

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

HONORING RILEY WALTER

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Riley Walter upon thirteen years of dedicated service to the Board of Directors of the Central Valley Business Incubator. Mr. Walter was recognized by the Central Valley Business Incubator annual Holiday Party on Thursday, December 10, 2009.

Mr. Riley Walter has served the Fresno community for almost thirty years. For over twenty-five years he has specialized in bankruptcy and reorganization matters, with a particular concentration on agricultural cases, business litigation and emerging businesses. Mr. Walter also volunteers to a number of local organizations, providing his legal expertise.

Mr. Walter is a past president of the Central California Bankruptcy Association and the San Joaquin Valley Chapter of the Federal Bar Association. He is the past director of the California Bankruptcy Forum and the California Receiver's Forum and is past co-chair of the Agribusiness Committee of the Business Law Section of the California State Bar. Mr. Walter is a certified Business Bankruptcy specialist, accredited by the American Board of Bankruptcy Certification and a Fellow, American College of Bankruptcy, Class XIII.

Mr. Walter is the author of numerous articles on insolvency and bankruptcy. He is frequently requested to speak to business, agriculture and financial groups. For the past five years, he has been named a "Northern California Super Lawyer." Currently, Mr. Walter is a member of the Board for the Central Valley Business Incubator, he is active with the Fresno Business Council and the Lyles Center for Entrepreneurship and Innovation as well as other civic and legal organizations.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Riley Walter for his dedicated service to the Central Valley Business Incubator and the greater Fresno area. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Walter many years of continued success.

IN MEMORY OF RICHARD CLAREY

HON. LYNN C. WOOLSEY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Ms. WOOLSEY. Madam Speaker, I rise with sadness today to honor Richard Clarey of Petaluma, California, who passed away January 19, 2010 at the age of 78. Rich was very involved with his family, his work, his union, and his community, especially his children.

Born and raised in rural Iowa, Rich enlisted during the Korean Conflict and was stationed

with the U.S. Army at Ft. Hood, Texas. After moving to California, he began training as an electrician in 1957. Twenty years later he was elected business manager of the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local 551 where he fought to improve the lives of working families, advocating for fair treatment, good wages, retirement benefits, and health care. Upon his retirement in 1996, IBEW Local 551 had over 600 members in six counties.

Rich was involved with his church and other civic organizations, including serving a stint on the Cotati school board to ensure that the local kids would get the best possible education. But he is probably best known to a generation as a Little League coach. For 25 years he made sure his young charges played their best and had a good time doing it. He also coached CYO basketball and cheered his own children and grandchildren at various sporting events.

Rich had a wide circle of friends who appreciated his friendly manner, strong character, and Irish story telling. In recent years, he took pleasure in the spirited discussions at Friday morning coffee socials. He particularly enjoyed spending time with his large family and working on his 10-acre farm in Petaluma where he used both his skills as a craftsman and his background as an Iowa farmer.

Rich's first wife Shirley predeceased him in 1987. He is survived by his wife Jean, sons Mitch, Mark, and David; daughters Cyndi, Sue, Bobbi, and Edie; 21 grandchildren; and five great grandchildren.

Madam Speaker, Richard Clarey exemplified what is best in our local communities. He truly cared about people and pitched in where he could to make their lives better. He touched his family, his colleagues, and his many friends. I will miss him, and I am proud to have known him.

AMERICANS FEEL LESS SAFE

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, recent polls show that the public is very concerned with the Obama administration's handling of national security.

The latest Investor's Business Daily poll findings show that Americans believe President Obama's policies are soft on terror. The percentage of Americans who feel safe has declined significantly—from 82 percent a year ago, to 67 percent this month.

Additionally, the Pew Research Center recently released findings showing terrorism is the third most important issue to American voters, after jobs and the economy.

This is due in part to the mishandling of the Christmas Day terrorist attempt. Instead of gaining valuable intelligence, Abdulmutallab was given Miranda rights, a move that 61 percent of Americans disagree with. Additionally,

Americans continue to overwhelmingly oppose closing Gitmo 2-to-1.

It is clear President Obama's policies have made Americans less safe. And according to the polls, the American people know it.

IN HONOR OF CASSANDRA LAWRY AND THE UNI-CAPITOL WASHINGTON INTERNSHIP PROGRAMME

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in recognition of the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme. This program provides Congressional offices with not only tremendous Australian students and employees, but also wonderful people, and I am pleased to have hosted a number of students—including our most recent student, Cassandra Lawry—over the past several years.

The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme was founded in 1999 to offer students from Australia's top universities the opportunity to learn and appreciate the American political system, serve as ambassadors for their country and gain valuable academic and professional experience. Each year, after competing for admission into this highly selective program, these students put their studies on hold and come to Washington, D.C. to intern for eight weeks, largely at their own expense. The Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme is not only beneficial for the Australian students, but also for their new co-workers, who are able to gain insight from their unique perspective on political issues.

This year, I have the privilege of hosting Cassandra Lawry. Cass comes to us from Sylva in New South Wales and is currently completing her bachelor's degree at Wollongong University, where she is studying history and politics. During her time here, Cass has attended briefings, drafted constituent correspondence and assisted my staff with various other administrative duties. Cass's work ethic and positive attitude have made her a great addition to our team. She hopes that experience gained from her internship on Capitol Hill will provide valuable knowledge that she can use in the completion of her degree when she returns home. Following graduation, Cass plans on returning to Washington, D.C. to work on Capitol Hill.

Once again, I thank and commend Cassandra Lawry for her outstanding service to my office and this country, as well as the Uni-Capitol Washington Internship Programme for connecting us with numerous other dedicated students like her. I look forward to continuing our partnership for many years.

• 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.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE CONSTRUCTION ASSOCIATION OF MICHIGAN ON CELEBRATING ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. PETERS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Construction Association of Michigan on the occasion of its 125th anniversary. As a Member of Congress, it is both my honor and privilege to recognize this important milestone. In the Association's 125 years of operation it has grown to become both the oldest and largest regional construction association in the United States.

This historic occasion is even more impressive when considering the Association's modest beginnings. The Association was originally founded by 21 prominent Detroit-area construction industry leaders as the Builders and Traders Exchange in 1885. Their vision was to create an organization to provide assistance, information and service to the Michigan construction industry as well as foster opportunities for industry growth and development of relationships between the Michigan construction industry and their clients.

That spark of a vision 125 years ago of what could be has grown into an organization of over 3400 members, which acts as a critical element in creating, perpetuating, and strengthening profitability, efficiency and integrity within the Michigan construction industry. The services that CAM offers to their members now extends to providing leadership and guidance in such significant issues as economic development, continuing education, complete safety training programs and ongoing legislative relations and public awareness efforts.

Madam Speaker, in these tough economic times it is the work of organizations such as CAM that is critical in helping to shepherd their members and our men and women in the construction industry through the perils of economic instability. The 125th anniversary of CAM's founding is indeed a historic milestone for Michigan's construction industry. I would again like to offer my heartiest congratulations to the executive board for achieving such an impressive milestone and I look forward to CAM's continued success in its future endeavors, as well as many many more years of productive service to the State of Michigan.

GROW AMERICA'S SMALL BUSINESSES ACT

HON. PATRICK J. KENNEDY

OF RHODE ISLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. KENNEDY. Madam Speaker, last fall, after eight years of the previous administration looking the other way while Wall Street and the big banks gambled, we faced a near collapse of our financial system.

Now, while we pick up the pieces, small businesses in Rhode Island and across the country are struggling to find credit.

The lifeblood of our economy can't afford to wait until the banks are ready to lend again.

Instead of waving fees, guaranteeing loans and doing cartwheels to make banks lend to small businesses, it's time we cut out the middle-man.

It's time we let the SBA lend directly to small businesses, so that our local economies aren't dependent on the decisions of Wall Street.

We don't need Wall Street middle-men slowing down lending to small businesses and skimming profits at the same time.

By lending 20 billion dollars directly to small businesses, the SBA can provide cost-effective help to struggling communities.

There's another way to cut out the middle-man. Let's let small business owners lend to themselves by passing the GROW America's Small Businesses Act.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. STEVE KAGEN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. KAGEN. Madam Speaker, I was detained in Wisconsin due to weather and missed votes on Tuesday, February 2, 2010. Had I been present for votes on that day, I would have voted "yes" on Rollcall 26, on H.R. 4495—To designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 100 North Taylor Lane in Patagonia, Arizona, as the "Jim Kolbe Post Office"; "yes" on Rollcall 27, on H. Res. 957—Honoring Jimmie Johnson, 2009 NASCAR Sprint Cup Champion; and "yes" on Rollcall 28, on H. Res. 1014—Recognizing and supporting the goals and ideals of North American Inclusion Month.

IN HONOR OF THE LADIES AUXILIARY OF THE SEAFORD VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise today to pay tribute to the Ladies Auxiliary of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department as they celebrate their 75th anniversary in the state of Delaware on February 6, 2010.

The Ladies Auxiliary was formed on February 18, 1935, after Mrs. William B. Huston called a group of firemen's wives and friends together with the purpose of forming an organization to support the Seaford Volunteer firemen. Originally known as the 'Seaford Ladies' Volunteer Auxiliary, the women chose Mrs. Huston as their first president, with Mrs. Sallie Robinson, Mrs. Malcolm Orr, Mrs. Norris Tull, Miss Florence Culver, and Mrs. Charles Marvel supporting the Ladies Auxiliary in other officer positions. The first years saw the women making do with limited means. Without a formal kitchen until 1942, the Ladies Auxiliary used Mary and Charlie Marvel's kitchen to prepare coffee and refreshments for fire scenes.

While the main reason for organizing was to provide refreshments for the firemen during emergency situations, the Ladies Auxiliary of

the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department has taken on a great deal more since its formation. Over the last 75 years, they have raised funds to benefit the fire company as well as the town of Seaford, hosting numerous events and fundraisers such as fashion shows, concession stands, banquets, and annual bake sales, craft shows and penny parties. And since the dedication of the new fire house in 1950, the Ladies Auxiliary and the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department have hosted the Delaware Volunteer Firefighter's Association State Convention three times. In 2001, the Ladies Auxiliary began a 'junior' members program for students age 13 and over. Though the Ladies Auxiliary has experienced change over the years, their goal has always remained the same—to serve the volunteer firemen and community of Seaford in any way that they can.

On this 75th anniversary, I would like to recognize the unequalled devotion of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department. Since 1935, the women of the Ladies Auxiliary have volunteered their time, their energy, and their hearts in support of the Seaford Volunteer Fire Department and its surrounding community. I commend them for their tireless dedication and immeasurable contributions, and I wish them all the best on this momentous occasion.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF ANN KILBANE WING

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. KUCINICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today in honor and remembrance of Ann Kilbane Wing, beloved wife of the late George C. Wing; and cherished mother, grandmother, great-grandmother and friend to many. Mrs. Kilbane Wing's life centered around her family, faith and her community.

Mrs. Kilbane Wing was a graduate of St. Joseph Academy. Shortly after WWII, she married the love of her life, George Wing. Together, they raised their son, Patrick J. Wing. In 1948, the same year Patrick was born, Mrs. Kilbane Wing became a member of the Federated Democratic Women of Ohio. She was a life-long member, and served as President. Mrs. Kilbane Wing also served as member and President of the VFW Ladies Auxiliary 7th District. Her involvement in politics, particularly in the Democratic Party, extended from Greater Cleveland to throughout the State of Ohio, where she held several key political positions. Mrs. Kilbane Wing was elected as a member of the State Democratic Central Committee, representing the 23rd District of Ohio and also served as a Cuyahoga County Democratic Executive Committee Member and Democratic Precinct Committeeperson. She also held the role of Parma Heights Democratic Club City Leader for more than fifty years.

Mrs. Kilbane Wing brought energy, warmth, integrity and a great sense of humor to all of her endeavors. She was a devoted wife and mother, a passionate volunteer, and a dedicated employee. For ten years, she worked as the Administrative Assistant to the Treasurer at St. Ignatius High School. She also worked at the IRS for nearly ten years, and worked for

many years at the Cuyahoga County Sheriff's Office. Her keen business sense, strong interpersonal skills and unwavering work ethic was noted by many. She was appointed by the Cuyahoga County Commissioners to the position of Business Manager for Cuyahoga County Social Services. In addition, her Catholic faith was a life-long source of strength and comfort. She was an active member and volunteer at Holy Family Parish for more than sixty years.

Madam Speaker and Colleagues, please join with me to honor and remember Ann Kilbane Wing, whose joyous life, dedication to family, faith and community, will always be cherished. I honor the memory of her husband, the late George Wing; and I offer my deepest condolences to her son, Patrick J.; to her granddaughter, Trini; to her great-grandchildren, Hayley, Aaron, Chloe and Joseph; and to her extended family members and many friends. Those who know her will remember her love for family, her commitment to community, and her warm smile and compassionate heart.

RECOGNIZING SENATOR CAROLYN ALLEN—PLANNED PARENTHOOD AWARD RECIPIENT

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to applaud the tireless work of Arizona State Senator Carolyn Allen on behalf of women's reproductive rights. This week, Planned Parenthood will honor Senator Allen's commitment to ensuring all Arizona women have the right to seek reproductive services.

In her 16 years of public service at the Arizona Legislature, Senator Allen has continuously displayed tenacity in promoting women's rights. Despite facing loud opposition and political pressure, Senator Allen has never shied away from separating from party lines to support reproductive freedom. A staunch believer in woman's right to choose, Senator Allen opposed legislation that would hinder a woman's ability to seek these vital services. Again and again, Senator Allen stood up against her party and stood with the women of Arizona. Her unwavering dedication has earned Senator Allen the respect and admiration of many of her peers.

As the quest for reproductive freedom continues, Senator Allen's exhaustive efforts remind us of all the dedicated individuals who diligently work behind the scenes to promote and protect a woman's right to choose. I am humbled to have such a charismatic advocate as a colleague and a friend.

Madam Speaker, please join me once more in congratulating Senator Carolyn Allen as she is honored with this well-deserved recognition.

HONORING THE LITHUANIAN INDEPENDENCE DAY COMMEMORATION

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. LIPINSKI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration. The celebration was organized by the Lithuanian American Council of Chicago and will take place at the Lithuanian Center in Chicago, Illinois on February 14, 2010.

The Lithuanian American Council has a proud legacy of action in the Lithuanian American community. Lithuanian Americans have a presence in Chicago, Illinois lasting more than a century. Chicago is home to the greatest concentration of Lithuanian Americans, and I am proud to have so many people of Lithuanian descent in my district. The organization of this event pays due respect to the courageous act of proclaiming a newly independent Lithuanian state in 1918. Although true independence was put on hold until after World War I and the fall of Germany, this single rebellious act paved the way for what has become a free and democratically governed state. Lithuanian Americans have reason to celebrate their heritage proudly, and to remember with great pride the signing of the Act of Independence of Lithuania on February 16, 1918.

I ask you to join me in honoring the Lithuanian Independence Day Commemoration on this important occasion.

HONORING THE HEROES OF THE COOPER UNIVERSITY HOSPITAL UPON THEIR RETURN FROM HAITI

HON. ROBERT E. ANDREWS

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. ANDREWS. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Cooper University Hospital for their heroic response to the Haiti Earthquake disaster. The staff of Cooper University Hospital has shown incredible compassion for the victims of the tragedy and for this they deserve great praise.

When the 7.0 earthquake devastated Haiti on January 12, Cooper University Hospital did not hesitate to mobilize an 18-member medical relief team. This team of 18 doctors, nurses, and technicians worked at the Haitian-Dominican Republic border, providing life-saving care under harrowing circumstances. They provided anesthesia, set broken bones, performed surgery and worked to significantly reduce the local mortality rate.

The team has returned home, but their efforts continue. Cooper University Hospital is making plans to bring two Haitian children to Camden for surgery. Even now, the hospital is preparing to send 6,000 sets of canes, crutches, and walkers to Haiti.

Madam Speaker, the service of these 18 people should not go unrecognized. I want to personally thank them for the humanitarian assistance they have provided and I am grateful Cooper University Hospital has continued their long tradition of caring for those in need.

HONORING TEEN DATING VIOLENCE AWARENESS AND PREVENTION MONTH

HON. MICHAEL N. CASTLE

OF DELAWARE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. CASTLE. Madam Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to acknowledge my home state of Delaware for its promotion of February as Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month (TDVAPM).

Dating violence amongst adolescents is a serious and sobering matter. In the U.S., one in three adolescent girls is a victim of physical, emotional, or verbal abuse from a dating partner. In fact, females between the ages of 16 and 24 are the most vulnerable to intimate partner violence, experiencing abuse at almost triple the national average; a resonating two-thirds of teens who experience abuse never tell anyone. These statistics underscore the vital importance of TDVAPM—an opportunity to rededicate ourselves to raising awareness and promoting prevention.

Combating the serious and often overlooked issue of teen dating violence begins with us. We have the power to educate and empower the young people in our communities and in our states. They must be given examples of healthy relationships. They must be taught that speaking out against physical and emotional abuse is crucial and necessary. Their attitudes must be changed away from supporting violence to embracing mutual respect. This is our responsibility—as elected officials and as parents and teachers and mentors—and these are the goals of TDVAPM.

In Delaware, the Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Initiative has, since its inception, been recognized as the full month of February, and this year marks the first time it will be recognized as such on a national level. Since 2006, Delaware schools and organizations have been partnering together for this worthy cause, demonstrating a commitment to ending teen dating violence and supporting the victims and survivors among us.

Delaware's Teen Dating Violence Awareness and Prevention Month Planning Committee, along with Child, Inc., the Delaware Coalition against Domestic Violence and the Delaware Victims' Rights Task Force, work diligently to not only raise public awareness, but provide young people with the resources they need to receive help and to break the cycle of violence. Today, I wish to thank and recognize these groups and the many other organizations and individuals involved in this initiative. They are proof that prevention is possible—through empowerment and education.

HONORING ANDY KYLE, WWII VETERAN

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. POE of Texas. Madam Speaker, the city of Liberty in the Second District of Texas is proud to honor one of its oldest and bravest

Veterans of WWII. Andy Kyle has lived an adventurous life full of courage, honor, and spirit all throughout his 95 years. In East Texas he is known as an arrowhead collector, donating the majority of his finds to the Sam Houston Regional Library. He and his late wife Kay were married for nearly 50 years with two daughters, Andrea and Libby.

Andy holds a very distinguished wartime record for his service during WWII. Because he was over the age for pilot school he went to the Army Air Corps for mechanic training completing a 2½ and a half year program in only 6 months. Soon thereafter he became the Crew Chief on a C-47 Dakota transport plane. He served as Crew Chief for 2 years during combat operations in North Africa, Sicily, Italy, England, and France.

As a member of the 50th Troop Carrier Squadron, Andy took on the role of dropping paratroopers and supplies into the war zone. Oftentimes this meant carrying flammable gasoline. One of Andy's great feats was flying 55-gallon drums of gasoline to the East coast of Italy to resupply African American pilots.

The 50th Troop also participated in the infamous invasion of Normandy on D-Day where his plane dropped fully geared paratroopers to the drop zone in France. It was during the Battle of the Bulge that Andy's squadron received the most hits. Of the 13 planes, 6 were lost in trying to aid the Allied Forces. It was a costly victory for the Allies as well as a personal loss for Andy who lost his brother-in-law JG and his other friend Junior Price. Andy still carries pictures of the monument erected in their honor, showing what a caring and honorable soul he is.

Madam Speaker, Andy is one of our many veterans who gave so much to honor our country by serving in a time of war. It is because of his courage and dedication to the United States that we, the Second District of Texas, honor him today.

THE PRINCIPLES OF THE OATH AND LAW OF THE BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SHUSTER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the principles of the Oath and Law of the Boy Scouts of America. This year marks the Centennial Celebration of the founding of the Boy Scouts of America. On February 8th, 2010 the Penn's Woods Council will be promoting "The Rededication to the Principles of the Scout Oath and Law Ceremony" at the County Courthouses in Pennsylvania's Bedford, Blair, Cambria, Somerset, and Indiana Counties.

The Oath and Law of the Boy Scouts bind the 55 million alumni of the organization at all levels of participation. Among these alumni: lawyers, doctors, industrialists, educators, labor leaders, military leaders, astronauts, and Presidents of the United States. The principles of the Oath and Law propelled them to the tops of their professions, and in some cases to the stars. The Oath expects Scouts to be patriotic, obedient, generous, and upstanding. Indeed, the law requires them to be: trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind,

obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent. These principles make good scouts, and they make good citizens.

And that is the greatest legacy of 100 years of the Scout Law and Oath. As Scouts learn the Law and Oath, repeat them, adopt the principles within them, and live them, they learn at the same time how to be good Americans. The accomplishments of many of our citizens drew on the timeless virtues they developed as Scouts. Such a record of good work deserves another 100 years. I applaud the Boy Scouts of America for their excellent virtues and their success in living them. I commend the Penn's Woods Council for its work in central Pennsylvania. I hope they continue to contribute to our country for years to come.

HONORING CLAUDE LAVAL III

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Claude Laval upon his retirement as the Chairman of the Board of Directors for the Central Valley Business Incubator. Mr. Laval will be honored on Thursday, December 10, 2009.

Mr. Claude Laval was born and raised in Fresno, California. Upon his graduation from Fresno High School, he attended and graduated from Stanford University. After returning to the Central Valley, Mr. Laval had a calling to help develop the greater Fresno area. Mr. Laval established the Claude Laval Corporation over thirty years ago. The company has become a worldwide leader in water technology with a strong reputation for supplying water filtration equipment around the world and leading the company into a range of industrial, commercial and agricultural markets. He currently serves as Chairman of Claude Laval Corporation, while his daughter, Melinda Laval, serves as President.

In addition to his responsibilities with his own business, Mr. Laval has served as Chairman of the Board of Directors of the Central Valley Business Incubator (CVBI) since inception in 1996. The mission of CVBI is to nurture and develop entrepreneurs through an integrated network of incubation and business development partners providing access to comprehensive services aimed at creating sustainable high growth ventures. Under Mr. Laval's leadership, CVBI has created over two thousand five hundred jobs, raised millions of dollars in start-up capital and hundreds of students have completed various entrepreneur training programs offered by the organization.

In March 2007, the Claude Laval Water and Energy Technology (WET) Incubator was established under the CVBI umbrella. The WET Incubator was designed to establish the Central Valley as a world wide leader in water and energy innovation. With almost three years into the project, the WET Incubator houses five on-site members and has been very successful in its endeavors. Finally, Mr. Laval is also serving as the Chair of the International Center for Water Technology (ICWT). ICWT was established to provide education and research to assist in developing innovative solutions and technologies to improve water use efficiency.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Claude Laval for his years of dedicated service to the Central Valley Business Incubator and business and water leadership in the greater Fresno area. I invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Laval many years of continued success.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. CARNEY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. CARNEY. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, February 2, I was unable to cast my vote on three suspension bills.

Had I been present, I would like the RECORD to reflect that I would have voted:

"yes" on rollcall Vote 26; "yes" on rollcall vote 27; and "yes" on rollcall vote 28.

TRIBUTE TO SPECIAL AGENT RALPH BLINCOE

HON. HOWARD COBLE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. COBLE. Madam Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Special Agent Ralph Blincoe, Deputy Director, Management and Administration, of the Naval Criminal Investigative Service (NCIS), who will retire from that agency on February 27, 2010, after 28 years of highly distinguished service.

Mr. Blincoe began his career as a Special Agent in 1982 with the then-named Naval Investigative Service (NIS) after graduating cum laude from Guilford College in Greensboro, NC. After being selected for and completing the first NIS special agent basic class to graduate from the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center's Criminal Investigator Training Program, Mr. Blincoe assumed his first duty assignment in San Diego, CA. While there, he served on the narcotics squad and, became dedicated to investigating procurement fraud matters. Mr. Blincoe was the first NCIS case agent to work a Group I undercover fraud operation with the FBI code-named "Sandfish," which resulted in the conviction of multiple contractors and naval personnel for kickbacks and bribery. In 1986, Mr. Blincoe was short-toured from his assignment in Hawaii and transferred to the first of three NCIS Headquarters tours to become the co-case agent on Operation Iron Eagle, a massive effort focused upon corruption and irregularities committed by members of Seal Team 6, resulting in numerous indictments and convictions of civilians and military members including famed Navy Seal Richard Marcinko. For his efforts, Mr. Blincoe received a Navy Special Act Award and the Department of Defense Inspector General's Award for Investigative Excellence.

Following Supervisory Special Agent tours at NCISRA Washington, D.C., and Jacksonville, FL, Mr. Blincoe was reassigned as the Supervisory Special Agent at Rota, Spain. Mr. Blincoe believes his three years in Spain were amongst the best of his life due to the excellent staff, great work, and close working relationships he developed with the Spanish law

enforcement and intelligence agencies. It was also in Spain where Mr. Blincoe led a dedicated team of NCIS personnel whom were credited with saving the lives of two naval officers. As a result, Mr. Blincoe was awarded the Navy Superior Civilian Service Medal. In 1995, Mr. Blincoe moved to Naples, Italy and served as an Assistant Special Agent in Charge.

In 1997 Mr. Blincoe was transferred back to NCIS Headquarters and then in 1999 was appointed the Deputy Assistant Director for Criminal Investigations. It was during this time period that he was selected to be the Navy's lead for the removal of hundreds of protestors from the Navy's bombing range at Vieques Island, Puerto Rico. This highly emotional crisis received daily international media attention, involved multiple federal agencies, and briefings to the senior-most levels of government. The removal plan was flawlessly executed and Mr. Blincoe received the Navy's Meritorious Civilian Service Medal for his efforts.

After tours as the Special Agent in Charge at NCISFO Washington and as the Assistant Director for Administration, Mr. Blincoe was selected to be the first NCIS Executive Assistant Director for Combating Terrorism following the tragic events of 9/11. It was during this time period that Mr. Blincoe was promoted to the Senior Executive Service and has noted that he is particularly proud of the development of the counterterrorism strategies he and his team put together shortly after 9/11, many of which still endure today. Following his 2004 to 2006 assignment as the Executive Assistant Director for Atlantic Operations in Norfolk, VA, Mr. Blincoe returned to Washington for the final time when he was selected by Former NCIS Director Thomas Betro to be the Deputy Director for Operations, a position he held during one of the most demanding operational tempos in the agency's history. Some highlights of that time period include the Haditha/Hamdan investigation, the Chi-Mak and Ariel Weinmann espionage investigations, and the rebuilding of the NCIS economic crimes and proactive criminal operations programs. In 2008, Mr. Blincoe moved to the Management and Administration position and focused much of his time in the areas of leadership development, increasing diversity, the upcoming BRAC moves to Quantico and Fort Meade, and improving the expeditionary communications capability of NCIS.

In retirement, Mr. Blincoe intends to initially volunteer his time and energy to various charitable causes in the greater Washington, D.C., area and then explore employment opportunities in the private sector. Madam Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Mr. Blincoe for his 28 years of outstanding public service and to wish him fair winds and following seas as he begins the next chapter of his life.

RECOGNIZING NINA HUMPHRIES OF ZEPHYRHILLS, FLORIDA

HON. GINNY BROWN-WAITE

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Ms. GINNY BROWN-WAITE of Florida. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Nina Humphries of Zephyrhills, FL. On February 1, 2010, Nina did something that all of us strive

to do, but that very few of us will ever accomplish; she celebrated her 105th birthday.

Nina Humphries was born February 1st, 1905 in Ontario, Canada. She originally came to the United States to attend nursing school in Buffalo, New York.

Widowed by her late husbands George Clayton and Ed Humphries, Nina cherishes the time she spends with her family. She has two children, Anita and Robert, six grand children, and four great grand children.

Madam Speaker, on February 5th, the city of Zephyrhills will honor Nina's life achievements. I ask you to join me today in honoring her on the floor of this House. May we all have the good fortune to live as long as she.

TRIBUTE TO RALPH "BUZZ" COHO, OUTSTANDING ROTARIAN

HON. JOSEPH R. PITTS

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. PITTS. Madam Speaker, this week I will be proud to attend a dinner honoring an outstanding member of our community in the 16th District of Pennsylvania, Ralph "Buzz" Coho.

Born on the Fourth of July, Ralph likes to be known as a genuine Yankee Doodle Dandy who loves his community and his country.

He served his country with honorable service in the United States military and served his community as an honest businessman.

Ralph is known as "Mr. Rotary" around Lancaster County and has been an outstanding ambassador for the organization since 1934 when he first joined the Lancaster club at the age of nineteen.

Twenty years later he formed the Lancaster Northeast Rotary Club.

In his time with Rotary International, he has championed the formation of 11 clubs in District 7390.

In 2004, he was awarded the District 7390 Lifetime Achievement Award.

In both his business and his personal affairs he has faithfully honored the Rotary Four-way Test: Is it the truth? Is it fair to all concerned? Will it build good will and better friendships? And, will it be beneficial to all concerned?

He is still very active with Rotary International and three clubs in his district are honoring him with an honorary flagpole in front of the new Manheim Township library.

A flag flown over the United States Capitol will wave in honor of Ralph "Buzz" Coho.

I am pleased to honor this upstanding and outstanding member of our community and thank him for his decades of exemplifying the Rotary motto, "service above self."

ASSISTANCE TO HAITI

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. HONDA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend the compassionate work of the tens of thousands members of the U.S. armed forces, federal agencies, NGOs, international organizations, and volunteers on the ground providing direct assistance to the people of

Haiti. Our brothers and sisters from the island nation of Haiti are facing an unimaginable human catastrophe as the country works to recover from the magnitude-7 earthquake that struck on January 12, 2010, the largest recorded in Haiti in over a century. By providing critical services ranging from emergency medical care and food distribution to helping maintain security, these men and women represent the best of the humanitarian character and make us all proud.

It is prudent, then, that we match their bravery and selflessness in the epicenter of the disaster with a compassionate, multi-pronged response. President Obama quickly brought the focus of the relevant federal agencies onto Haiti, and Congress has acted swiftly to encourage the American people to contribute to the effort by passing H.R. 4462, which would allow taxpayers to deduct charitable cash donations for the relief of victims of this tragic event on their 2009 income tax returns.

Further, I recognize that the Government of Haiti cannot afford to invest in humanitarian relief, reconstruction, and development efforts, while continuing to make payments on debts owed to multilateral financial institutions like the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the World Bank, and the Inter-American Development Bank. Even before the earthquake, debt service payments to these institutions were a tremendous burden that interfered with the ability of the Government of Haiti to meet the needs of its people. For this reason, I have long been a supporter of efforts to cancel Haiti's debts owed to these multilateral financial institutions, and I have reiterated my call for debt cancellation in the wake of the earthquake. In addition, many of my colleagues and I have joined the effort to extend temporary protected status to Haitian nationals who are currently in the U.S. so that they can assist their fellow countrymen and women through remittances and other support.

The effect of the earthquake on Haiti is reflected not only in the thousands of buildings destroyed, but more accurately in the cost of human lives and families devastated. According to United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, "[o]f Haiti's 9 million people, initial reports suggest roughly a third may be affected by the disaster." The international humanitarian and security response has already provided much needed shelter, food, and medical support. As these initial efforts unfold, the need expands into maintaining security, reestablishing the democratically elected government, and providing sustainable services to the people of Haiti. To help fulfill this need, I am a proud cosponsor of the Next Steps for Haiti Act (H.R. 417). Introduced by my dear friend Congresswoman BARBARA LEE, H.R. 417 would support the capacity building efforts by the Haitian government and civil society, supporting President Obama's commitment to support the people of Haiti in their efforts to not only recover from this human catastrophe but also to hold on to and work hard toward their vision of a strong economy and democracy.

Once again, Madam Speaker, I join my colleagues in expressing my condolences to the victims' families, both here at home and on the island, and encourage all Americans to help in Haiti's rescue, recovery and empowerment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM H. PUTNAM

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. PUTNAM. Madam Speaker, on Tuesday, January 26, 2010, I was not present for 3 recorded votes. I would have voted the following way: roll No. 17—"yea"; roll No. 18—"yea"; roll No. 19—"yea".

PAYING TRIBUTE TO TRAIL-
BLAZING TUSKEGEE AIRMAN
LEE ARCHER

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. RANGEL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and celebrate the legacy of Lee Archer, who—despite facing a host of racial injustices—tirelessly defended our Nation as a member of the Tuskegee Airmen, the first African American unit of the U.S. Army Air Corps. Archer died last Wednesday in New York City at the age of 90.

The Harlem-raised Airman is credited with defeating four-and-a-half enemy aircrafts. He has been awarded the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Air Medal with 18 Clusters, the Presidential Unit Citation, and a host of other accolades honoring his service to this country. Most recently, Archer and his fellow Tuskegee Airmen were conferred the Congressional Gold Medal, the highest honor bestowed by Congress.

Before Archer retired from the military in 1970, he flew 169 combat missions—three times the typical number for white pilots—and attained the rank of lieutenant colonel. Archer's deftness at piloting was incontestable; nonetheless, enlisting in the Army Air Corps proved to be no easy feat for him. In 1941, he was rejected from pilot training on the sole basis of his race. Originally deemed too intellectually inept to fly a plane, Blacks were not allowed to join the Army Air Corps until the 1940 appointment of Col. Benjamin O. Davis, Sr., as the Army's first Black brigadier general. Archer graduated from pilot training in 1943 and joined the all-Black Tuskegee Airmen. The experiences of Archer's father, a World War I veteran, taught Archer that willingness to lay down one's life for his country does not necessarily assuage the racism that he faces. In a 2008 interview with the *Journal News*, Archer stated of his father: "he came home from World War I and nothing had changed despite the fact that he fought his butt off for our country."

Lee Archer's devotion to breaking barriers extended far beyond his experiences in the U.S. Military. After retiring from the military in 1970, the New York University-educated Archer was named Corporate Vice President of one of America's most successful companies, General Foods, thereby making Archer one of the first Black executives of a major American corporation. In 1987, his legacy was broadened when he founded Archer Asset Management, a venture capital firm. Archer's successes as an entrepreneur, executive, and serviceman are unparalleled.

Notwithstanding the bigotry and racism that he faced in his attempts to defend his country, Lee Archer became an imperturbable force in the U.S. Military. Archer and his comrades proved that African Americans, too, possess an extraordinary capacity to provide exemplary service to our Nation. Although he was not always able to take advantage of the principles of freedom and equality upon which this Nation was founded, he assiduously defended these principles, and invariably impacted the future of our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Madam Speaker, on February 2, 2010, I missed roll-call votes 26, 27, and 28. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on all.

CONGRESS SHOULD GET A BETTER
HANDLE ON THE EPA

HON. IKE SKELTON

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SKELTON. Madam Speaker, in 2007, the U.S. Supreme Court ruled in *Massachusetts v. EPA* that the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, or EPA, had authority under the Clean Air Act to regulate greenhouse gas emissions. Since that time, EPA has been putting in place a framework to do just that.

I do not agree with the Supreme Court. Congress never explicitly granted EPA the authority to regulate greenhouse gases, like carbon dioxide, under the Clean Air Act. That law was enacted years ago and was meant to eliminate lead in the air and to reduce smog.

Because of the Supreme Court's ruling, the EPA has put in motion the process of writing complex rules to regulate emissions from both mobile and stationary sources in the United States—meaning both from automobiles, mobile, and from factories, farms, and power plants, stationary.

I have serious concerns with the powers given to the EPA by the 2007 Supreme Court ruling, and many people in Missouri's Fourth Congressional District share my view, particularly relating to possibly costly regulations of stationary emitters.

In recent years, Congress has been working to get a better handle on EPA and to create a different approach to confronting global climate change, an issue that many scientists and national security experts have concluded could be a real threat to America's long-term domestic and international interests.

In most cases, the discussion in Congress and throughout the country regarding the need for action to slow climate change has been very non-partisan, with Republicans, Democrats, and Independents agreeing that some sort of shift in energy policy should occur. There has been tremendous debate, however, regarding just how best to gain better oversight of EPA while reducing potentially harmful emissions.

After hearing for years from farmers, rural electric cooperative members, and others about their fear of the EPA in this area, I voted in 2009 for legislation that would, among other things, prevent EPA from regulating greenhouse gas emissions on farms and elsewhere and would instead create a market based trading system, called cap and trade, designed to cap these emissions over time.

The legislation that passed in the House, H.R. 2454, the American Clean Energy and Security Act, would also promote homegrown, clean burning renewable fuels by eliminating regulatory requirements at EPA that unfairly restrict renewable energy production in rural America. In particular, it would temporarily stop the EPA from holding U.S. producers responsible for land use changes in other countries, expand the definition of what qualifies as renewable biomass, and include a program to help fund the installation of blender pumps that will help make clean-burning renewable fuels more readily available in America. These provisions are valuable for rural America, which is why it was important to keep this bill moving forward and not to let it die in the House.

I realize H.R. 2454 contained other controversial provisions, some of which I did not support. That is why I pledged at the time to work with my colleagues to refine the bill or to oppose it during final deliberations if that was not possible.

In particular, I was skeptical of the so-called cap and trade system envisioned under H.R. 2454. I have met with Fourth District residents about cap and trade since the vote and am more convinced than ever there is little support for it in my district. In fact, many rural Missourians are downright fearful of the unintended consequences associated with cap and trade.

This year, Congress must set aside cap and trade and instead piece together a scaled back, bipartisan energy bill that gets a better handle on EPA; strengthens America's renewable fuels policies for ethanol, biodiesel, and biomass; encourages responsible domestic exploration of oil and natural gas; expands clean nuclear energy; ensures America's propane industry, which is vital to rural America, remains a key priority; imposes a reasonable renewable electricity standard, with close consultation with utilities, that requires use of renewable fuels in addition to coal and natural gas; and invests in clean energy research and development that will benefit colleges and universities, non-profits, and businesses and allow the United States to become a leader in renewable energy jobs.

Right now, it appears that even a scaled back energy bill is on shaky ground in the Senate. While Senator JEFF BINGAMAN, a Democrat from New Mexico, and Senator LISA MURKOWSKI, a Republican from Alaska, have passed a bipartisan bill out of the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee, more recent attention has focused on a bill introduced by Senator BARBARA BOXER of California and passed out of the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee. The more liberal tone of the Boxer legislation has, frankly, alienated conservative Democrats, such as I.

Legislative stalemate combined with aggressive actions by EPA to regulate greenhouse gas emissions without explicit authority from Congress make more urgent Congress' need

to assert leadership and to make clear that EPA does not have authority to regulate these sorts of emissions under the Clean Air Act.

That is why I have introduced bipartisan legislation in the House to address this very serious issue.

On February 2, 2010, I introduced H.R. 4572, a bill to prohibit EPA from regulating greenhouse gas emissions under the authority of the Clean Air Act. My bill would also stop EPA from holding U.S. producers and renewable fuels industries responsible for land use changes in other countries and would expand the definition of what qualifies as renewable biomass under U.S. energy law.

Congressman COLLIN C. PETERSON, the Chairman of the House Agriculture Committee, and Congresswoman JO ANN EMERSON, R-Missouri, joined me as original cosponsors of H.R. 4572. This legislation will send a clear message that many of us in Congress are just plain concerned about what EPA is trying to do under the authority of the Clean Air Act and are ready to do something about it.

I am very hopeful that H.R. 4572 will become law or will be included in any sort of scaled back energy bill that could conceivably be drafted this year. In my view, enacting common sense, bipartisan energy legislation, like the bill I have introduced, will help build consensus among the American people and Congress on energy and environmental policy issues and would allow for the United States to reduce greenhouse gas emissions over time.

**HONORING THE SERVICE OF HIS
EXCELLENCY ZHOU WENZHONG,
AMBASSADOR EXTRAORDINARY
AND PLENIPOTENTIARY OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA
TO THE UNITED STATES**

HON. ENI F. H. FALEOMAVAEGA

OF AMERICAN SAMOA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. FALEOMAVAEGA. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of my good friend, His Excellency Zhou Wenzhong, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic of China to the United States. Ambassador Zhou is completing his term as Ambassador to the United States after more than five years of service.

During his long and distinguished career working for China's Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ambassador Zhou has been deeply involved in building United States-China relations serving as Attaché and then Third Secretary of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to the United States from 1978 to 1983, Deputy Consul General in San Francisco from 1987 to 1990, Deputy Director General of the Department of North American and Oceanian Affairs from 1993 to 1994, Consul General in Los Angeles from 1994 to 1995, Minister of the Embassy of the People's Republic of China to the United States from 1995 to 1998, Assistant Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2001 to 2003, Vice Minister of Foreign Affairs from 2003 to 2005 and, most recently, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the People's Republic to the United States from 2005 to 2010.

Ambassador Zhou has effectively represented his country with honor by ensuring

constructive cooperation and effective communication between United States and Chinese leaders through many initiatives including the establishment of new senior-level political dialogues such as the United States-China Strategic and Economic Dialogue.

Ambassador Zhou has also been a strong advocate for deeper United States-China economic relations, helping Chinese companies to increase their investments in the United States and demonstrating to Americans the opportunities presented by markets in China. Ambassador Zhou has personally visited nearly every state in the United States to meet with American businesses and workers to promote bilateral economic relations.

Through frequent and productive communications with the United States Congress and by strengthening the United States-China Interparliamentary Exchange, Ambassador Zhou has helped foster mutual understanding and respect between the two governments.

Ambassador Zhou has also helped to inform America's understanding of China by overseeing numerous educational and cultural events during his time as Ambassador and, during his tenure, there has been a dramatic increase in people-to-people exchanges as more United States citizens travel to China and more Chinese citizens visit the United States.

For these and many other reasons, I pay special tribute to Ambassador Zhou and commend him for his leadership and tireless efforts in promoting goodwill between our governments and people. I offer Ambassador Zhou and his dear wife, Madame Xie, my sincere best wishes as they return to their home in China. They will be greatly missed.

H. RES. 1023

HON. JOHN SULLIVAN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SULLIVAN. Madam Speaker, I rise to state for the record that today I introduced H. Res. 1023, challenging the constitutionality of the House and Senate passed health care bills with respect to the individual mandate requiring American citizens to purchase government approved health insurance. My resolution also demands the removal of the individual health insurance mandate from any final healthcare reform bill that Congress considers.

H. Res. 1023 builds off the efforts of at least 36 state legislatures, including Oklahoma, that are looking to limit or oppose health mandates in the House and Senate passed health care reform bills that would require purchase of government approved health insurance. These state actions are in direct opposition to the draconian national health care reform measures that are currently under consideration by the House and Senate.

Throughout the healthcare debate, the Administration and this Congress have largely ignored the most fundamental question of all—whether or not the Federal Government is overstepping its constitutional bounds by taking over our healthcare system. Even back in 1994, the nonpartisan Congressional Budget Office, CBO, wrote that it would be an unprecedented form of Federal action for Congress to mandate that all individuals are required to

purchase health insurance. I introduced this resolution to send a strong message that the personal mandates in both the House and Senate passed healthcare bills are unprecedented and unconstitutional—nowhere in the Constitution is Congress given the power to force Americans to purchase a good or service or enter into a contract—which these bills would do.

By forcing Americans to purchase government approved health insurance, the Administration and the Democrat majority are essentially saying that you don't have a right to choose what health insurance plan is best for you, your family or your business—I strongly disagree.

There are better ways to bring health insurance to the uninsured. There are incentives that Congress could pass right now with bipartisan support—such as allowing individuals to purchase insurance across state lines to reduce cost, and offering tax deductions for individuals and families who are uninsured—that would make purchasing insurance easier and cheaper for all Americans. Unfortunately, the House and Senate passed healthcare bills coerce and compel individuals to purchase insurance with tax penalties and possible prison terms.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. J. GRESHAM BARRETT

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. BARRETT of South Carolina. Madam Speaker, unfortunately, I missed the following recorded votes on the House floor on Wednesday, January 27, 2010.

I would have voted "no" on roll call vote No. 20 (on agreeing to H. Res. 1038, which provides for consideration of H.R. 3726 and H.R. 4474), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 21 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1024), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 22 (on passage of H.R. 4474), "no" on rollcall vote No. 23 (on passage of H.R. 3726), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 24 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H.R. 4508), "aye" on rollcall vote No. 25 (on motion to suspend the rules and agree to H. Res. 1020).

HONORING REZA ASSEMI

HON. GEORGE RADANOVICH

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. RADANOVICH. Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Reza Assemi upon being awarded with the "You Get It Award" by the Greater Fresno Area Chamber of Commerce and Image Fresno Coalition. Mr. Assemi will be honored on Wednesday, December 16, 2009 in Fresno, California.

Mr. Reza Assemi was raised in Fresno, California. He attended Bullard High School and California State University, Fresno where he earned a Bachelors degree in Philosophy. After college, he resided in both San Francisco and Los Angeles seeking a viable art community where he could live and work. In

2000, with an idea in mind, Mr. Assemi returned to Fresno with a vision for creating a thriving arts community in downtown Fresno. With his father as a financial partner, Mr. Assemi purchased the former Red Cross Building and in sixteen months the Pearl Building was up and running as a true multi-use building. The Pearl Building now serves as a place for artists to live, work and show their work to the public. It also has a community space with plenty of room to bring in guest artists and show their work without opening the doors to private living spaces.

Shortly after developing the Pearl Building, Mr. Assemi took on a redevelopment project for the Vagabond Motel, also located in downtown Fresno. The building is about a block away from the Pearl Building, making the site perfect for creating a community and helping the area grow. This is also a mixed use project; the site also serves as a commercial space, affordable housing, and artist spaces at market rate rent. Since then, Mr. Assemi has completed one project after another.

In the ten years since moving back to Fresno, Mr. Assemi has brought nearly two hundred residential units to downtown Fresno. His most recent project, the Iron Bird Lofts, was completed December 1, 2009. He has already began looking to his next project, restoring a historic downtown Fresno building to create twenty-three residential lofts. His vision for establishing a viable, economically stable neighborhood and thriving arts community has made Mr. Assemi a pioneer in the downtown development of Fresno.

Madam Speaker, I rise today to commend and congratulate Reza Assemi for his tremendous contributions to the revitalization of downtown Fresno and upon being awarded the "You Get It Award." Invite my colleagues to join me in wishing Mr. Assemi many years of continued success.

MEDIA GIVE OBAMA BETTER COVERAGE THAN BUSH

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Madam Speaker, the national media gave President Obama about twice as much favorable news coverage as they gave former President George W. Bush during the first year of their presidencies, according to a study by the Center for Media and Public Affairs.

The analysis revealed that while around half the stories about President Obama were positive, just 25 percent of stories about President Bush were favorable.

Not surprisingly, the New York Times gave President Obama the most favorable coverage, followed by Time Magazine and Newsweek.

It's no wonder seven out of ten Americans say the national media are promoting the Obama presidency, according to a recent public opinion poll.

The national media should give Americans the facts, not tell them what to think.

HONORING MEDGAR EVERS

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 1022, a resolution honoring the life and sacrifice of Medgar Evers and congratulating the United States Navy for naming a supply ship after him.

I would like to thank my colleague, HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, for introducing this significant piece of legislation.

On October 9, 2009, the United States Navy announced that the Lewis and Clark dry cargo and ammunition ship would be named. United States Navy Ship *Medgar Evers*.

The U.S. Navy's dedication to Medgar Evers recognizes the slain civil rights pioneer who led efforts to secure the right to vote for all African-Americans and to integrate public facilities, schools, and restaurants.

Medgar Evers rose to prominence in the civil rights movement in his home state of Mississippi. He discovered his passion for activism while working for the Regional Council of Negro Leadership, which he began in 1951 upon graduating from Alcorn University.

Appointed Mississippi's first field secretary for the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP), Evers established local chapters of the NAACP throughout the Delta region.

As an NAACP worker, Medgar Evers fought against segregation and Jim Crow laws by organizing boycotts on gasoline stations that refused to allow blacks to use their restrooms. His boycott of Jackson, Mississippi merchants in the early 1960's attracted national attention, and his effort to have James Meredith admitted to the University of Mississippi in 1962 brought much needed federal assistance.

In 1963, Evers met an untimely death when he was assassinated in his driveway. He was murdered just hours after President John F. Kennedy's speech on national television in support of civil rights. However, Medgar Evers' sacrifice and legacy of challenging racism and segregation endures today.

I join my colleagues in honoring Medgar Evers and applaud the U.S. Navy for recognizing him by naming one of its vessels after such a great American activist.

INTRODUCTION OF THE SMALL BUSINESS JOB CREATION TAX ACT 2010

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Madam Speaker, since the recession began in December 2007, 8 million jobs have been lost in America. The unemployment rate has more than doubled since then to 10% and the underemployment rate is at 17%. To keep pace with population growth, 127,000 jobs must be created each month just to keep unemployment from rising. Historically, small business has generated 64 percent of net new jobs over the past 15 years, according to the Small Business Administration.

That is why today, along with Congressman GENE GREEN, I am introducing the Small Business Job Creation Tax Act 2010. This bill will provide tax cuts to employers who increase their payroll over one year based on a percentage of that increase.

This legislation will provide businesses a tax cut worth 15 percent of the cost of a new job. Small businesses would receive an additional 5%, allowing them to deduct 20% of their increased payroll costs. The tax cut would be structured based on a firm's quarterly payroll increase over the previous year, meaning companies would also have an incentive to expand part-time workers to full-time, or eliminate salary cuts instituted during the downturn. This would also provide protection against fraud by preventing employers from firing and re-hiring employees to claim the tax cut. The legislation would also contain additional protections against abuse by including a limit on the tax cut claimed by any one firm to \$500,000 and excluding mergers or acquisitions where no new jobs are actually created.

In his State of the Union Address, President Obama stressed the importance of creating jobs. I cannot think of a more important action we can take as a Congress than creating incentives for businesses to grow their job force. I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. MARCY KAPTUR

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Ms. KAPTUR. Mr. Speaker, this year we remember the 65th Anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp by U.S. Armed Forces. After Auschwitz opened in 1940 the Nazi army wasted little time in rounding up Polish prisoners for imprisonment at this killing field.

Auschwitz-Birkenau, also known as Auschwitz II, was the largest killing center of all. SS authorities established it in the spring of 1942. It was not subordinated to the regional SS, but was part of the SS Economic-Administration Main Office.

"Block 10" was where the Nazis, including Mengele, the "Angel of Death," conducted unspeakable medical experiments on prisoners and "Block 11" was where people were lined up against a wall and shot.

Before the death camp's liberation on January 27, 1945, almost a million Jews from Poland and adjoining nations died there along with 21,000 Roma (gypsies) and countless homosexuals, communists and Soviet and Ukrainian POWs. At least 75,000 Poles were summarily executed. When all acts of horror ceased, the Nazis had murdered 1.1 million people at this site.

Mr. Marian Wojciechowski, a constituent and lifelong friend of mine, is a survivor of Auschwitz and Block 11. He served as an officer in the Polish cavalry and bravely fought Nazi tanks as they rolled into his homeland of Poland near the Czech border as World War II began on September 1, 1939.

He and colleagues in his unit fought with such valor against the invaders they were

awarded Poland's highest military medal, the *Virtuti Militari*. On September 17, 1939, while in battle on the eastern front against the Soviet Army, he received a bullet wound to the head—but Marian survived.

For two years, Marian joined as a member of the Polish Underground Resistance (*Armia Krajowa*), which worked closely with British and Polish intelligence to defeat the Nazis. Their bravery and sacrifice made them a prime target for the German Gestapo. He was captured and taken to Auschwitz when a letter from a member of the Underground Resistance addressed to him was intercepted by the Germans.

While a prisoner at Radom and then Auschwitz, Marian was brutally beaten, tortured, and subjected to nightmarish conditions. He became very ill and survived serious illness, even typhus. At times, he was beaten so severely that he would lose consciousness. The Nazis would revive him by pouring buckets of water on his head, and once he regained his senses, the Nazis would beat him some more to gain information about the Underground—but miraculously Marian survived.

Marian, now 95 years of age and commissioned as Lieutenant in the Polish Cavalry this past August during WWII commemorative ceremonies at Mokra, Poland, has described some of the horrific acts that he witnessed in that horrible place.

Amazingly Mr. Wojciechowski did what 1.1 million innocents were unable to do—he survived Auschwitz. He has taken it upon himself to be a keeper of the flame of historical remembrance as contained in the book, “Seven Roads to Freedom”. His is a story of exceptional resilience, strength and the triumph of the human spirit, and love of liberty. As we reflect on the horrors of World War II, the Holocaust, and the Auschwitz concentration camp we honor and remember stories like his, mourn the stories which were never told, and reflect on the price of freedom.

THE BREWERS EXCISE AND ECONOMIC RELIEF ACT OF 2009

HON. BRAD SHERMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. SHERMAN. Madam Speaker, I have co-sponsored the Brewers Excise and Economic Relief Act of 2009, H.R. 836. I have been informed that it is highly unlikely that this bill will reach the floor of the House. Accordingly, it is highly unlikely that we will act to reduce the tax on beer.

I also have been informed that co-sponsorship of the Brewers Excise and Economic Relief Act is the best way to demonstrate to congressional leadership that there is not support in the House for any increase on the tax on beer. I am told that this is the intended message of some, and perhaps most, of the 242 cosponsors of the bill.

I am quite mindful of the large national debt. Still, I wish to be counted among those who are opposed to an increase in the tax on beer.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. ANTHONY D. WEINER

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mr. WEINER. Mr. Speaker, I commend to my colleagues the remarks recently made by Julius Genachowski, the chairman of the Federal Communications Commission and head of the Presidential delegation that visited Auschwitz on the 65th anniversary of its liberation.

Drawing upon his strong personal connection to the atrocities that occurred there, Chairman Genachowski's remarks captured the spirit of the anniversary of the Auschwitz liberation, and highlighted our obligation to fight hatred and intolerance by never forgetting the stories of the prisoners of Auschwitz and the forces who freed them.

I would like to ask unanimous consent to insert Chairman Genachowski's remarks into the RECORD.

AUSCHWITZ: REMEMBRANCE AND
RESPONSIBILITY

(Oswiecim, Poland, Jan. 27, 2010)

Thank you to the government and people of Poland for hosting this important event, and to the International Auschwitz Council and the Auschwitz-Birkenau State Museum.

I'm grateful to President Obama for asking me to lead the delegation representing the United States on the occasion of the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz. I'm privileged to be part of such a distinguished delegation, along with Assistant to the President Susan Sher, Ambassador Lee Feinstein, Special Envoy Hanna Rosenthal, and three extraordinary survivors of the Holocaust, each with powerful experiences and deeply noble lives: Mr. Roman Kent, Ms. Charlene Schiff, and Ms. Eda Sternberg-Powidzki.

I also welcome colleagues from the United States Department of Education, here to participate in the Education Ministers' Conference on “Auschwitz: Memory, Responsibility, Education”—Matthew Yale, who is the department's Deputy Chief of Staff, and Phil Rosenfelt, who is Deputy General Counsel and the Secretary of Education's designated representative to the council for the Holocaust Museum.

As head of this delegation to Auschwitz, I was sent to mourn, to remember, to testify—for I have a connection with this part of Europe, and with the solemn grounds on which we stand today. Genachowski is a name pronounced easily in this part of the world. My family has roots in Poland, Ukraine, Hungary, Romania, and other nearby countries.

Roots like Bella Rabinovitch and her family, a Jewish family.

Bella was a mother of four—three grown girls and a boy—living in Belgium in the first half of the last century. Her husband, Chaim Ben Zion, was the Cantor in Antwerp's main synagogue. His gift was his voice, which he used to lead the congregation in prayer and to sing his beloved operas. Bella's children were married; young grandchildren were part of the family mix. A nice life for a girl originally from a poor rural village in the Ukraine.

But as the German invasion of Europe spread into Belgium, Bella's world began to crumble. One daughter and son-in-law fled the country, fearing the worst. Then Bella's husband and son were arrested and sent to a

slave labor camp. Another son-in-law, Shimon, was picked up by the SS on a streetcar (his identity card checked; it was marked “J”). He brazenly escaped, and that night left the country with his wife, Bella's daughter Dina, and their five-year-old son Azriel.

Of course, the worst was yet to come.

Bella went into hiding with her remaining daughter, son-in-law, and grandson. Like so many others, they were eventually discovered. The Nazis gave Bella the choice to stay in Antwerp. She chose the gruesome transport with her family.

On April 19, 1942, Bella and what was left of her family in Belgium were packed onto a train along with 1,396 others. After three days in the cattle car, they arrived at Auschwitz-Birkenau.

The meticulous Nazi records are clear on the dates. But there is much we can only wonder about.

Did they see the sign “Arbeit Macht Frei” (so callously stolen recently, and fortunately recovered)? Did they know what was next? Did they recognize that smell in the air? When the train stopped they were unloaded into a line where fates were decided.

The records state that Bella Rabinovitch, along with Sara, Isaac and four-year-old Jacob were “Gazes a L'Arivee”—gassed on arrival. Over 1,000 of the 1,400 passengers on that train were gassed on arrival.

Bella is not famous, but you knew her story already, a story with millions of different beginnings but one tragic ending.

Bella Rabinovitch was my great-grandmother. I am the descendant of a victim whose ashes reside on these grounds.

My father, Azriel Genachowski, was the five-year-old boy I told you about. His path to freedom with his parents was harrowing, and at several key moments over many months non-Jews risked their lives to save his.

Azriel Genachowski and my mother Adele are here today, with the American delegation. They survived the Nazi onslaught of Europe. They taught me what I have told you. They taught me what Simon Weisenthal once said, “Survival is a privilege which entails obligations.”

Out of the ashes of the Nazi terror come many obligations.

As President Obama said last year upon visiting Buchenwald, a death camp his great uncle helped liberate as an army infantryman, “It is up to us to bear witness; to ensure that the world continues to note what happened here; to remember all those who survived and all those who perished, and to remember them not just as victims, but also as individuals who hoped and loved and dreamed just like us.”

We must remember them not only with our words and prayers, but with our deeds—working to ensure that the sacred phrase “Never Again,” never becomes mechanical language, never drains of meaning.

Elie Weisel teaches, “If we forget, we are guilty, we are accomplices.”

We must remember the courageous prisoners, soldiers, resistance fighters, and ordinary civilians—Soviets, Poles, Germans, Danes, Americans, and so many others—who risked their lives and sacrificed so much to save others, reminding us of the boundless human capacity for good.

Our burden is even greater as those who liberated the camps are now in their eighties, and only a handful of concentration camp survivors remain.

As death is taking those whom genocide spared, we must respond to what Czeslaw Milosz called “the command to participate actively in history.” We must renew our commitment to fight for freedom and against intolerance.

Anti-semitism, hatred, and racism remain deep and troubling facts of modern life, the

world over. The memory of the atrocities committed at Auschwitz and throughout Europe must steel our resolve to fight every form of intolerance and inhumanity.

The Holocaust proves many sad truths. One is that modernity is not an inoculation against genocide.

The pillars of modernity—science and technology—are powerful forces. Perverted for evil by the Nazis, but also sources of unlimited hope, opportunity and transformative change.

My father, who eventually came to the United States to study engineering, taught me about the power of technology to transform lives for the better.

Let us fight so that technology is deployed to spread knowledge, to educate, to ensure that people in all corners of the world know of death-camp victims, survivors, and liberators.

Let us fight so that technology is used to shine a light on oppression and intolerance, to illuminate persecution and dehumanization, to take oppression and mass murder out of the shadows.

We know that the Nazis sought to shut off from the rest of the world the unspeakable killing that went on here. We know that for the Nazis control of the flow of information was an imperative, an SS boot on the free flow of news.

Let us fight for freedom. For fundamental freedoms disregarded too often and tragically in the 20th century, fundamental freedoms that, as Secretary of State Hillary Clinton has urged, we must enshrine as core principles in the 21st century—freedom of expression, freedom of worship, freedom from want, freedom from fear, and freedom to connect.

The freedom of information is essential, while also no substitute for the power of actual places to teach and instruct. It is a moral imperative to preserve Auschwitz and other physical sites of remembrance, because they shock us into an understanding that ideas alone cannot.

As the survivors continue to leave us, places like this take on an even greater importance. Because places like Auschwitz aren't really mute. In their unspeaking way, they tell us of the unspeakable.

The former prisoners who first proposed a memorial and museum at Auschwitz-Birkenau knew this. This place, and others like it, stands as a refutation of those who insist the Holocaust never happened—a denial of the truth that is baseless, ignorant, and driven by hatred.

The great American writer Mark Twain said: "A lie travels halfway around the world before the truth puts its shoes on." Today's haters are using old and new tools to foster Holocaust denial and mass murder. Let us come together to counter those efforts. Let us work together to make sure the facts of the Holocaust and its lessons remain fresh for each new generation.

My daughter, Lilah, is five years old—the same age as my father when he and his parents made their escape from Nazi-occupied Belgium.

My son, Aaron, is three years old—the same age as his mom's father in Nazi-occupied Holland when his parents handed him over to be hidden by righteous non-Jewish heroes who risked their lives to save people they didn't know.

We preserve Auschwitz-Birkenau so that children all over the world like Lilah, Aaron, and their older brother Jake can visit and absorb the full dimensions of the unthinkable tragedy that occurred here.

Bella Rabinovitch is gone, but her spirit lives on in eight grandchildren, 21 great-grandchildren, and 45 great-great-grandchildren, each a living legacy to the victory

over Nazi oppression. In Israel and throughout the world, Jews and other groups singled out by the Nazis for extermination survive and thrive.

Bella's spirit also lives on in those who liberated Auschwitz-Birkenau three years after her death; and in those here participating 65 years later in this multi-national, multi-generational recognition that the horrors she and so many others witnessed and suffered must never be permitted to recur.

We are humbled by the survivors. We honor the liberators. We mourn the victims.

In their name, we say: Yitgadal Vaytkadash Shme Raba.

In their name, we pledge to remember.

In their name, we pledge: Never Again.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 3, 2010

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Madam Speaker, today our national debt is \$12,360,943,989,345.48.

On January 6, 2009, the start of the 111th Congress, the national debt was \$10,638,425,746,293.80.

This means the national debt has increased by \$1,722,518,243,051.68 so far this Congress.

Last week, the Congressional Budget Office released their Budget and Economic Outlook: Fiscal Years 2010–2020. They estimate a deficit of \$1.3 trillion for fiscal year 2010. This debt and its interest payments we are passing to our children and all future Americans.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. AL GREEN

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mr. AL GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I strongly support H. Res. 1044, a resolution commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz, a Nazi concentration and extermination camp. Honoring the victims of the Holocaust, and expressing commitment to strengthen the fight against bigotry and intolerance are integral parts of this resolution. I would like to thank Representative LEANA ROS-LEHTINEN for introducing this piece of legislation.

Before Allied forces arrived in Poland to liberate Auschwitz, on January 27, 1945, approximately 6 million Jews and other targeted groups were murdered by Nazi soldiers across Europe.

Auschwitz was the largest concentration camp in Poland. Between 1940 and 1945, 1.3 million Jews were deported by Nazi authorities to this extermination camp. Over 85 percent of the people sent there were tortured, starved and then systematically murdered in gas chambers.

This camp symbolizes a place of terror, for Jews, prisoners of war, people who were caught hiding the Jews and even those who

had different political views from the Nazi Regime during the Holocaust.

America stands with the Jewish people, and has dedicated the Holocaust Memorial Museum, to recognize the people who lost their lives, as well as those who survived the Holocaust. Their strong resilience against the Nazi's inexorable plan of genocide and their dedication to their ideals in spite of great adversity was remarkable.

The Department of State Office of the Special Envoy to Monitor and Combat Anti-Semitism, along with several United States embassies and consulates has done an exceptional job at tracking anti-Semitism, bigotry, racism and intolerance. America and our partnering departments stand together with the Jewish people in solidarity to ensure the safety of all people and prevent our future from mirroring the atrocities of our past.

I urge my colleagues to continue their strong support of H. Res. 1044, commemorating the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz concentration camp in Poland.

COMMEMORATING 65TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LIBERATION OF AUSCHWITZ

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, February 2, 2010

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H. Res. 1044, Commemorating 65th Anniversary of the Liberation of Auschwitz.

January 27, 2010 marked the 65th anniversary of the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau concentration camp, where at least 1.1 million were murdered from 1940–1945. Last week, the United Nations, which is located in my district, commemorated the liberation with events designed to carry on the stories and lessons that Holocaust survivors have made their legacy.

Here in Congress, the resolution we pass today honors the victims of Auschwitz and other Nazi concentration camps. It also reaffirms Congress's commitment to enhance Holocaust education to ensure that what happened in Auschwitz is never allowed to happen again.

To that end, I have introduced separate legislation, the Simon Wiesenthal Holocaust Education Assistance Act (H.R. 2089), which would provide federal grants to educational organizations to teach students about the Holocaust: The legislation is named after the renowned survivor of the Nazi death camps who dedicated his life to documenting the crimes of the Holocaust.

Unfortunately, many students across the country have not learned about the Holocaust because their schools do not have the necessary funds or tools to teach them about this horrific event in humanity's history. It is imperative that students learn about the consequences of intolerance and hatred, so that we can truly say, "Never again."

As the numbers of Holocaust survivors dwindle, we must make sure their stories live on forever and that those who would deny the Holocaust never have the ability to rewrite history.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate on February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place, and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled, and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this information, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, February 4, 2010 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

FEBRUARY 5

9:30 a.m.

Joint Economic Committee

To hold hearings to examine the employment situation for January 2010.

SH-216

FEBRUARY 9

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for Defense Authorization and the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

10 a.m.

Budget

To hold hearings to examine the economic outlook and risks for the Federal budget and debt.

SD-608

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine financial transmission rights and other electricity market mechanisms.

SD-366

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of William D. Magwood, IV, of Maryland, William Charles Ostendorff, of Virginia, and George Apostolakis, of Massachusetts, all to be a Member of the Nuclear Regulatory Commission.

SD-406

Judiciary

Human Rights and the Law Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine child prostitution and sex trafficking in the United States.

SD-226

10:30 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine foster care and family services in the District of Columbia, focusing on challenges and solutions.

SD-342

2:30 p.m.

Armed Services

To receive a closed briefing on policies, procedures, and practices relating to the transfer of detainees held at the Guantanamo Detention Facility.

SVC-217

Commerce, Science, and Transportation

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Transportation.

SR-253

Environment and Public Works

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Arthur Allen Elkins, Jr., of Maryland, to be Inspector General, Environmental Protection Agency, Earl F. Gohl, Jr., of the District of Columbia, to be Federal Cochairman of the Appalachian Regional Commission, and Sandford Blitz, of Maine, to be Federal Cochairperson of the Northern Border Regional Commission.

SD-406

Energy and Natural Resources

Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Bureau of Reclamation's implementation of the SECURE Water Act, (Title 9501 of Public Law 111-11) and the Bureau of Reclamation's Water Conservation Initiative which includes the Challenge Grant Program, the Basin Study Program and the Title XVI Program.

SD-366

FEBRUARY 10

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider any pending nominations; to be immediately followed by a hearing to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of the Interior.

SD-366

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Homeland Security.

SD-342

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the President's proposed budget request for fiscal year 2011 for the Department of Veterans Affairs.

SR-418

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine combating cyber crime and identity theft in the digital age.

SD-226

4 p.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine certain nominations.

SD-226

FEBRUARY 11

9:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the Department of Energy's Loan Guarantee Program.

SD-366

11:30 a.m.

Energy and Natural Resources

Business meeting to consider any pending nominations.

SD-366

FEBRUARY 23

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine proposed defense authorization request for fiscal year 2011 for the Future Years Defense Program.

SD-G50

FEBRUARY 25

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine the Department of the Navy in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SVC-217 following the open session.

SD-G50

MARCH 2

2 p.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation from Disabled Veterans of America.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 4

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine legislative presentations from the Paralyzed Veterans of America, Jewish War Veterans, Military Order of the Purple Heart, Ex-Prisoners of War, Blinded Veterans Association, Military Officers Association of America, Air Force Sergeants Association, and the Wounded Warrior Project.

345, Cannon Building

MARCH 9

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session.

SH-216

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine a legislative presentation from Veterans of Foreign Wars.

SD-G50

MARCH 11

9:30 a.m.

Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine U.S. Northern Command and U.S. Southern Command in review of the Defense Authorization request for fiscal year 2011 and the Future Years Defense Program; with the possibility of a closed session in SR-222 following the open session.

SD-G50

MARCH 18

9:30 a.m.

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine legislative presentations from AMVETS, National Association of State Directors of Veterans Affairs, Non Commissioned Officers Association, Gold Star Wives, The Retired Enlisted Association, Fleet Reserve Association, Vietnam Veterans of America, and Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America.

SD-G50