and Procedures, Courts, and Juvenile Justice.

Mike then moved on to the Department of Justice, where he spent three years in the Civil Division as Assistant Director of the Office of Policy and Legislation and Special Assistant to the Assistant Attorney General. One of Mike's accomplishments as Special Counsel was assisting in the confirmation of Justice Anthony Kennedy to the U.S. Supreme Court. Before departing Justice to join GSA, Mike served briefly as the Acting General Counsel for the President's Commission on Privatization.

Upon his arrival at the General Services Administration, Mike quickly became the “go to” lawyer for advice and counsel on real property law and legislative matters involving the Federal Property and Administrative Services Act

• This “bullet” symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

of 1949. For almost 20 years Mike served in the Office of the General Counsel. In addition, he served as counsel to the Office of Congressional Affairs, the Public Buildings Service, the Office of Government-wide Policy, and the Office of the Chief Financial Officer. In 2009, Mike was appointed to the Senior Executive Service. His list of opinions was endless, and his advice was sought after and followed.

Mike was justifiably proud of his legal contributions to GSA. However, his pride in his legal career was always exceeded by his pride in his family, his loving wife Shereen and his two outstanding sons, Mitchell and Corey. As a parent and husband, he was immensely proud of their accomplishments, their community involvement, and their love for each other. Mike made and maintained legions of friendships. His friends, who will cherish his memory and joyful spirit, will join me today with honor and great sadness to pay tribute to Michael J. Wooten.

RECOGNIZING THE UNITED
STATES BORDER PATROL'S 85TH
ANNIVERSARY

HON. GABRIELLE GIFFORDS

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Ms. GIFFORDS. Madam Speaker, I would like to recognize the brave men and women of the United States Border Patrol on the occasion of their agency's 85th anniversary.

The Border Patrol is the first line of defense for our nation. When it was established in the early part of the last century, its only posts were in Detroit, Michigan, and El Paso, Texas. The first agents were issued a badge and a revolver but they had to provide their own horses and saddles. Fortunately, the federal government paid for the feed.

Since its founding in 1924, the Border Patrol has grown and become a modern agency in every way. While some Border Patrol agents still ride horses, they all now use technology that their predecessors could not have imagined. Their tools and strategies have changed over time but their original mission remains the same. Each day they put on their uniforms and go out to protect and defend our borders.

Representing the 8th Congressional District in Southeastern Arizona, I have had the privilege of witnessing first-hand the Border Patrol's important work. It has been a highlight of my time in Congress to meet the men and women of the Tucson Sector of the Border Patrol who serve in one of the most challenging regions in our country. While the Tucson Sector represents only 13 percent of our border with Mexico, it accounts for close to 50 percent of the Border Patrol's apprehensions and drug seizures.

Under the exceptional leadership of Tucson Sector Chief Patrol Agent Robert Gilbert, great progress has been achieved in making our border more secure. Chief Gilbert has assembled an outstanding top management team including Deputy Chief Patrol Agent Robert Boatwright and Division Chiefs John Fitzpatrick and Jeanne Ray-Condon. In addition to implementing effective new strategies to deal with the high volume of drug and human smuggling, they have been responsive to my inquiries on behalf of constituents and

they have reached out to establish partnerships with local residents, ranchers and business owners.

The daily work of the Border Patrol is conducted by a force of hard working agents who carry out their duty with honor and distinction in some of the most rugged territory in the nation. I am proud of the relationship we have established with the Executive Board of the National Border Patrol Council, Local 2544, which represents the agents who work in the Tucson Sector. The agents on the ground are capably represented by Edward Tuffly, Local 2544 President, and the members of his Executive Board, Richard Martinez, Arturo Del Cueto, David Hull and Kurt Kelley. They keep me apprised of the needs and concerns of their members so that I can better fight for the resources that they must have to safely and effectively do their jobs.

My 9,000-square mile district includes 114 miles of international border. The Border Patrol's Tucson Sector is ground zero for the trafficking of humans and drugs into our country. Each day, the agents stationed here confront extraordinary risks to keep us safe. They face armed smugglers, harsh desert terrain and weather extremes. Each day, they illustrate what it means to be dedicated to duty and to country. Border Patrol agents serve us with patriotism and commitment and, as a nation, we owe them a tremendous debt of gratitude.

On behalf of the people of Arizona's 8th Congressional District, I extend my deepest appreciation to the men and women of the Tucson Sector of the Border Patrol and to their colleagues who work all across our borders.

COMMEMORATING REAR ADMIRAL
BENNETT S. "BUD" SPARKS,
U.S.C.G.

HON. MIKE THOMPSON

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the memory of Rear Admiral Bennett "Bud" Sparks, who passed away May 22 after a lifetime of service to our country in the Coast Guard. Admiral Sparks' dedication to our country and his devotion to his family and his community deserve the highest commendation.

Admiral Sparks was born on October 10, 1925, and enlisted in the Coast Guard Reserve in 1942. His service spanned the globe and he saw action in the Atlantic, Pacific and European theaters of operations while flying as a combat aircrewman on both antisubmarine and air-sea rescue missions. After the War, he transferred to the active Coast Guard, where he received a field promotion to ensign in 1957 after having served in all enlisted ranks through chief petty officer.

He later flew mapping missions over Alaska from 1946 to 1957 for the Coast Guard and as a civilian. In 1966 he took up his first of nine consecutive commands over 23 years. During this time, he served as commanding officer of four Coast Guard Units, three Coast Guard Groups and two U.S. Navy Maritime Defense Zone Sectors. He attained flag rank in 1985, and received his second star in 1987.

Throughout his career, Admiral Sparks received numerous decorations for his service. Among them are the Navy Distinguished Public Service medal, two Coast Guard Distinguished Public Service medals, the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service medal, two Coast Guard commendation medals, the Coast Guard Achievement medal, the Arctic Service medal and, of course, his Coast Guard Combat Air Crew Wings.

Admiral Sparks was also a dedicated advocate for other reserve officers, fellow veterans and his community. He has served as both president of the Reserve Officer's Association of the United States—the first Coast Guard officer to hold this position—and as Chief of the U.S. Delegation to the Inter-Allied Confederation of Reserve Officers at NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. He also chaired the California Veterans Board, where he worked tirelessly to ensure and enhance the rights and benefits of California Veterans, and was active on the board of the North Bay Chapter of the Alzheimer's Association of Northern California and Nevada.

However, perhaps the most enduring legacy of Admiral Sparks will be as the devoted husband of his wife Betty and as a loving father and grandfather. He is survived by four of his children; Bennett Jr., James, John and Julieann, his sister Doris, as well as his 11 grandchildren, 22 great-grandchildren and one great-great-grandchild.

Madam Speaker, it is fitting at this time that we honor the life, service and memory of Admiral Sparks. His dedication to his country, his family and community are a testament to a great man who will long be remembered by those who knew him. We are lucky to have had him as a neighbor, a friend and an inspiration.

SOUTHWESTERN RANDOLPH—
CLOSE TO PERFECTION

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, perfection is difficult to achieve in life—and perhaps even more so in sports—so it is noteworthy when any team comes so close to that achievement. A high school softball team in our congressional district came within one win of a perfect season. Even with that one loss, the team captured a state championship. On behalf of the citizens of the Sixth District of North Carolina, we wish to congratulate the softball team of Southwestern Randolph High School for winning the North Carolina 3A state championship. This is the second 3A title in three years the Cougars have won.

The team was led by Head Coach Steve Taylor who was able to bring the team together and make them believe they were capable of anything. As a result, the Cougars finished the season with an impressive 30–1 record that was capped with a 5–2 win over Asheville T.C. Roberson High School on June 6, 2009.

The championship season was a team effort led by seniors Anna Maness, Holly Berry, and Brittany Jones, juniors Erin Billups, Olivia Hickman, Cheryl Coley, and Hanna Hughes, sophomores Cynthia Hayes, Julia Callicutt,

Sydney Hyden, Kelsey Hoover, Victoria Hunt, and Sloan King, and freshmen Dee Chriscoe, Paige Parrish, Brooke Hayes, Kaylee King, and Hayleigh Clapp.

Also assisting the team during this outstanding 30–1 season were assistant coaches Bobby Berry, Robert Hayes, Wendal Seawell, and Angela Hoover.

Again, on behalf of the Sixth District, we would like to congratulate Principal Dr. Chris Vecchione, Athletic Director Randy Key, Head Coach Steve Taylor, and all who contributed to this outstanding season. Congratulations to Southwestern Randolph High School on a spectacular season and for winning the North Carolina 3A state championship.

A TRIBUTE IN REMEMBRANCE OF
DR. DANIEL C. UDOJI

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. TOWNS. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Dr. Daniel C. Udoji, a self-employed medical provider in Brooklyn.

Dr. Udoji was born in Egbu-Owerri, Eastern Nigeria to Chief Benjamin and Mrs. Dorothy Udoji and lived there until 1954. Dr. Udoji left Nigeria for London in 1957 for further education at University College Ibadan and graduated with a M.B./B.S. in 1964.

During the Nigerian-Biafra Civil War, from 1967 to 1970, Dr. Udoji provided medical and surgical services to refugees and displaced persons. After his commendable medical assistance during the Nigerian-Biafra Civil War, Dr. Udoji proceeded to the United Kingdom for postgraduate Medical Studies at Postgraduate Medical School in Scotland and University Hospital of Wales in Wales. After completion of his studies, Dr. Udoji travelled to the United States to complete his residency at V.A. Hospital and Downstate Medical Center and at Long Island Jewish Medical Center & Queens Hospital.

Following his residency, Dr. Udoji worked as an internist at V.A. Medical Center in Brooklyn from 1978 to 1986. From 1988 to 1992, Dr. Udoji provided medical services to senior citizens at the Senior Citizen Center on Bergen Street in Brooklyn. Dr. Udoji has been providing medical services to the homeless population in Brooklyn since 1989 at the Salvation Army under the auspices of Catholic Charities. Dr. Udoji has over forty years of experience and continues to work in the Brooklyn area.

Dr. Udoji is married to Obiageli with whom he has five grown children and two grandchildren. His hobbies include gardening and photography.

Madam Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing Dr. Daniel C. Udoji.

CONGRATULATING RALPH CROSBY
FOR BEING NAMED BOSS OF THE
YEAR

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. BONNER. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride and pleasure that I rise today to

honor Ralph Crosby for being named “Boss of the Year” for 2009 by the Top-Side Aviation Club. The “Boss of the Year” is one of the club’s most prestigious honors, and Ralph is most deserving of this award in recognition of his tireless efforts on behalf of EADS North America. He is one of those rare, one-in-a-million type of individuals whom, I am fortunate to know and call my friend.

Throughout his entire life, Ralph’s work ethic, his love of family, country, and God have all contributed to his success and to receiving this prestigious award.

A native of Greenville, South Carolina, Ralph was appointed to West Point by Senator Strom Thurmond. He graduated first in his class in engineering and was in the top 2 percent of his overall class. He went on to earn two Master’s degrees, one from the acclaimed JFK School of Government at Harvard University, where he graduated with a perfect 4.0, and the other, where he achieved the highest academic mark ever recorded at the time from the Graduate Institute of International Studies in Geneva.

After graduating from West Point, Ralph had a distinguished military career where he was selected as Officer of the Year of the 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment and served tours in Germany, Vietnam and the United States. During his last military assignment, he served as the military staff assistant to Vice President Walter Mondale.

In 1981, Ralph resigned his commission as major in the U.S. Army and joined Northrop Grumman where he enjoyed a 21-year career and rapidly rose up the company ladder. He was among the youngest vice presidents ever appointed in the company’s 60 year history, and he ran the B-2 program—arguably one of the most important assets in our nation’s strategic arsenal.

On September 1, 2002, Ralph assumed leadership of EADS North America, one of the world’s largest aerospace and defense companies. As chairman and chief executive officer, he has been directly responsible for the company’s activities—and substantial growth—in the United States over the last seven years.

He established a significant aerospace presence in neighboring Mississippi where EADS North America produces the Light Utility Helicopter for the U.S. Army. All have been delivered on schedule and under budget. EADS has become a major employer across the United States supporting more than 190,000 jobs in 17 states and contributing over \$9 billion to the U.S. economy annually.

Alabama—and certainly the city of Mobile—has developed a close relationship with Ralph and EADS over the past several years. Under Ralph’s leadership, EADS selected Brookley Air Field in Mobile as the home for its U.S. production facility for the next-generation aerial refueling tanker. EADS also partnered with Northrop Grumman to launch a joint bid to provide America’s warfighters with the very best equipment, technology, and training to do their jobs and complete their missions.

In recognition of his impressive career and many accomplishments, Ralph was Aviation Week and Space Technology magazine’s runner-up for Person of the Year last year.

Madam Speaker, I would like to offer my personal congratulations to Ralph Crosby for being named the Boss of the Year for 2009 and, in so doing, recognize him for his many outstanding accomplishments.

I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating a dedicated professional and friend. I know his family—his wife, Mary Grace; their children, Ralph and Laura Grace; and their beautiful grandchildren—as well as his many friends and colleagues join me in praising his accomplishments and extending thanks for his many efforts over the years.

HONORING ALEX ADAMEK

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Adamek, a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 351, and in earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Adamek for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION
ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010
AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration of the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the Foreign Service, and for other purposes:

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Chair, H.R. 2410, the Foreign Affairs Authorization, has several laudable provisions that would improve our national security and our country’s standing in the world. But it includes language that grants Congressional endorsement of preemptive war against Iran.

The provision in question says “It is the sense of Congress that Israel has the inalienable right to defend itself in the face of an imminent nuclear or military threat from Iran . . .” Among the lessons that should have been learned from the war in Iraq is that preemptive war based on an imminent threat (real or perceived) is a violation of recognized rights under international law and undermines a nation’s standing in the international community. Rather than recognizing Israel’s right to self defense against an imminent attack, a right recognized by international law, this bill contains language that supports preemptive war against a threat. A war with Iran is not in Israel’s best interest, it is not in the United States best interest, and it is not in the world’s

best interest. The provision undermines the establishment of peace in the Middle East.

I do not make the decision to oppose the full legislation lightly. It has important provisions. The additional resources authorized by this bill are necessary to make up for a history of drastic underfunding and inattention to diplomacy. This bill highlights our commitment to a new diplomatic strategy as our nation strives to heal the wounds between our country and the world.

It authorizes additional funding to train and deploy 1,500 additional Foreign Service Officers. It commits \$1.8 billion for fiscal year 2010, as well as the necessary funds in 2011 to fulfill our assessed contributions to international organizations such as the United Nations. The bill will create an additional 25 positions at the Department of State for arms control and nonproliferation. Creation of the Rotation Program will help to strengthen inter-agency cooperation toward nuclear abolition.

The bill requires that the State Department investigate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the atrocities associated with an occupation that compromises the health and dignity of the Palestinian people. I am hopeful that the report will allow the U.S. to credibly claim a commitment to engage in a more even handed and diplomacy oriented foreign policy.

I do not agree with inclusion of Section 822 of the bill, which reduces the number of Congressional notifications about arms transfers between the U.S. government and the governments of other nations. For example, a Congressional notification is currently required for the transfer of major defense equipment sales valued at \$14 million or more. With enactment of this section, the threshold will be raised to \$25 million or greater. As such, the trigger for Congressional review will happen less often.

Furthermore, I oppose the increased funding levels for the Merida Initiative and expansion of this flawed program to the Caribbean countries. Time and again, research has demonstrated that illicit drug production in developing countries stems from pervasive rural poverty and lack of sustainable sources of income. More money for guns and other tools of destruction will do nothing to ease the suffering of those struggling with addiction or alleviate the social problems that compel people to produce and/or traffic drugs.

This body must take measurable actions to replace policies of aggression with policies of dialogue, adherence to international law and an unwavering dedication to the protection of human rights. By including the provision that paves the way for preemptive war against Iran, this bill continues the failed policies of the previous administration. Therefore, I could not vote for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. PHIL GINGREY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GINGREY of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall #335 on the final passage of H.R. 1234, I am not recorded. Had I been present, I would have voted "nay."

HIGH POTENCY MARIJUANA SENTENCING ENHANCEMENT ACT OF 2009

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, popular culture often romanticizes casual marijuana use, and those who warn that marijuana is a "gateway drug" that can lead to use of other, harder drugs are ridiculed as being out of the mainstream. The reality is that marijuana today is vastly different than the marijuana that was prevalent in the '60s. According to the National Drug Intelligence Center, the average THC content of seized marijuana was less than 4 percent in the early 1990s. By 2007 that level rose to nearly 10 percent.

Local police in my district are now reporting a new threat from "Kush," street slang for a strain of highly potent marijuana with a THC content of at least 20 percent. The rise of Kush mirrors the increasing trend of high-THC marijuana, which has become more accessible with the rise of hydroponics. Drug growers are able to strictly control light, temperature and humidity and can cross-breed to maximize THC content. According to the Drug Enforcement Administration, Kush has been known to sell for as high as \$600 per ounce—creating the same profit potential as crack cocaine.

Today I am introducing legislation to bring federal penalties for trafficking high-potency marijuana in line with penalties for cocaine, heroin, and hashish, all of which have similar retail prices on the street. The gangs and cartels trafficking Kush are the same trafficking cocaine and heroin, and the profits they realize represent an equal danger to the public. In my view, the penalties for trafficking this dangerous drug should also be equalized.

MOTION TO INSTRUCT CONFEREES ON H.R. 2346, SUPPLEMENTAL APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2009

SPEECH OF

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I voted against the motion. One of my concerns about the Supplemental as passed by the Senate is the fact that it contains funding for the International Monetary Fund without language designed to ensure that the IMF provide no assistance to countries that support terrorism, raise proliferation concerns, or are major human rights abusers, most notably Iran. Proponents of the motion mentioned their objections to the IMF funding; some raised similar concerns that the IMF could assist some of the worst regimes. However, a close reading of the motion reveals that conferees could implement the instructions without any cut to IMF funding and without adding any preconditions that the IMF would have to meet before obtaining \$109 billion. Given the political realities, I believe that this is the direction the conferees would take to implement these instructions in the event they did not ignore them altogether. Thus this motion does not instruct

conferees to do anything at all to IMF funding and, if implemented will lead to cuts to worthy domestic and international accounts. For these reasons, I could not support the motion.

HONORING SANDY REMPE

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GRAVES. Madam Speaker, I proudly rise today to recognize Sandy Rempe of the Missouri Department of Public Safety. Her direction of the Juvenile Justice Program and the dedication and compassion she has for today's youth is to be commended. Due to her exemplary leadership, she has earned the prestigious Tony Gobar Award, an honor that recognizes excellence in the field of juvenile justice.

Ms. Rempe has worked as the manager of the Department of Public Safety's Juvenile Justice Program for twelve years. Under her leadership, the program distributes federal grants that provide funding to sixty state and local agencies in Missouri to help support juvenile justice and delinquency prevention initiatives. Additionally, grant funds are utilized for training on juvenile justice, system improvements, and intervention programs. Ms. Rempe also serves on many groups, committees and commissions including the Mental Health Transformation Leadership Work Group and the Drug Court Commission.

Madam Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sandy Rempe for this prestigious accomplishment with the Missouri Department of Public Safety and for her tireless efforts in helping Missouri's youth.

IN HONOR OF ELLEN PSENICKA

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Ellen Psenicka, whose forty-year tenure as reporter, editor and publisher of the award-winning Neighborhood News, continues to enlighten, entertain and unite Cleveland's southeast community every Wednesday, highlighting current events along our city streets—from the neighborhoods of Slavic Village, to the streets of Garfield Heights, to the steps of Cleveland City Hall.

Ellen grew up in Sandusky, Ohio and went on to attend Ohio University, where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Journalism. Shortly following graduation, in June, 1969, Ellen was hired as a reporter by Jim Psenicka, publisher of the Neighborhood News. A few years later, Jim and Ellen were married, and they worked in dedication to each other, to the newspaper and to the community until Jim's passing in 2001. At that time, Ellen accepted the torch of leadership passed to her by Jim, and she continues to carry on his legacy of excellence in journalism, and his commitment to the Greater Cleveland Community.

Ellen's spirit of volunteerism and focus on the betterment of the community is evident

throughout Southeast Cleveland and its suburbs. Her kind and humble nature draws people to her, and she has garnered the admiration and respect of everyone she knows. She is a longtime member of the Garfield Heights Historical Society and serves as a board member for Cleveland Central Catholic High School. She is currently serving her second term as President of the Kiwanis of Southeast Cleveland. As a member and leader in Kiwanis, Ellen has been instrumental in leading several fundraising efforts aimed at local student scholarship awards, and recently, a fundraiser and recognition dinner honoring Dr. Javier Lopez which raised greatly-needed funds for his medical missions to Central America. Ellen has always reached out with a generous heart wherever and whenever needed. Her efforts in volunteerism also include her tireless dedication in her efforts to save St. Michael's hospital.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honor and recognition of Ellen Psenicka, as she celebrates her 40th Anniversary with the Neighborhood News. The Neighborhood News is read by tens of thousands of people weekly, and continues to inform and unite us all. Ellen's commitment to bringing us the news of the neighborhood and her generosity as a community leader and volunteer serves to brighten and strengthen our entire community.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF ANTHONY APPLEWHITE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Anthony Applewhite of Boy Scout Troop 1577 on being promoted to the rank of Eagle Scout. Fewer than 2% of all scouts have mastered the skills necessary to achieve this honor. Anthony's achievement of this rank is even more extraordinary because, at the age of just 13, he is one of the youngest Eagle Scouts ever in the 100 year history of Boy Scouts of America.

For his Eagle Scout Service Project, Anthony designed, planned and managed the construction of a picnic area at The Kings Chapel in Clifton, Va. This picnic area was completed efficiently and now is enjoyed by community members as well as the children who attend the The Kings Chapel pre-school. This is just a recent example of Anthony's scouting achievements. Anthony also was recognized for his leadership and service in his Boy Scout Troop with membership in the Order of the Arrow, the National Honor Society of Scouting.

In addition to his success within the Boy Scouts, Anthony is an Honor Roll Student at Rocky Run Middle School. He excels in science, math and technology and would like to attend the Massachusetts Institute of Technology. Anthony plans a dual career of game designer and neurosurgeon where he can utilize many of his impressive abilities. Anthony's scholastic abilities were highlighted when he captained his Odyssey of the Mind teams for the creative problem solving competitions. He also enjoys travel soccer as well as the violin.

Anthony has set many short- and long-term goals for himself ranging from continuing his involvement in the Scouts where he hopes to be selected to attend the 2010 National Jamboree and the 2012 World Jamboree to a career in the medical and technological fields.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Anthony on being one of the youngest Eagle Scouts in scouting history and in wishing him the very best in what promises to be a very bright future. I would also like to ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our thanks to Anthony's family, friends and troop leaders for the support that they have given Anthony which has allowed and encouraged his development as a fine young citizen.

BIPARTISAN CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION TO NATO PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY MEETINGS

HON. JOHN S. TANNER

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. TANNER. Madam Speaker, during the period May 22–31, 2009, I led a bipartisan House delegation to NATO Parliamentary Assembly (NATO PA) meetings in Oslo, Norway and to additional bi-lateral meetings in Helsinki, Finland and Stockholm, Sweden. The co-chair of the NATO PA delegation is the Hon. JOHN SHIMKUS. The delegation also included Representatives JO ANN EMERSON, DENNIS MOORE, JOHN BOOZMAN, MIKE ROSS, DAVID SCOTT, KENDRICK MEEK, JEFF MILLER, BEN CHANDLER, MIKE TURNER and staff. The NATO PA delegation had a highly successful trip in which a wide range of political, economic and security issues on NATO's agenda, as well as issues involving the U.S.–Finland and U.S.–Sweden bi-lateral relationships, were examined. Accompanying the delegation on the visits to Finland and Sweden was Mr. David Hobbs, Secretary General of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, who provided invaluable assistance with respect to Finland and Sweden's participation in the NATO PA and issues related to their cooperation with NATO in numerous Alliance operations.

The NATO Parliamentary Assembly consists of parliamentarians from all 28 NATO member states. The NATO PA provides a unique forum for elected officials to analyze and debate issues that the NATO leadership discusses in Brussels. In addition to the 28 member parliaments, parliamentarians from countries such as Russia, Georgia, Afghanistan, and others also participate in the sessions as associate states or observers. Through these sessions, delegates have the opportunity to learn firsthand the views and concerns that other countries have over the key security issues of the day. An invaluable aspect of the meetings is the chance to meet and come to know members of parliaments who play important roles in their own countries in shaping the security agenda that their governments pursue at NATO. These contacts can endure through a career, and can provide an invaluable private avenue for insights into each ally's particular views on an issue.

In early April, NATO celebrated its 60th anniversary at a summit in Strasbourg, France and Kehl, Germany. The key issues on the

agenda of the Alliance included the broader issue of the future of NATO and more specific issues including relations with Russia, energy security, missile defense, the conflict in Afghanistan, and emerging challenges such as piracy and cyber security. Each of these issues was also on the NATO PA agenda in Oslo and many were vigorously debated by the parliamentarians. Relations with Russia and the new strategy towards Afghanistan and Pakistan were two of the issues that dominated the session. Many members of the Alliance questioned whether Russia has begun to implement an increasingly assertive security policy including efforts to intimidate neighboring states, through the threat of force. There was also concern expressed that Russia would continue to use its energy supplies as a political lever to influence European policy. It was clear from our meetings that not only the United States and NATO, but the European Union as well, are concerned about Moscow's posture on a variety of issues. And, while there were differences of opinion over how to structure future relations between NATO and Russia and the NATO PA and the Russian delegates to the Assembly, most felt that dialogue between NATO, the NATO PA, and Russia was important and should continue. Many delegates welcomed the U.S. commitment to a new, constructive relationship with Moscow and expressed hope that through those promising relations, Russia's attitude toward NATO could become more positive. On Afghanistan, there was continued support for the ISAF mission among the allies and a willingness to provide the additional civilian and financial support necessary for the reconstruction effort there. However, we did detect an undercurrent of concern among some allies that through the commitment of 21,000 additional U.S. troops to Afghanistan and the replacement of U.S./ISAF Commander, General McKiernan, the process of the "Americanization" of the war was underway and that NATO could be pushed aside by the United States. Our delegation was clear that this is not the case and that NATO's role in Afghanistan continues to be a critical one that needs to be carried out in an effective and efficient manner.

Before the opening sessions of the Assembly's plenary the U.S. delegation received a detailed briefing from the new U.S. Ambassador to NATO, Ivo Daalder, who had been in his new role for four days. He prepared us for the nuances involved in some of the issues that would be debated during the NATO PA sessions, particularly regarding Russia and NATO's on-going role in Afghanistan. In addition to the briefing by Ambassador Daalder, we also had the opportunity to meet with the new Deputy Chief of Mission to NATO, Mr. John Heffern who represented the United States at the joint NATO PA/North Atlantic Council (NAC) session at the conclusion of the plenary. Another highlight was a private meeting our delegation held with NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer who was attending his last NATO Parliamentary Assembly session as Secretary General. He gave an overview of the most critical challenges confronting the alliance and thanked the U.S. delegation for its continued support for NATO. Later he addressed the NATO PA's plenary session. The Foreign Minister of Norway, Jens Stoltenberg also addressed the plenary and spoke about the continued importance of the

Alliance and the need for a clear direction for NATO's future. The Assembly also received a mixed report on current conditions in Afghanistan from Mr. Kai Eide, the head of the United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan. Mr. Eide stressed the need for a sustained commitment of assistance from the international community. We also heard comments from the Speakers of the Albanian and Croatian Parliaments on their nation's status as the newest members of the Alliance.

Over two days of the NATO PA session, intense meetings of the Assembly's committees took place. There are five NATO PA committees. In each, parliamentarians presented reports on issues before the Alliance. The reports were debated by all members of the committee who often made counter-arguments or suggestions for amending a report. Members of the U.S. delegation were present and active in each committee meeting.

The Political Committee heard two very interesting presentations. One on the future relevancy of NATO by Jonas Gahr Store, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Norway. A second presentation on Iran generated some interesting questions and debate. The Committee received presentations on three reports, one from our colleague, MIKE ROSS who was a rapporteur for a report on possible transatlantic cooperation on Pakistan. Mr. ROSS's presentation was well received by the Committee. Other reports debated included "Resetting Relations with Russia" that featured several interesting comments from the Russian delegates, and "NATO's relationship with Georgia" that included a discussion on the recent Russia-Georgia conflict. There were still differences of opinion on who actually was responsible for starting the war in Georgia and how to deal with Georgia's aspirations for eventual membership in NATO.

The Committee on the Civil Dimension of Security is currently chaired by our colleague, JO ANN EMERSON. The Committee heard three interesting presentations. One covered civil-military relations in Afghanistan and another attempted to discuss how NATO could best communicate the importance of the Alliance and its missions to the general populations of the alliance members. There was also a very interesting presentation on the food-security nexus by Josette Sheeran, Executive Director of the United Nations World Food Program. The Committee then debated a report on the growing threat of piracy to regional and global security. Our colleague, DAVID SCOTT, who had recently visited Somalia, offered several comments on the relationship between the unstable political and economic situation in Somalia and the growing use of Somalia as a base for pirate activity. A report on the current political situation in Moldova was also presented.

The Defense and Security Committee heard two reports on NATO's ongoing operations in Afghanistan, including a report by NATO's senior civilian representative in Afghanistan, Ambassador Fernando Gentilini. The Committee also received a report on the need for NATO to reinforce its mission of territorial defense. Our colleague JOHN SHIMKUS countered the idea that Afghanistan was becoming an "American" war by pointing out that the United States' new Afghanistan/Pakistan strategy, which does include additional U.S. military forces, was developed in part with European input.

The Economics and Security Committee debated three reports, including one on food prices and their implications for security and another on energy production in Central Asia and its potential contribution to transatlantic energy security. The Committee also had a long discussion on a third report that addressed the global financial crisis and its impact on member nations. In that discussion, a number of members suggested that it would be useful to explore how the financial crisis was impinging on national defense budgets in allied countries. The Committee also heard presentations on the security aspects of food-related crises, global energy market trends, and managing defense budgets in times of global recession.

Finally, the Science and Technology Committee heard three reports, including one particularly interesting report on climate change and its relationship to national security. Another addressed the current efforts being used to combat the spread of weapons of mass destruction. A third report provided a look at the resurgence of nuclear power as a source of clean energy.

On Tuesday, the final day of the plenary, the general assembly had the extraordinary opportunity to hear a presentation from the NATO Secretary General in his last address to the Assembly and to participate in a formal meeting with the North Atlantic Council (NAC) in which the Ambassadors to NATO of all 28 Alliance members answered questions from the delegates.

Madam Speaker, as you know, the NATO PA Plenary session also happened to be held over our own Memorial Day. For the members of the U.S. delegation, the highlight of our visit to Oslo was the opportunity to honor the men and women of our armed forces who made the ultimate sacrifice on behalf of their country. As it happened, a U.S. Navy warship was able to make a port call in Oslo that served as the venue for a Memorial Day observance. For that, I wish to thank Admiral Charles Leidig, Commander Ed Recavarren, Assistant U.S. Naval Attache in Oslo, the ship's Captain, Michael Feyedele and the entire ship's crew for welcoming us aboard for the memorial service. I also wish to thank U.S. Ambassador to Norway, Benson Whitney, for hosting the reception for our delegation, the ship's crew, the Mayor of Oslo, and other dignitaries to share this special moment with us. The members of our delegation were also able to visit with sailors and marines whose stateside homes included many of the states represented by Members of our delegation.

In sum, Madam Speaker, the spring session of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly in Oslo was a success and as President of the Assembly, I took pride in the deliberations and participation of the delegates from all 28 member nations and our associate and observer members. For Members of the House or Senate interested in reading the Committee reports or presentations mentioned in this statement, they are all available on the NPA web site at www.nato-pa.int. I also want to take this opportunity to again thank U.S. Ambassador Whitney, our control officer, Auden McKernan, and all of the fine men and women of our embassy in Oslo for the wonderful job they did assisting the delegation.

Following the NATO PA plenary, the U.S. delegation traveled to Bergen, Norway. Norway was celebrating the 100th anniversary of

the Norwegian submarine fleet and a U.S. submarine had visited Bergen as part of that celebration. The U.S. delegation was given a tour of the submarine and an informal briefing on the cooperation between the Norwegian and U.S. navies. The delegation would like to thank Commander Ed Recavarren, Scott Sommers, our Bergen control officer and U.S. Defense Attache in Oslo, Captain Russell Smith, for their assistance in making this visit a successful one.

After departing Norway, the delegation flew to Helsinki, Finland for bi-lateral meetings with government and parliamentary representatives. On Wednesday, after a country team briefing given by our Charge in Helsinki, Thaddeus Plosser, our Control Officer, Scott Brandon and other staff, we were hosted for a roundtable discussion by the Chairmen of the Committees of Foreign Affairs and Defense. Other committee members participated, including Johannes Koskinen, the Deputy Speaker of the Finnish Parliament and head of Finland's delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. The discussions covered a number of issues including Finland's carefully managed relationship with Russia. Finland and Russia share an 800 mile border, fought two wars, and experience close to 8 million border crossings each year. Russia is Finland's largest trading partner and primary energy supplier, including 100% of Finland's natural gas supplies. The Finns seem surprisingly at ease with their "complex and unpredictable" neighbor and do not see a "Georgia-type" threat from Russia.

The Finns pursue their security interests through the EU, Nordic defense cooperation with Sweden, Norway, and Denmark, and through close cooperation with NATO. While there is growing support among some in the government for possible future NATO membership, the majority of the general public is not yet in favor of such a decision. Finland has been active in Afghanistan (currently 100 troops, soon to reach 200), and participates in the Swedish-led Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) in northern Afghanistan. Other issues discussed included the current global economic and financial crisis which has hit Finland, climate change, and cooperation on issues involving the "high north" and the arctic.

Our delegation also held policy discussions with representatives of the government, including the Under-Secretary of State at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA), the principle policy advisor to the Prime Minister, the Deputy Director of the Political Department in the MFA, the head of the office for North American affairs at the MFA, and the Deputy Director at the Ministry of Defense. Again, a wide range of issues including Russia, NATO, and the economy were discussed.

On May 28, our delegation traveled to Stockholm, Sweden for bi-lateral meetings. The visit to Sweden was also important as the Swedes will take over the rotating presidency of the European Union on July 1, 2009. We were met by U.S. Charge, Robert Silverman and control officer, Jonas Wechsler who briefed the delegation on relations between Sweden and the United States. That evening we were warmly welcomed at a reception at the Ambassador's residence that included guests from the government of Sweden, the Parliament, and others. Lively discussions followed on the new U.S. administration and its

views on transatlantic relations, the differences between the European and U.S. views of the world, the future role of NATO, relations with Russia, and the conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The next day, the delegation met with Sten Tolgfors, the Minister of Defense for Sweden. The Minister briefed us on Sweden's global outlook, their participation with NATO in the Balkans and Afghanistan (they have 290 troops and lead a PRT in the north), Russia, and the reforms they have instituted within the defense establishment, including the decision to pursue an all-volunteer professional military (they, like the Finns, have a conscript military). Sweden, like Finland, does entertain the possibility of future NATO membership but the Minister told the delegation that currently the parliament is split on the idea and so it is not on the government's current agenda. The delegation then proceeded to a working lunch hosted by Ms. Karin Enstrom, head of the Swedish delegation to the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and attended by other parliamentarians. The discussion was lively and covered the entire spectrum of U.S.-Swedish relations. Following lunch, the delegation met with State Secretary Frank Belfrage from the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Discussions centered on Russia, Afghanistan, and Sweden's upcoming presidency of the European Union. One of Sweden's priorities will be climate change and preparing the EU's positions for the Copenhagen Conference on climate change that will be held in December. The Secretary expressed his hope that the United States and EU will work closely together on this issue and to help forge a consensus on the follow-on efforts to the Kyoto Climate agreement.

Madam Speaker, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly provides a unique opportunity for Members of Congress to engage in serious discussions on critical issues with our colleagues from other NATO member states, associate and observer states. I believe our delegation, and thus this Congress, benefits greatly from the information we exchange and the personalities we meet during these meetings. I look forward to our next NATO PA session in November in Edinburgh, Scotland.

In conclusion, I would like to again acknowledge the hard work and dedication of our Embassy staffs in Oslo, Helsinki, and Stockholm, and the men and women of the U.S. Navy vessels we visited while in Norway. I especially want to thank our entire military escort group from the United States Air Force, including the pilots. Our diplomatic corps and military personnel provide a quiet but invaluable service in ensuring our safety and this group of diplomats, servicemen and women was no exception. I thank them for their hard work and their dedication to duty.

HONORING SISTER FRANCINE
LAGOCKI, PRINCIPAL OF SAINT
RICHARD SCHOOL

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Sister Francine Lagocki, Principal of Saint Richard School in recognition of her ca-

reer of devoted service. Sister Lagocki's retirement at the end of the 2009 school year will mark the end of nearly seven decades of selfless service to our nation's youth. Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Sister Lagocki's outstanding commitment to educational excellence. Sister Lagocki embodies the positive influence that teachers and school administrators can be on students every day across this great country.

In Sister Lagocki's accomplished career as an educator, she served as a classroom teacher in three parish schools before becoming assistant principal at Good Council High School. Sister Lagocki then served as principal of St. Mary School and St. Roman School in Milwaukee, Wisconsin, before returning to Illinois to serve as Principal for St. Wenceslas in Chicago, and then finally St. Richard School on the Southwest Side.

St. Richard School is a Catholic school that serves the parish community and is both an expression of and a witness to the faith of its people. Believing that a child's development best occurs within the framework of a positive and structured environment, St. Richard School offers innovative and high quality educational programs. The aim of these programs is to challenge each student while teaching basic skills, within a Christian atmosphere where mutual respect, order, and values are high priorities.

It is my honor to recognize Sister Francine Lagocki, who served as an example of one of the best in K-8 school leadership and helped foster a greater understanding of the principal's key role in meeting the challenging responsibility of educating children.

EARMARK DECLARATION

HON. STEVE SCALISE

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. SCALISE. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the Republican Leadership standards on Congressionally-directed project funding, I am submitting the following information regarding project funding I requested for Southeast Louisiana as part of the Fiscal Year 2010 Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriations Bill.

Requesting Member: Congressman STEVE SCALISE

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2010 Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill

Account: Department of Justice, COPS Law Enforcement Technology

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Washington Parish Sheriff's Office

Address of Requesting Entity: 1002 Main Street, Franklinton, Louisiana 70438

Description of Request: I have secured \$291,000 for the Washington Parish Sheriff's Office. The funding will provide law enforcement equipment, and provide proactive and reactive law enforcement activities for the safety of citizens and law enforcement officials engaged in law enforcement activities. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

Requesting Member: Congressman STEVE SCALISE

Bill Number: Fiscal Year 2010 Commerce, Justice and Science Appropriations Bill

Account: Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs—Juvenile Justice
Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Boys Town Louisiana

Address of Requesting Entity: 700 Frenchman Street, New Orleans, LA 70116

Description of Request: I have secured \$147,000 for Boys Town Louisiana, New Orleans, LA. The funding would be to expand an integration of the Boys Town Treatment Family Home program and its Home Family Services program to serve more at-risk girls and boys and their families. I certify that neither I nor my spouse has any financial interest in this project.

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE TO RECYCLE AND SAVE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, though I voted for the Consumer Assistance to Recycle and Save or the CARS Act, I have serious reservations about it. Unfortunately, despite its good intentions, it will send jobs overseas and it does little to help our ailing climate.

I cosponsored H.R. 1550, an earlier version of the bill. That version allowed consumers to get a voucher for cars assembled in the U.S. The version under consideration today has no such assurances, which means that significant amounts of the funds will go toward the purchase of cars made in countries like China. We are giving with one hand and taking with the other.

Our auto industry needs our help more than ever. Yet we are handing over money, jobs and infrastructure to our international competition. It is made worse by the terms of the GM bankruptcy which requires that plants in the U.S. are closed while shipping auto manufacturing jobs to other countries like Mexico and South Korea. We can't protect the auto industry by sending their work to other countries.

ENERGY

HON. BARBARA LEE

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Ms. LEE of California. Madam Speaker, I would first like to thank Rep. ELLISON for holding this special order tonight as Congress works to break away from business-as-usual with regards to our nation's energy future.

I would also like to thank the Chairs of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, Representatives WOOLSEY and GRIJALVA, for your leadership and your tireless efforts to promote proper stewardship of our communities by protecting the environment.

It is so important that we continue to call for action on these issues surrounding global warming and the continued degradation of our environment that is perpetuated by our dependence on fossil fuels.

As I have said time and time again—there is no denying the interconnection between our stewardship of the environment and the state

of the economy, public health, and our communities.

The drastic acceleration of greenhouse gas emissions has often been concentrated in low-income and minority communities, putting these vulnerable populations on the "front lines" of the fight against environmental degradation and global climate change.

Simply put, climate change has, and will continue to exacerbate the problem of poverty and inequality, and none of us can afford to take this lightly.

The health of our community and our neighbors affects all of us.

Let me take a moment to reflect upon the urgent need to finally put a price on carbon emissions and make polluters pay for the pollution they produce.

As a member of the Congressional Progressive Caucus, I look forward to working with my colleagues here in Congress to pass responsible and comprehensive climate legislation that will establish a price for carbon emissions and spur the development of clean, renewable energy and the deployment of much-needed energy efficient technologies.

Legislation which sets us on the path toward energy independence and a new, low-carbon economy will help to maintain the United States position as a leader in innovation while at the same time creating hundreds of thousands of good paying green jobs.

The biggest misconception out there today regarding our environment is that the public isn't engaged, or willing to transition to a sustainable, environmentally-friendly economy.

In reality, the shift to a low-carbon economy represents an economic opportunity for individuals across this country.

One of the most exciting and inclusive solutions to the many issues facing environmental health is the possibility afforded to us by promoting Green Jobs Training and the growth of the Green Economy in America.

To that end, I have reintroduced legislation entitled the Metro Economies Green Act, or MEGA, H.R. 330, which establishes grant programs to encourage energy-efficient economic development and green job training and creation.

This legislation would also create a national institute to serve as a clearinghouse for best practices information in order to facilitate the successful expansion of the green jobs movement on a national scale.

As the Representative of California's 9th Congressional District, I would also like to take a moment to recognize the role that California's East Bay is playing at the forefront of the Green Jobs and Green Industry movement.

We have a number of innovative initiatives in my district in particular, including the East Bay Green Corridor Initiative, the Oakland Green Jobs Corps, the Joint Bio Energy Institute, the Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory, and the Energy Biosciences Institute at Berkeley.

I recently visited the site of the Oakland Green Jobs Corps with Special Advisor to President Obama on Energy and Climate Change, Carol Browner, in order to show her a truly groundbreaking example of green-collar workforce development already up and running in Oakland, CA.

The Oakland Green Job Corps is a partnership of community organizations, trade unions, private companies, and the City of Oakland. It provides Oakland residents with the necessary

training, support, and work experience to independently pursue careers in the new energy economy.

The fact is, "Green" has already become the fifth largest industry in the nation—80 percent of venture capital investments in 2008 were in the clean energy and energy efficiency sector.

Between 1998 and 2007, job growth in the clean-energy economy outperformed total job growth in 38 states and the District of Columbia, and we are just beginning to tap into our nation's clean energy potential.

Passing comprehensive clean energy and climate legislation, especially one which includes a robust Renewable Energy Standard, is essential to delivering cleaner energy and good-paying jobs to communities across the nation.

A strong Renewable Energy Standard will spur innovation and the expansion of economic opportunities surrounding the green movement.

The current draft of the American Clean Energy and Security Act sets America on a path to meet 20 percent of our electricity demand through renewable energy sources and energy efficiency by 2020.

This is an important start, but I am also confident we can do more.

It is the time to think big, not small, and I urge my colleagues to consider strengthening this standard so that we might take full advantage of the enormous renewable energy potential across this country.

This is only one of many important priorities we must address in order to ensure no communities are left behind in the transition to a low-carbon economy.

There is no doubt in my mind that a greener future will lead to a more prosperous future for our communities, the Nation, and the world.

I urge my colleagues to act swiftly to move America beyond its dependency on oil, address the climate crisis, and help protect America's natural resources for our children's future.

CONSUMER ASSISTANCE TO RECYCLE AND SAVE ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Madam Speaker, I rise in support of the CARS Act for the fleetwide fuel efficiency gains it will create, the energy security it will enhance, the air quality it will improve and the boost it will give our flagging economy.

Under this "Cash for Clunkers" legislation, consumers with vehicles getting less than 18 MPG can get vouchers for \$3500 towards the purchase of a new vehicle that gets at least 4 MPG better than the vehicle they are retiring—and \$4500 towards the purchase of a new vehicle that gets at least 10 MPG better than the vehicle they are retiring.

While I am among those who would favor even stronger standards, this legislation nevertheless points American drivers in the right direction and will stimulate new car sales during a period of time when the auto industry and their dealer networks can use that business the most. I urge my colleagues' support.

CONDEMNING SHOOTING AT U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, as Ranking Member of the Africa Subcommittee, I joined several colleagues at an important Foreign Affairs Committee meeting with Prime Minister Morgan Tsvangirai of Zimbabwe.

It was an extraordinary opportunity to discuss Zimbabwe's progress towards democracy and away from dictatorship, hyperinflation, and multiple health crises, including cholera—and obtain a fuller understanding of what additional steps the U.S. can take to help.

That meeting, however, occurred at precisely the same time the House considered H. Res. 529, a resolution condemning the June 10th violent attack on the Holocaust Memorial Museum—a despicable anti-Semitic act that killed Officer Stephen Tyrone Johns. As so eloquently articulated by many colleagues yesterday, I—we—salute officer Johns for his bravery and courage and extend our deepest condolences to his family.

I rise today to not only express my support for H. Res 529 but also to thank my friend and colleague Mr. Klein for introducing it and for including me as a co-sponsor.

Mr. Speaker, the Holocaust Memorial Museum is a noble and vitally necessary attempt to remember and honor the victims of the Holocaust. The memorial itself is a witness to truth and promotion of human dignity and tolerance.

Wednesday's attack on that museum by a crazed, hate-filled gunman is yet another chilling reminder that our society still harbors a dangerous collection of bigots and racists who hate Jews.

Unparalleled since the dark days of the Second World War, Jewish communities around the world are facing violent attacks against synagogues, Jewish cultural sites, cemeteries and individuals. Anti-Semitism is an ugly reality that won't go away by ignoring or wishing it away. It must be combated with resolve and tenacity.

The sad deeply troubling reality is that James von Brunn cannot be dismissed as an aberration, but is connected to a whole hate-promoting movement that results in violence against Jews in America and around the world on practically a daily basis.

The Anti-Defamation League recently issued its annual Audit of Anti-Semitic Incidents. While the ADL is to be congratulated for its careful research on an unpleasant but absolutely necessary subject, the ugly facts that the report documents make for painful reading.

In 2008, the ADL noted 1,352 reported incidents of vandalism, harassment, and physical assaults on Jewish people or Jewish-owned property nationwide.

Sadly and shamefully, my own state of New Jersey had more reported anti-Semitic incidents—238—than any other state.

But the attack on the Holocaust Memorial Museum, Mr. Speaker, is the most ominous aspect of this wave of evil. The Holocaust Memorial Museum is a unique institution. It is a

memorial, a museum, a center of Holocaust scholarship, and a promoter of tolerance and preventer of genocide. It is a very powerful symbol of the solidarity of America with those murdered in the Holocaust, and with the Jewish people.

Mr. Speaker, at this critical moment we need government officials at all levels to denounce, without hesitation or delay, every anti-Semitic act wherever and whenever it occurs. No exceptions. At this moment, not to speak out enables the purveyors of hate. They never take a holiday or grow weary, nor should we.

Just as Mr. Brunn attacked the Holocaust Memorial Museum and murdered a courageous security officer tasked with its protection, Holocaust remembrance and tolerance education must dramatically expand, and we need to ensure that our respective laws punish those who hate and incite violence against Jews.

Finally, if we are to protect our children from the evil of anti-Semitism, we must reeducate ourselves and systematically educate our children. While that starts in our homes, the classroom must be the incubator of tolerance. It seems to me that only the most hardened racist can remain unmoved by Holocaust education and remembrance. Only the most crass, evil, and prejudiced among us can study the horrors of the Holocaust and not cry out: Never again!

RECOGNIZING MORGAN ARANDA

HON. MIKE QUIGLEY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. QUIGLEY. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Morgan Aranda, a student of Newberry Academy in Chicago. She has come to Washington, D.C. this week to compete in the 2009 National History Day Contest at the University of Maryland.

National History Day was started in 1974 with the intent of improving the historical literacy and research skills of junior high and high school aged children. Despite its name, National History Day has a variety of programs year-round, including its week-long national contest in which Morgan is a chosen participant. With the guidance and support of countless parents, teachers and friends, 500,000 students are able to participate in National History Day events annually. As Morgan and her fellow young historians would likely agree, the National History Day's motto, "it's not just a day, it's an experience," rings true.

Morgan has been selected to represent Illinois for her junior individual performance entitled "Alexander Polikoff and the Fight for Fair Housing." Her work is the culmination of many hours of research and multiple public performances. Morgan's dedication, discipline and talent are undeniable.

I'm honored to recognize Morgan and her achievements as a young historian. What she has accomplished already in her life are the beginnings of a bright and successful future and I wish her the best of luck at the competition and onward.

WOUNDED VETERAN JOB SECURITY ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, June 8, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in support of our brave men and women in the Armed Forces who are returning to our nation in increased numbers to find that their employment prospects are limited because they have chosen to fight for our great nation. The detrimental effect of multiple deployments upon our soldiers has been increasingly seen and documented in an effort to ameliorate the situation. Yet those soldiers who have chosen the route towards getting help whatever their ailment may be, from physical wounds to psychological are now being ostracized.

It is our duty as a nation and government to protect those who have so valiantly fought for our freedoms. Our objectives should be to make sure that they are included in the process of reestablishing our economy in the most vital way possible—employment. Not only should we fight for their inclusion, but we should also help them in providing the tools necessary for them to fairly compete in the job market whether it is psychological counseling for trauma experienced while in combat or job training to bolster the unique skill sets they have acquired during their time in the service.

Our fellow soldiers are part of the fabric that weaves the story of our great nation. They are the seams of the garment that bring us all together despite our backgrounds or cultures. Without them we as a nation will fall apart. It is up to us to reinforce the stitching that keeps us together—we need to do whatever it takes to keep them strong and viable.

This is why I am in support of H.R. 466 which advocates for the end of discrimination towards our soldiers who have left the service with more than they enlisted. Many return to us suffering from the trauma of the wars and others with wounds that only time may be able to heal. I call upon the Members of Congress and the nation to support our men and women in uniform.

HONORING FRED CORUM

HON. JOHN J. DUNCAN, JR.

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. DUNCAN. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor a gentleman who has left an impact on every county in Congressional District and touched the lives of everyone in East Tennessee, whether they may know it or not.

Fred Corum exemplifies the concept of government and community service. As the Director of the Tennessee Department of Transportation's Region One, Fred has devoted a long career to the safety and quality-of-life of east Tennesseans.

Fred is celebrating his much earned retirement today with a gift back to the people he served: the completion of SmartFix40. This project is the most expensive in state history, reconfiguring Interstate 40 as it crosses through downtown Knoxville. SmartFix40 is not a venture he took lightly.

This massive project required the closure of Interstate 40—a main east to west coast corridor—for fourteen months. The night before the closure, Fred says he could not sleep, and there were plenty more sleepless nights to come. We can only hope that all government servants devote such care and commitment to their work.

Every project Fred has overseen is a true testament to his character, and there was no one more qualified than him to lead the SmartFix40 project. Fred has been on the job with the Tennessee Department of Transportation since 1954, a career that has spanned 53 years and 10 Governors.

As an entry-level worker in 1954, Fred planted stakes in the ground to mark the route of future roads for \$150 a month. Eventually, he was promoted to maintenance supervisor for a large portion of my Congressional District, back in a time when there was a lot more snow to deal with. As his career spanned the 1980s, Fred witnessed the advent of the age of conservation, navigating water pollution issues, wildlife preservation, and erosion.

Governor Lamar Alexander appointed Fred the Director of Region One in 1985, and although he thought his job would be up at the end of the Governor's term, he was kept in the position through three more administrations.

Today, decades after he drove his first stake into the ground, Fred is on hand for the reopening of Interstate 40 and the completion of SmartFix40. He goes out at the top of his game, leaving for all East Tennesseans a reconfigured, aesthetically pleasing, and modern stretch of highway.

Fred's ascent through the ranks of the Tennessee Department of Transportation to Director of Region One is an example to all who enter government service. His wife, Loretta, their two sons, four grandchildren, and great-grandson have reason to be very proud.

Madam Speaker, in closing, I would like to call the remarkable service of Fred Corum to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD, and wish Fred a very happy retirement.

CONDEMNING THE MURDER OF DR. GEORGE TILLER

SPEECH OF

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 9, 2009

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 505, condemning the murder of Dr. George Tiller. Dr. Tiller was shot to death at his church on May 31, 2009. It is with great sorrow and a heavy heart that I extend my condolences to his friends and family.

A sixty-seven-year-old physician, a husband, a father of four, and a grandfather of ten, Dr. Tiller dedicated his life to providing family and community health care services in Wichita, Kansas. Dr. Tiller's murder leaves in its wake an unsettling sense of grief and sadness that continues to ripple its way through countless communities of patients, colleagues, friends and family members. To the legions of admirers who view the care that he provided as an essential option for the women most in need, he will be sorely missed.

Dr. Tiller was beloved for his professionalism, his compassion and sensitivity. He

showed unwavering courage and commitment to his patients. Dr. Tiller deserves to be acknowledged for the service that he provided to his community. His senseless murder must be strongly condemned. A truly democratic society includes a thriving atmosphere of political debate and dialogue, regardless of the intensity of the debate. The use of violence and murder as a means to express dissent is not only undemocratic, but simply unacceptable.

I strongly support this important bill and urge my colleagues to vote in favor of H. Res. 505.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BLAINE LUETKEMEYER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. LUETKEMEYER. Madam Speaker, I would like to state for the record my position on the following vote I missed due to being delayed at a committee hearing.

On Thursday, June 11, 2009, I missed roll-call vote No. 332. Had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote No. 332.

TRIBUTE TO THE LIFE OF LADISLAO "TANNY" BACA

HON. JOE BACA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. BACA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to ask Congress to pay special tribute to the life of a loving husband and grandfather, my brother, Ladislao "Tanny" Baca, of Barstow, CA. Tanny passed away June 6, 2009, at the age of 69 after complications with a brave life-long battle with diabetes.

Born in Las Nuestras, New Mexico January 8, 1940, Tanny made an impressionable impact on all he came in contact with. Tanny was widely admired by family, friends and colleagues. He was hard-working, dedicated, committed, disciplined, loving, supporting. Even though his bark was worse than his bite, he was a kind and loving brother, husband, father and grandfather.

For 16 years he worked as a Switch Man and Local Engineer for the Santa Fe Railroad in Barstow, CA. He worked and retired after 19 years as a Local Engineer at the Marine Base in Yermo, CA. Tanny also honorably served 16 years with the National Guard.

He is remembered by most as a generous man who always had time to share with others. His giving spirit will be missed by his community. He loved his brothers and sisters especially Florenio, Morris, Raymond, Lupe and Theresa. He enjoyed spending time loving us all. He was everything you would want in a brother, son, husband, and grandfather. Tanny enjoyed spending time in his garage. He and his brothers, Florenio and Morris would love to hang out and just enjoy their time there. Tanny also spent time in his garage helping teenagers, seniors and others with limited resources work on their cars. He was less worried about being paid and always happy to help those in need. He was that kind of man. Even though he was Lupe Napier's lit-

tle brother, he would help take care of her. He was always willing to give her a hand with her car, and moving whatever she needed, he was always there to help her.

On behalf of my brother I would like to share a message from him to his children, Toby, Nick, and Liz. "Even though we were separated, in my heart I never stopped loving and caring for you." To all his children, he loved you all very much.

I would also like to share a few memories from his wife and several of his children.

The thing I remember most is when we went to Las Vegas to get married and the judge said, "Do you take this man Ladislao Baca as your husband?" and I said, "What?" because I only knew him as Tanny. Later we all laughed about it because we thought it was funny and the judge thought that she wants to marry this man and she does not even know his name. Edwina Baca, Wife.

Dad no matter what, you were always there for us, through good and bad times, we always will respect and love you, and you will be in our hearts forever. Liz Pullen, Toby and Nick Connolly, Daughter and Sons.

My dad was a caring and loving man. He never let anyone be without what they needed and his garage was always open for anyone. He and his friends would sit out there for hours talking. He will surely be missed. Angel Baca, Daughter.

Dad, you are the best and you will always be in my heart. You were always there for me. You touched many lives. I will always remember when you were by my side when I really needed you. Eloisa Madero, Daughter.

Memories I have of my dad growing up are going to work with him everyday as a child and riding the trains with him. Another good memory was all the bar-be-que we had and how he always had enough food to feed all the family and the whole neighborhood and still had plenty of leftovers. Lisa Baca, Daughter.

The things I remember most about my dad is when he took me hunting and he lost me and he did not want me to tell my mom because then I would never be able to go with Dad again. I also remember the time I dug a hole on the side of the house and filled it with water and was playing in the mud. Oh man, did I ever get in trouble. Tim Baca, Son.

I remember most about my dad is when my mom went out of town and dad tried to cook us spaghetti and he just threw everything in a pot all together and said it was just like our mom's and it tasted nothing like how mom made it. Penny Gray, Daughter.

He will be remembered by his grandchildren as someone who was always able to bring a smile to their face and share a lot of love and time with them.

He was an active outdoorsman who enjoyed fishing and hunting various game; including deer, antelope, and bear. When he wasn't enjoying the great outdoors he could be found enjoying Spanish music and dining at his favorite restaurant, "Del Taco".

He also loved to get his family together through his cooking. Barbequing was his way of having family reunions to enjoy barbequed cow and pig. He enjoyed bringing us together; he was always about family.

Tanny was a devoted Catholic and attended St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Barstow with his wife Edwina.

From Las Nuestras, New Mexico to Barstow, California, Tanny's life was dedicated to family, friends, and his community. His memory lives on in our thoughts and prayers. We say "goodbye. God bless you, we love you, and we will miss you".

Tanny is survived by his wife, Edwina Baca; his children, Angel Baca, Eloisa Madero, Penny Gray, Tim Baca, Lisa Baca, Nick Connolly, Toby Connolly, and Liz Pullen; brothers and sisters, Florenio Baca, Lupe Napier, Morris Baca, Raymond Baca, Joe Baca and Theresa Perea; his grandchildren and by a large extended family who share in the loss.

The thoughts and prayers of my wife Barbara and children, Councilman Joe Baca, Jr., Jeremy, Natalie and Jennifer and I are with the family at this time.

CONDEMNING SHOOTING AT U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I rise today in support of House Resolution 529, condemning the violent attack on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 10, 2009 and honoring the bravery and dedication of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum employees and security personnel. I also rise to pay tribute to officer Stephen Johns.

A Maryland resident, Officer Johns was a devoted husband and father. He was a man who lived his life protecting other people, and worked every day to ensure the safety and security of the patrons of the National Holocaust Museum, a place devoted to the pursuit of peace and the end of intolerance. It was a responsibility Officer Johns took very seriously, and one he gave his life to uphold.

Moments like these are the most painful of reminders that when hate results in violence, it robs us of our family members, neighbors, and friends. It claims the best and bravest among us. Yesterday, in a place dedicated to ending such bigotry, a well-liked and thoughtful man was stolen from us.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of Stephen Johns and in renewing our vow to be united in our effort to extinguish the flames of bigotry and intolerance in this country and around the world once and for all.

CELEBRATING THE 234TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE U.S. ARMY

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia. Madam Speaker, I rise today to call attention to an upcoming anniversary that is significant to our national security and history. This Sunday, June 14th, members of the Active Duty Army, Army Reserve, and Army National Guard will celebrate the United States Army's 234th birthday.

The celebrations began this morning with the annual Department of the Army cake-cutting ceremony at the Pentagon. There is also an Army Birthday Ball and events for children, such as book readings. Celebrations like this will take place at garrisons and communities around the world.

One of these communities is Virginia's Fort Belvoir, where the Army is building a National

Museum of the United States Army supported by the Army Historical Foundation. For too long the United States Army has been our only service that does not have a comprehensive place where its proud heritage can be shared with the American public. The National Museum of the United States Army will serve this purpose.

More than 30 million men and women, including many members of Congress, have served in the oldest and largest of our armed forces. Since the founding of the Continental Army of the United States in 1775, the selfless service and personal sacrifices of our Soldiers has been woven into the fabric and culture of this great country. I encourage my colleagues to take June 14th, 2009—the occasion of the Army's 234th birthday, to let our Soldiers know that they have our thanks and our appreciation and that a great Army deserves a great National Museum.

IN HONOR OF THE LIFE'S WORK
OF CHUCK MACK

HON. JACKIE SPEIER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Ms. SPEIER. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the outstanding contributions of retiring Teamsters Union Western Region Vice President Chuck Mack.

Mr. Mack began his work with the Teamsters in 1962, loading and driving trucks in Oakland, California. Just a few years later, he was elected business agent of Teamsters Local 70 and was re-elected with the largest number of votes in the Local's history. So began his 43-year career of dedicated service as one of the top leaders in the international Teamsters Union. Mr. Mack was elected Secretary-Treasurer of Local 70 in 1972, President of Joint Council 7 in 1982 and, finally, Western Region Vice President in 1998—all positions he held until his retirement this year.

As the Western Region Vice President, Chuck was a champion for millions of American workers, even as he maintained a personal commitment to local laborers and the unions who represent them in my District and in California. Following his retirement, he will continue his commitment to the Teamsters, taking up leadership of the Western Conference Teamster Pension Trust.

Madam Speaker, I have known and worked with Chuck Mack for as long as I have been in public service and I know that he is much more than just a union leader. In addition to his tireless fight for the welfare of workers, Chuck maintained a fierce commitment to environmental and economic justice. An early booster of the Los Angeles Clean Trucks Program, Mr. Mack led the fight for sustainable and accountable transportation, keeping our communities safe and healthy for generations to come.

But no leader, however capable, acts alone. Chuck's family, including his wonderful wife Marlene, his four daughters—Tammy, Kelly, Kerry and Shannon, and Chuck's eight grandchildren, who loaned their husband, dad and grandfather to the cause of working men and women everywhere, must be recognized as well. Chuck Mack's life-long dedication to the health, livelihood and safety of workers around

our country and across the globe is something his family will look back on for generations with pride and admiration. The same can be said of his vast extended family, those fortunate enough to be in the Brotherhood—and Sisterhood—of Teamsters.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DEVIN NUNES

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. NUNES. Madam Speaker, on the legislative day of Thursday June 11, 2009, I was unavoidably detained and was unable to cast a vote on a number of rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted: rollcall 334—"yea".

CELEBRATING 100 YEARS OF
AMERICAN BOY SCOUTS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today in tribute to our nation's youngest and littlest public servants—in stature, perhaps, but certainly not in heart—the Boy Scouts of America. For a century, these young boys and their counselors have been on the front lines, safeguarding and protecting America and her values: democracy, tolerance, compassion, and generosity, just to name a few. Heralded as the largest youth scouting organization, the Boy Scouts has inspired and motivated a cadre of young men to love this country, to work—tirelessly and humbly—without ingratitude, and to give of themselves to their communities and to the downtrodden. The organization has left its mark, a mark that runs a full century deep into the annals of this country's history, touching the lives of generations of boys and of those they have helped.

Next February 8, the Boy Scouts will celebrate its centennial anniversary, honoring its inception in February of 1910 by a Chicago publisher, William Boyce. Since that day, 11 million men have joined the ranks of the Scouts, committing to 12 hours of community service every year. America benefits from 30 million hours every year due to the toil of these youngsters. That means more hands at our airports, and ports, and schools, and hospitals. It means greater numbers of servers at a soup kitchen, of planters at a forestation drive, of readers at a local school. It means America is that much stronger, that much safer, and that much more prosperous because of the sacrifice of a dedicated few. They have earned our gratitude and deepest respect.

The adult volunteers who these kids look up to deserve unique and emphatic praise themselves. Youngsters are eager to have role models—and in some quarters of our country, there are not many to choose from. Men and women willing to dedicate the time and care to lead these kids at a time of overwhelming change and insecurity are heroes and heroines. They have, no doubt, saved lives, and there can be no greater gift than setting right a life heading wayward.

May we speak with one voice today in salute to these boys, many of whom are now men raising sons and grandsons of their own, and mark February 8, 2010 as the day for recognition of the Boy Scouts.

CONDEMNING SHOOTING AT U.S.
HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H. Res. 529 and to express my outrage at the violent attack on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 10, 2009, along with my deepest sympathies to all of those who knew Stephen T. Johns, the brave and honorable security guard who tragically died in the attack.

Stephen T. Johns, 39, died tragically in the line of duty as he defended the Holocaust Memorial Museum from an attack by acknowledged white supremacist, racist and anti-Semitic James von Brunn. He leaves behind his sister, his wife and his 11-year-old son.

It is tragic that, as this incident demonstrates all too vividly, racism and anti-Semitism are still alive in America. It is tragic whenever there is a revolting act of violence that takes the life of an innocent person. It is especially tragic that, in this situation, the forces of hate and violence were unleashed at this august institution that is dedicated to memorializing and preventing a recurrence of the Holocaust that appallingly took the lives of millions of innocent civilians.

Mr. Johns and all the rest of the security guards in the Holocaust Memorial Museum deserve our fullest commendation, as they acted heroically to prevent the museum's despicable attacker from enacting even more harm.

I condemn the shooting completely, fully and without reservation. This type of attack is totally unacceptable, as are the racist and anti-Semitic motivations underlying it. I thank my friend, Rep. KLEIN, for introducing this important resolution.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF
DR. ESTEBAN FERNANDEZ

HON. ILEANA ROS-LEHTINEN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Ms. ROS-LEHTINEN. Madam Speaker, I would like to honor one of South Florida's most distinguished residents, Dr. Esteban Fernandez. Through his extreme devotion to the field of publishing and his intense belief in the Christian faith, Dr. Fernandez has facilitated the diffusion of Christian ideas between differing languages and cultures, and dedicated himself to knowledge.

Dr. Fernandez holds a doctorate in Philosophy with an emphasis in leadership and organization. He also holds a degree of licentiate in Theology awarded by the Faculty of Theological and Religious Studies of Casa Sobre La Roca. In addition, Dr. Fernandez

has been awarded an honorary Doctorate of Sacred Literature from Logos Christian College and an honorary Doctorate of Christian Counseling by Rhema University.

His tenure at Editorial Vida saw into fruition the Spanish language version of several important Christian texts, the most notable of which is *La Biblia Nueva Version Internacional*. Dr. Fernandez also organized the translation and publication of Rick Warren's *A Purpose Driven Life*.

He was also recognized as one of the ten best executives for his leadership at Editorial Vida in 2007. The great success that Dr. Esteban Fernandez has achieved is a result of his passionate devotion to his field and faith and I am truly grateful to call him a friend.

HONORING LIEUTENANT JOHN FINN ON HIS 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. DUNCAN HUNTER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. HUNTER. Madam Speaker, it is with great honor I rise today to pay tribute to United States Navy veteran Lieutenant John Finn on his 100th birthday. Lt. Finn is the oldest living Medal of Honor recipient and the last living Medal of Honor recipient from the Japanese attack on Pearl Harbor. His actions in combat and life reflect bravery and courage of the highest level and I am proud to bring recognition to his accomplishments.

John Finn was born in Los Angeles, California on July 23, 1909, and at the age of 17, with the permission of his mother, he enlisted in the United States Navy. His Navy career started aboard American gunboats patrolling the rivers of Inland China, and in 1940 he was assigned to the Naval Air Station at Kaneohe Bay in Oahu. On December 7, 1941 came the infamous attack on Pearl Harbor, and it was this event that presented Lt. Finn with an opportunity to display his extraordinary valor.

As the first attack on the harbor began, Lt. Finn managed to secure and man a .50-caliber machine gun mounted on an instruction stand on a completely exposed section of a parking ramp under intense enemy fire. Lt. Finn, with no regard for his own safety, vigorously fired upon Japanese aircraft with success. Although he was hit many times by enemy strafing fire, Lt. Finn refused to leave his post until the attack ended. It was only under a direct order that he left for the hospital to treat his 21 shrapnel and bullet wounds. However, after receiving medical attention, and despite a great deal of pain and difficulty moving, he returned to repair and rearm returning planes.

John Finn served through the rest of World War II with great distinction and retired from the United States Navy in 1956. He and wife Alice retired to their ranch in Southern California where he continues to live today.

In addition to the Medal of Honor, Finn holds the Purple Heart, Navy Unit Commendation, Good Conduct with 2 bars, Yangtze Service Medal, American Defense, American Campaign, Pacific Campaign, and the World War II Victory Medal.

Madam Speaker, John Finn has never seen himself as a hero, but that's what he is; as his Medal of Honor inscription reads, John Finn

truly went above and beyond the call of duty. It was his tenacity and zeal that embodied the American resolve that set the tone for the rest of the war. Men and women like John Finn are responsible for the success of our Armed Forces. To John Finn, we are forever grateful for your heroism and service. You are truly a great American hero.

CONDEMNING SHOOTING AT U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. VIRGINIA FOXX

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Ms. FOXX. Mr. Speaker, when a crazed and racist gunman takes the life of an innocent museum guard there are no words to fully convey both our shock and sorrow. But disgust with this act of violence and great sympathy for the loved ones of Stephen Johns are nonetheless our nation's response to yesterday's senseless and ugly act of violence. While we cannot undo the despicable crime of a racist murderer, I want to express my deep condolences to the family and friends of Stephen Johns, the 39-year-old guard who gave his life in the line of duty at the U.S. Holocaust Memorial Museum this past Wednesday.

The shots of an anti-Semitic gunman have tragically ended the life of Mr. Johns, but no gunman can silence the truth of history enshrined in the Holocaust Memorial Museum here in Washington, D.C. When Stephen Johns lost his life to the bullet of an anti-Semite on Wednesday he was joining the hallowed ranks of those before him who stood in the way of hatred and violence against Jews.

This nation will never tolerate the violence and hatred of anti-Semitism and we will preserve the memory of people like Stephen Johns who refused to give an inch to the forces of hatred. We must never allow the sort of racist misinformation and twisted, violent lies that apparently led a gunman down a violent path to gain credence here in America. I pray that this criminal is swiftly brought to justice for this senseless act.

Mr. Johns' fellow museum guards who prevented this tragedy from turning into an even deadlier event also deserve great praise. Their skill, bravery and professionalism no doubt saved lives during yesterday's shooting. My hope is that thanks to their bravery and the dedicated work of the many employees and volunteers at the Holocaust Museum that many millions of Americans will continue to be exposed to the story of the Holocaust. One gunman cannot stop the educational mission of this museum to ensure that acts of genocide like the Holocaust do not happen again.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JAMES A. HIMES

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. HIMES. Madam Speaker, I want to state for the record that on June 11, 2009, I was attending the funeral of my father-in-law who recently passed away, and I therefore missed the six rollcall votes of the day.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote number 329, on the Motion to Instruct Conferees on H.R. 2346, the Supplemental Appropriations Act.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote number 330, on H.R. 1687, a bill to designate the Federal building and United States courthouse located at McKinley Avenue and Third Street, SW, Canton, OH, as the "Ralph Regula Federal Building and United States Courthouse."

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote number 331, the Ros-Lehtinen substitute amendment to H.R. 1886, the Pakistan Enduring Assistance and Cooperation Enhancement Act of 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "nay" on rollcall vote number 332, the Motion to Recommit H.R. 1886, the Pakistan Enduring Assistance and Cooperation Act of 2009.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall vote number 333, final passage of H.R. 1886, the Pakistan Enduring Assistance and Cooperation Act of 2009.

Lastly, had I been present, I would have voted "aye" on rollcall vote number 334, on H. Res. 529, condemning the violent attack on the United States Holocaust Memorial Museum on June 10, 2009, and honoring the bravery and dedication of United States Holocaust Memorial Museum employees and security personnel.

HAPPY 234TH BIRTHDAY, U.S. ARMY

HON. CAROLYN C. KILPATRICK

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Ms. KILPATRICK of Michigan. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the 234th birthday of the United States Army. As the oldest branch of the U.S. military, the United States Army has established the tradition of duty, honor and country that has been the standard of excellence, not only in the military but also in private industry.

Two hundred and thirty-four years ago, the United States Army was established to defend our Nation. From the Revolutionary War to our current challenges, Global War on Terror, our soldiers remain Army Strong with a deep commitment to our core values and beliefs. This 234th birthday commemorates America's Army—soldiers, families and civilians—who are achieving a level of excellence that is truly Army Strong both here and abroad. Their willingness to sacrifice to build a better future for others and to preserve our way of life is without a doubt, the strength of our Nation.

Additionally, in recognition of their commitment to service and willingness to make great sacrifices on behalf of our Nation, the Secretary of the Army established 2009 as Year of the Non Commissioned Officer, NCO.

Since 1775, the Army has set apart its NCOs from other enlisted Soldiers by distinctive insignia of grade.

With more than 200 years of service, the U.S. Army's Noncommissioned Officer Corps has distinguished itself as the world's most accomplished group of military professionals. Historical and daily accounts of life as an NCO are exemplified by acts of courage and a dedication and a willingness to do whatever it

takes to complete the mission. NCOs have been celebrated for decorated service in military events ranging from Valley Forge to Gettysburg, to charges on Omaha Beach and battles along the Ho Chi Minh Trail, to current conflicts in Afghanistan and Iraq.

Today I wish to celebrate the strength of our Nation and the strength of our Army by saluting our Non Commissioned Officer Corps and the Army's soldiers, families and civilians by wishing them a happy 234th Birthday!

CONDEMNING SHOOTING AT U.S. HOLOCAUST MUSEUM

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH D. HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 11, 2009

Mr. HOLT. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of House Resolution 529 and with deep regret that this measure is necessary. I am saddened deeply by the tragic events that took place yesterday at the United States Holocaust Museum. Especially upsetting was the loss of Mr. Stephen Tyrone Johns, who loyally served and protected those visiting the Holocaust Museum for six years. Mr. Johns was known as a warm, friendly individual who was well-respected by his colleagues. My sincerest condolences and my most heartfelt prayers are with his family and friends, whose lives have been devastated so unfairly.

While yesterday's violence appears to have been the act of single individual, similar actions rooted in hatred and intolerance are not unknown to our society or our local communities. I am distressed by a recent report from the Anti-Defamation League, which indicated that my own state of New Jersey experiences the highest number of anti-Semitic incidents in the country. The persistence of these unacceptable acts throughout our nation indicates that the sinister notions of anti-Semitism, racism, and intolerance continue to plague our society. The Holocaust Museum stands as a testament to the tragedy and suffering that can occur when hatred goes unchallenged and turns to violence. It is also a place to reflect upon tremendous bravery and heroism. Yesterday's events, and the sacrifices made by Mr. Johns and his loved ones, are a profound reminder that we cannot be complacent. We must remain vigilant against prejudice and work together to promote peace and tolerance in our hometowns, across the nation, and around the world.

Finally, I would note that yesterday's events bring to mind the stirring call to action by President Obama at the Holocaust Days of Remembrance Ceremony in April, and I ask that they be printed in the RECORD in their entirety.

REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT AT THE HOLOCAUST DAYS OF REMEMBRANCE CEREMONY, UNITED STATES CAPITOL, WASHINGTON, DC.

The PRESIDENT. Thank you. Please be seated. Thank you very much. To Sara Bloomfield, for the wonderful introduction and the outstanding work she's doing; to Fred Zeidman; Joel Geiderman; Mr. Wiesel—thank you for your wisdom and your witness; Speaker Nancy Pelosi; Senator Dick Durbin; members of Congress; our good friend the Ambassador of Israel; members of the United

States Holocaust Memorial Council; and most importantly, the survivors and rescuers and their families who are here today. It is a great honor for me to be here, and I'm grateful that I have the opportunity to address you briefly.

We gather today to mourn the loss of so many lives, and celebrate those who saved them; honor those who survived, and contemplate the obligations of the living.

It is the grimmest of ironies that one of the most savage, barbaric acts of evil in history began in one of the most modernized societies of its time, where so many markers of human progress became tools of human depravity: science that can heal used to kill; education that can enlighten used to rationalize away basic moral impulses; the bureaucracy that sustains modern life used as the machinery of mass death—a ruthless, chillingly efficient system where many were responsible for the killing, but few got actual blood on their hands.

While the uniqueness of the Holocaust in scope and in method is truly astounding, the Holocaust was driven by many of the same forces that have fueled atrocities throughout history: the scapegoating that leads to hatred and blinds us to our common humanity; the justifications that replace conscience and allow cruelty to spread; the willingness of those who are neither perpetrators nor victims to accept the assigned role of bystander, believing the lie that, good people are ever powerless or alone, the fiction that we do not have a choice.

But while we are here today to bear witness to the human capacity to destroy, we are also here to pay tribute to the human impulse to save. In the moral accounting of the Holocaust, as we reckon with numbers like 6 million, as we recall the horror of numbers etched into arms, we also factor in numbers like these: 7,200—the number of Danish Jews ferried to safety, many of whom later returned home to find the neighbors who rescued them had also faithfully tended their homes and businesses and belongings while they were gone.

We remember the number five—the five righteous men and women who join us today from Poland. We are awed by your acts of courage and conscience. And your presence today compels each of us to ask ourselves whether we would have done what you did. We can only hope that the answer is yes.

We also remember the number 5,000—the number of Jews rescued by the villagers of Le Chambon, France—one life saved for each of its 5,000 residents. Not a single Jew who came there was turned away, or turned in. But it was not until decades later that the villagers spoke of what they had done—and even then, only reluctantly. The author of a book on the rescue found that those he interviewed were baffled by his interest. "How could you call us 'good'?" they said. "We were doing what had to be done."

That is the question of the righteous—those who would do extraordinary good at extraordinary risk not for affirmation or acclaim or to advance their own interests, but because it is what must be done. They remind us that no one is born a savior or a murderer—these are choices we each have the power to make. They teach us that no one can make us into bystanders without our consent, and that we are never truly alone—that if we have the courage to heed that "still, small voice" within us, we can form a minyan for righteousness that can span a village, even a nation.

Their legacy is our inheritance. And the question is, how do we honor and preserve it? How do we ensure that "never again" isn't an empty slogan, or merely an aspiration, but also a call to action?

I believe we start by doing what we are doing today—by bearing witness, by fighting

the silence that is evil's greatest co-conspirator.

In the face of horrors that defy comprehension, the impulse to silence is understandable. My own great uncle returned from his service in World War II in a state of shock, saying little, alone with painful memories that would not leave his head. He went up into the attic, according to the stories that I've heard, and wouldn't come down for six months. He was one of the liberators—someone who at a very tender age had seen the unimaginable. And so some of the liberators who are here today honor us with their presence—all of whom we honor for their extraordinary service. My great uncle was part of the 89th Infantry Division—the first Americans to reach a Nazi concentration camp. And they liberated Ohrdruf, part of Buchenwald, where tens of thousands had perished.

The story goes that when the Americans marched in, they discovered the starving survivors and the piles of dead bodies. And General Eisenhower made a decision. He ordered Germans from the nearby town to tour the camp, so they could see what had been done in their name. And he ordered American troops to tour the camp, so they could see the evil they were fighting against. Then he invited congressmen and journalists to bear witness. And he ordered that photographs and films be made. Some of us have seen those same images, whether in the Holocaust Museum or when I visited Yad Vashem, and they never leave you. Eisenhower said that he wanted "to be in a position to give firsthand evidence of these things, if ever, in the future, there develops a tendency to charge these allegations merely to propaganda."

Eisenhower understood the danger of silence. He understood that if no one knew what had happened, that would be yet another atrocity—and it would be the perpetrators' ultimate triumph.

What Eisenhower did to record these crimes for history is what we are doing here today. That's what Elie Wiesel and the survivors we honor here do by fighting to make their memories part of our collective memory. That's what the Holocaust Museum does every day on our National Mall, the place where we display for the world our triumphs and failures and the lessons we've learned from our history. It's the very opposite of silence.

But we must also remember that bearing witness is not the end of our obligation—it's just the beginning. We know that evil has yet to run its course on Earth. We've seen it in this century in the mass graves and the ashes of villages burned to the ground, and children used as soldiers and rape used as a weapon of war. To this day, there are those who insist the Holocaust never happened; who perpetrate every form of intolerance—racism and anti-Semitism, homophobia, xenophobia, sexism, and more—hatred that degrades its victim and diminishes us all.

Today, and every day, we have an opportunity, as well as an obligation, to confront these scourges—to fight the impulse to turn the channel when we see images that disturb us, or wrap ourselves in the false comfort that others' sufferings are not our own. Instead we have the opportunity to make a habit of empathy; to recognize ourselves in each other; to commit ourselves to resisting injustice and intolerance and indifference in whatever forms they may take—whether confronting those who tell lies about history, or doing everything we can to prevent and end atrocities like those that took place in Rwanda, those taking place in Darfur. That is my commitment as President. I hope that is yours, as well.

It will not be easy. At times, fulfilling these obligations require self-reflection. But

in the final analysis, I believe history gives us cause for hope rather than despair—the hope of a chosen people who have overcome oppression since the days of Exodus; of the nation of Israel rising from the destruction of the Holocaust; of the strong and enduring bonds between our nations.

It is the hope, too, of those who not only survived, but chose to live, teaching us the meaning of courage and resilience and dignity. I'm thinking today of a study conducted after the war that found that Holocaust survivors living in America actually had a higher birthrate than American Jews. What a stunning act of faith—to bring a child in a world that has shown you so much cruelty; to believe that no matter what you have endured, or how much you have lost, in the end, you have a duty to life.

We find cause for hope as well in Protestant and Catholic children attending school together in Northern Ireland; in Hutus and Tutsis living side by side, forgiving neighbors who have done the unforgivable; in a movement to save Darfur that has thousands of high school and college chapters in 25 countries, and brought 70,000 people to the Washington Mall—people of every age and faith and background and race united in common cause with suffering brothers and sisters halfway around the world.

Those numbers can be our future—our fellow citizens of the world showing us how to make the journey from oppression to survival, from witness to resistance, and ultimately to reconciliation. That is what we mean when we say “never again.”

So today, during this season when we celebrate liberation, resurrection, and the possibility of redemption, may each of us renew our resolve to do what must be done. And may we strive each day, both individually and as a nation, to be among the righteous.

Thank you, God bless you, and God bless the United States of America.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, due to other Congressional business, I unfortunately missed a recorded vote on the House floor on Thursday, June 11, 2009.

I ask that the RECORD reflect that had I been able to vote that day, I would have voted “yea” on rollcall vote No. 334.

CONGRATULATING CHIEF GEORGE CARPENTER OF WILMETTE POLICE DEPARTMENT

HON. MARK STEVEN KIRK

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. KIRK. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Wilmette Police Chief George Carpenter, one of the finest public servants in my congressional district. Next month, Chief Carpenter will retire after 35 years of service to the people of Wilmette, serving as Chief of Police for the last 18 years.

The police chiefs of the 10th District work closely together to address their shared concerns. I've had the good fortune to work with them and their departments to help combat

gangs, drugs and weapons that make their way into the suburbs, and the respect that Chief Carpenter has among his peers is testament to what kind of a leader he is.

As chief, he spearheaded education reforms in the Wilmette Police Department and leaves a legacy of forward-thinking, well-trained officers who will continue to serve the Village. He steadily increased recruitment of women, minorities, and those with foreign-language ability to diversify and bring new skills to law enforcement. These policies have resulted in increased approval ratings of the performance of the Wilmette Police Department, reflecting a high level of public trust.

He helped form task forces to counteract the growing sophistication of criminals in our area which created a more united regional police force. His dedication to quality and service has been a great example for other communities in the 10th District. This is particularly crucial as Illinois now has the most gang members per capita in the nation. I know we are better prepared to meet this emerging threat because of Chief Carpenter's service.

On behalf of the people of the 10th Congressional District, I thank Wilmette Police Chief George Carpenter for his outstanding public service and wish him the best in his future endeavors. Our community is safer and stronger because of his leadership.

FOREIGN RELATIONS AUTHORIZATION ACT, FISCAL YEARS 2010 AND 2011

SPEECH OF

HON. DEBBIE WASSERMAN SCHULTZ

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 10, 2009

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2410) to authorize appropriations for the Department of State and the Peace Corps for fiscal years 2010 and 2011, to modernize the foreign Service, and for other purposes:

Ms. WASSERMAN SCHULTZ. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of this essential amendment, recognizing Israel's right to defend itself from an imminent nuclear or military threat from Iran and other countries and organizations.

As Iran forges ahead with its quest for a nuclear weapons capability, it is vital for Congress to recognize Israel's urgent need to deal with the looming threat of a nuclear-armed Iran.

Like all sovereign nations, Israel has not only a right, but moreover, an obligation, to ensure the safety and security of her citizens.

An imminent nuclear or military threat from Iran would certainly endanger her citizens, and that is why, in the strongest of terms, I support my colleague's vital amendment.

According to the U.N.'s nuclear watchdog, Iran has sped up its production of nuclear fuel and has increased its number of installed centrifuges to 7,200—more than enough to make fuel for two nuclear bombs per year.

If Iran possessed nuclear weapons, it could share this technology with terrorist groups to carry out attacks against both Israel and the United States.

Let me be very clear. A nuclear-armed Iran would certainly constitute an existential threat

to Israel, but would not only threaten Israel. As the leading state sponsor of international terrorism, a nuclear-armed Iran would pose unacceptable threats to global security.

This rogue nation's possession of a nuclear weapon would likely lead to nuclear proliferation elsewhere in the region and around the globe, while fundamentally altering the strategic balance of the Middle East, and endangering U.S. national security interests.

Undoubtedly, now is the time for us all to stand together in support of Israel and global peace and security. I urge my colleagues to support this critical amendment, and pray that Iran suspends its nuclear program, and starts working towards peace instead of terror.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GALLEGLY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably absent for the rollcall vote on H.R. 1256, the Family Smoking Prevention and Tobacco Control Act. Had I been present, I would have voted for H.R. 1256.

THE MIRANDA WARNING

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. GARRETT of New Jersey. Madam Speaker, there are forty-four words that anyone who has ever watched a police show is no doubt familiar with:

“You have the right to remain silent. Anything you say can and will be used against you in a court of law. You have the right to an attorney present during questioning. If you cannot afford an attorney, one will be appointed for you.”

The Miranda Warning, which reminds suspects in police custody of their rights under the Constitution, has become a staple of our criminal justice system, and is a vanguard of Fifth Amendment protection. This warning, however, was never meant to be applied to terrorists captured on the battlefield who are endangering American interests and American lives.

Recently, my colleague from Michigan, Mr. ROGERS, returned from Afghanistan, where he learned that the FBI may be reading Miranda rights to suspected terrorists at U.S. military detention facilities. If this report is true, it is deeply troubling and a variety of questions come to mind.

First, if FBI agents are granting enemy combatants a right to silence and counsel, how then are operatives expected to accomplish their goal of obtaining actionable intelligence in the field? Second, how many detainees have been read the Miranda Warning? Third, on what date was this policy established? Fourth, what are the factors which influence the FBI's decision about when to grant Miranda rights?

For obvious reasons, a suspect who has availed himself of silence and counsel is far less likely to surrender valuable intelligence

that can help us in winning the war on terror. While we have an obligation to treat captured combatants in a way that respects their human dignity, we are under no obligation to consider them U.S. citizens. It is dangerous to provide detainees with the same protections enjoyed by Americans. Furthermore, it is unwise to grant detainees the rights enshrined in the very Constitution they seek to destroy.

We must recognize that there is a difference between police powers and war powers. The capture, interrogation, and trial of terror suspects in Afghanistan and Iraq clearly fall into the latter category. FBI involvement in this process can only lead to captured combatants being held, tried, and imprisoned in U.S. civilian facilities, thereby making our prison system an enclave for al-Qaeda operatives.

One of the primary objectives of American operatives in the Middle East is to anticipate and prevent future attacks against U.S. soldiers and U.S. cities. Treating terror suspects as rank-and-file street criminals is a dangerous policy with grave implications for our domestic security and foreign interests.

President Obama has repeatedly stated that he would govern his administration with transparency. However the ranking member on the

House intelligence subcommittee learned of a serious FBI policy shift almost by accident.

In waging this war, the White House must be accountable to this body—the people's elected representatives. I thank the gentleman from Michigan for bringing this issue to the House's attention, and I join him in calling on the Department of Defense to disclose the timeline and justification for this policy shift.

REGARDING PRESIDENT OBAMA'S
ADDRESS TO THE MUSLIM AND
ARAB WORLDS FROM CAIRO,
EGYPT

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 12, 2009

Mr. BOREN. Madam Speaker, President Obama made some very important points in his address last week in Cairo, Egypt. It is important that he spoke directly to the Muslim and Arab worlds and stated as fact that 6 million Jews were killed in the Holocaust. The President should be applauded for making

clear that threatening Israel is wrong and that anti-Semitism, which remains prevalent in the Arab media, is ignorant, hateful and wrong.

Unfortunately, the President's speech left an impression that Israel was founded in response to anti-Semitism and the Holocaust. While these reasons were necessary for the creation of an Israeli state, a Jewish bond to the land of Israel is deeply rooted in history.

Many in the Muslim and Arab worlds deny that a Jewish connection to the land of Israel and Jerusalem exists. For example, at the Camp David meetings conducted by President Clinton, Yasser Arafat denied that the Jewish Temple was located in Jerusalem. However, a Jewish connection to Jerusalem and to the land of Israel reaches far back into ancient history and precedes the Holocaust. This bond is not 60 years old; it is more than 3,000 years old, pre-dating Islam and even Christianity.

President Obama is to be congratulated for reaching out to the Muslim and Arab worlds. As we do so, it is imperative that we stand with Israel. Only then will we achieve peace and stability in this troubled region of the world.