

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

LETTER OF COMMENDATION FOR
MR. WILLARD "SMITTY" SMITH,
USN (RET.)

HON. E. SCOTT RIGELL

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. RIGELL. Mr. Speaker, it is a high honor and privilege to commend Mr. Willard Smith of Virginia Beach, a patriot known to his friends and peers affectionately simply as "Smitty."

Smitty is not only recognized for his notable military service in the United States Navy, but for his commitment to the wellbeing and recovery of more than 500 of our nation's brave but now homeless veterans. After five tours of duty in Vietnam as a Navy Seabee, Smitty serves as Executive Director at Vetshouse, a unique nonprofit organization serving homeless veterans in the Tidewater area in Virginia. Vetshouse is not a shelter, but a 12-month program providing contemporary living quarters in a group environment, assistance in job hunting, transportation, personal skills and development guidance.

For having the courage not only to turn his own life around, but for having the compassion and commitment to help his fellow man do the same; For bringing health, hope, and happiness into the lives of so many around him; And for his discipline, dedication, and devotion to our nation's treasured veterans; I hereby commend Mr. Willard "Smitty" Smith.

TRIBUTE TO MR. DARRYL ANTHONY PANDY, INTERNATIONALLY ACCLAIMED HOUSE MUSIC PIONEER

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor the life and labor of Mr. Darryl Anthony Pandey who made his heavenly transition on Friday, June 10, 2011. Darryl was a gifted vocalist who elevated the House music genre to international status in the mid 1980s.

One of the most sought-after voices in the House music world, the Chicago native with a 6-1/2-octave voice range was the lead vocal on "Love Can't Turn Around," a track by Chicago's Farley (Jackmaster Funk) Keith. The record was a United States club hit, but crossed over into the mainstream in the United Kingdom on London Records in August, 1986 and peaked at number 2 on Billboard's charts five weeks later. The song's surprising European success earned Darryl a coveted British Phonographic Industry (BPI) Award for dance music. In 1997, "Love Can't Turn Around" was re-released in the UK and peaked at number 40.

Other music hits included "Animal Magnetism", "Climax", "I Love Music", "Heaven's In Your Heart", "Love Turns To Pain", and "Work Your Body". In 1999, Darryl teamed up with CZR to record "Bad Enough", and reunited with Farley on the gospel house hit "He's My Best Friend". He released "Joy" with Dutch Johnson in 2003, "Dancing" with Laurent Wolf in 2004 and in 2005, he teamed up with René Süss to release "Clap Your Hands on the Dancefloor" on German imprint Tiefenrausch Records.

Darryl, who grew up in the Cabrini-Green public housing development, was a long-time member of Chicago's Life Center Church of God in Christ under Pastor T. L. Barrett.

Mr. Speaker, I was privileged to know Darryl and I want to encourage his mother, Beverly Garrett, his siblings William Harold Washington III and Krystal Garrett and his many friends and fans to always remember to look to the hills from which comes all of their help. Darryl's talent will be missed but through his music his legacy will live on. I am honored to pay tribute to this gifted music legend.

RECOGNIZING THE LIFE AND
ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE LATE
COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR
JAKE BREWER

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. TIBERI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and recognize the life and achievements of the late Command Sergeant Major Jake Brewer.

Throughout the entirety of his life, CSM Brewer epitomized the American spirit and exceptionalism. He committed himself and his career to this nation. His love of country and pursuit of helping others made him a beloved figure around central Ohio.

CSM Brewer, a two-war veteran who earned a bronze star for valor, served this nation valiantly during the Battle of the Bulge in World War II as a combat medic and was wounded fighting in Korea. His role in these historic conflicts represented a foreshadowing of his life's mission. Akin to the way he aided others on the battlefield in Europe and Korea, CSM Brewer went on to become a famed veterans' advocate in central Ohio.

During his stellar career serving veterans, CSM Brewer held many influential positions and acquired many distinct honors and accolades. He was a state commander of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and executive director of the United Service Organization (USO) of Central and Southern Ohio. Quite fittingly, the USO lounge at Port Columbus bears his name. Also, he helped construct the Military Veterans Education Foundation which assists in running Columbus' Veterans Day Parade

and Armed Forces Luncheon. In my opinion, Jake was a human being of immeasurable quality, one who possessed a winning character and benevolent nature. I and many other Ohioans were proud to have known him.

After 87 years of life, Jake Brewer recently passed away leaving a legacy of unwavering service to his country and to central Ohio. In light of his contributions and service, I believe he remains worthy of immense respect and admiration. He will be a sorely missed member of our community and his influence will resonate for years to come.

RECOGNIZING LIEUTENANT COMMANDER STEPHEN A. MARTY,
UNITED STATES NAVY

HON. KAY GRANGER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Ms. GRANGER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize Lieutenant Commander Stephen A. Marty as he prepares to leave the Navy's Appropriations Matters Office (FMBE) after three years of dedicated service to my distinguished colleagues of the House Appropriations Committee. Lieutenant Commander Marty's high energy approach and solid effort to foster relationships with Members of Congress and Congressional Staff ensured my staff received timely and accurate information on the Department of the Navy's medical programs. This account is especially important to me because it directly impacts our nation's wounded warriors.

I have worked with Lieutenant Commander Marty throughout his tenure in FMBE. His expertise in representing Navy Medical programs worth over \$6 billion annually helped the Department of the Navy achieve strategic and budgetary objectives for all medical accounts, including critical supplies and equipment for our nation's war fighters and wounded warriors. Additionally, Lieutenant Commander Marty meticulously planned and executed several challenging international Congressional Delegations for the Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. Throughout each trip he ensured that the Subcommittee achieved its aims.

Lieutenant Commander Marty's outstanding tenure in FMBE exemplified the dedicated leadership, superb professionalism, and unwavering integrity that is the hallmark of a fine Naval officer. Through his duties as a Congressional Appropriations Liaison, he has had a positive influence on the Navy, its Sailors and Officers. Mr. Speaker, I join my colleagues today in saying thank you to Lieutenant Commander Stephen A. Marty for his dedication and service throughout his distinguished tour in FMBE.

• 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.

HONORING THE LIFE OF LOUIS BEECHERL

HON. MICHAEL C. BURGESS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BURGESS. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of Louis Beecherl, a great Dallas businessman, political activist, philanthropist, and community servant. Mr. Beecherl, who passed away on July 5th, 2011, was a founding member and CEO of Texas Oil & Gas Corp. from 1957–1977, was appointed chairman of the University of Texas Board of Regents in 1987, and was most recently the owner of Beecherl Holdings.

In 2002, Mr. Beecherl was inducted into the Texas Business Hall of Fame and is recognized as being a leader in expanding Texas' economy. He also devoted his time and resources as a GOP benefactor, supporting various political campaigns, and the National Republican Congressional Committee. Furthermore, Mr. Beecherl will be remembered as a community servant and has been involved in countless organizations. He has served as President of the Boy Scouts of America Circle Ten Council, was as an Advisory Board Member of the Salvation Army in Dallas County, and has served as the Chair of the Young Men's Christian Association (YMCA) Capital Campaign Advisory Committee.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I rise to remember the life of Louis Beecherl; a great Texan, businessman, and above all, a devoted husband and father. It is my privilege to have this opportunity to honor his life and legacy.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Mr. FARR. Madam Speaker, I voted for H. Res. 268 because I believe in the bill's underlying premise of a negotiated two-state solution to end the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and bring enduring stability to the region. I have always used my voice and my vote to promote peace in the Middle East. Too many lives have been lost and too much violence has been wrought to do anything else. Citizens throughout the region deserve better.

However, my vote is not without reservations about the provisions in this resolution. At this moment of incredible regional volatility, we should be encouraging the President to deploy America's full diplomatic capacity to pursue peace in the region not discourage recognition of a Palestinian state, as this resolution does. We should be encouraging the promotion of stability and dialogue with all parties involved, not discouraging assistance to the Palestinians, as this resolution does. And we should be calling on every actor involved to be a serious broker for peace.

I just traveled to the Middle East and saw firsthand the need for a sustainable two-state solution. The question I came away with is: What can be done to bring a just and lasting

peace? While I hope that this resolution can bring us closer to a peaceful solution, I fear that it leaves too many hard questions unanswered and too many issues unaddressed.

While I voted for this resolution, I will also continue to support a constructive dialogue that can bring this conflict to a permanent end. The time for peace is now. We cannot wait a moment longer.

IN HONOR OF ROAD RAGE AWARENESS WEEK

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor and recognition of Road Rage Awareness Week—a week created by Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc. to encourage safer driving practices and to prevent unnecessary violence on the roads.

Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc., or R.O.A.R.R. is a nonprofit organization located in Muskegon County, Michigan. R.O.A.R.R. was established by Kay Foster-Shabazz, two years after the death of her twenty year-old daughter, Diyaamond, in a road rage related incident in 2002. Since its establishment, the mission of R.O.A.R.R. has been to prevent road rage, protect and support victims of road rage and to promote the saving of lives.

R.O.A.R.R. has been working to reduce the number of road rage related incidents by promoting awareness and providing educational tools. In addition, R.O.A.R.R. pledges to assist victims and their families throughout the recovery process by providing a multitude of resources.

Mr. Speaker and Colleagues, please join me in recognizing Road Rage Awareness Week, July 10–16, 2011. The hard work of Reaching Out Against Road Rage, Inc. has made the roads safer for everyone.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRISTOPHER P. GIBSON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. GIBSON. Mr. Chair, I rise today to address an important issue affecting the domestic renewable energy industry. As the House continues consideration of the Department of Defense Appropriations Act of 2012, it is important to carefully examine the Department's investment in renewable energy products, and what effect their investments have on the U.S. economy.

The U.S. Department of Defense is required to abide by the Buy American Act when purchasing goods and equipment, including solar panels. However, the Department is utilizing alternative financing vehicles, such as Power

Purchase Agreements, PPA's, to fund renewable energy technology installations on its bases and buildings. Under such agreements, a private developer finances, installs, and maintains the solar installation for the life of the technology and leases the power to the military facility. This financing structure is beneficial to the Department, as it allows the Department to meet its renewable energy goals, requires no upfront capital costs, and allows a private entity to take advantage of tax incentives not available to government purchasers, all with little risk to the taxpayer.

However, PPA's allow the private entity to purchase the solar technology and the Buy American Act does not apply. This is a loophole in the Buy American Act that foreign manufacturers, in particular highly subsidized Chinese solar panel manufacturers, have quickly exploited to deploy foreign-made solar technology on U.S. government property.

For this reason, DOD should review their procurement and payment for power policies. These decisions impact the U.S. solar industry, and our nation's energy security. Installing highly subsidized foreign solar technology on DOD property or a facility owned by the Department had the unintended consequence of pushing domestic solar manufacturing technology offshore and puts our nation in the position of remaining dependent on foreign energy resources. We must ensure our military does not unintentionally transition our country from one dependent on Middle East oil to one heavily reliant on Chinese renewable energy. I look forward to working with my colleagues on this important issue.

ON THE OCCASION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN

HON. JAMES P. MORAN

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. MORAN. Mr. Speaker, we are here today to mark a great day in the history of democracy, a great day for Africa, and a great day for the United States.

On Saturday, July 9th, the Republic of South Sudan becomes Africa's 54th country and the world's newest nation. This is an outcome that would likely have been inconceivable for most Sudanese only a few years ago. South Sudan's declaration of independence is a testament to their resolve and determination to be free.

The United States should also be proud of this momentous achievement, and I would like to congratulate the Obama Administration and the Bush Administration for maintaining the vision and unwavering commitment to stand with the people of this great new country through their struggle. I am thrilled that the White House has sent a high level delegation, led by Ambassador Susan Rice, to the burgeoning new capital of South Sudan, to celebrate with our newest ally.

Former Secretary of State Colin Powell will accompany Ambassador Rice. I'm pleased that our colleague Congressman DONALD PAYNE, a leader of the Sudan Caucus and a forceful advocate for Sudanese self determination, will be with the delegation, as will the senior diplomats Johnnie Carson and Princeton Lyman who have worked to make this day

possible, and Gen. Carter Ham, the commander of the U.S. Africa Command. Under-scoring our past and future commitment to human rights and economic opportunity and development in Sudan, Donald Steinberg, Deputy Administrator of USAID and Ken Hackett, of Catholic Relief Services, are also part of the White House delegation.

As in so many struggles for democracy, the final joy of liberation emerged only after many seasons of pain and loss. We join the South Sudanese in honoring those who struggled, suffered and died over decades of conflict in the effort to celebrate this great democratic achievement. Two million of their brothers and sisters died in the struggle, and twice that number were forced from their homes. This loss is felt today, and will take a generation or more to recover from.

Indeed, we must recognize that our new ally faces serious challenges. South Sudan holds oil wealth, but is still extraordinarily poor. The new capital, Juba, is expanding at a fast pace, but the country is bereft of an infrastructure that can support commerce and development. This huge new country of more than 250,000 square miles has less than 50 miles of paved roads.

On average, a family in South Sudan must spend 30 minutes just to secure their water for cooking and bathing, and their water is often not safe to drink. This is no doubt one reason why South Sudan suffers a rate of infant mortality that is among the highest in the world. And Sudan is one of the most dangerous places in the world to be a mother. In fact, a girl in Sudan is more likely to die in childbirth than to receive a primary education. We must recommit ourselves to a new independence for Sudan: independence from poverty.

And we must also recognize today that the people of both the new republic and the state from which it split continue to suffer the cruel and indiscriminate evil of conflict. Even now, so soon after the referendum in which nearly 99 percent of South Sudanese voiced their intention to be free, we have witness to a vicious armored assault on Abyei that displaced some 100,000 people in May, while destroying homes, churches and businesses. And in June, the Khartoum government unleashed a further assault on Sudanese civilians, this time in south Kordofan State. The people of this region largely identify with South Sudan.

And so we also must recommit ourselves to Sudan's independence from war. I know that the Obama Administration intends to stand with our new ally in these other, critical liberation struggles. I ask my colleagues to join me as we remind Juba and Khartoum that we are still watching, and we remain attentive to the cause of peace with justice in both countries, including in Kordofan, Blue Nile, Abyei and, not least, Darfur.

And as we learned with the defeat of the Soviets in Afghanistan, let us not abandon them after we worked so hard to help them secure their freedom.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA FOR WINNING THE BID FOR THE 2018 OLYMPIC GAMES

HON. DAN BURTON

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I would like to rise today to express my congratulations to The Republic of Korea for successfully winning the bid to host the 2018 Winter Olympic Games. Yesterday, the International Olympic Committee selected the beautiful site of Pyeongchang, in the Taebaek mountain region, as the host city for the 2018 Games.

These 2018 Winter Games will take place 30 years following the successful 1988 Seoul Summer Olympic Games. That year marked the international recognition of the Republic of Korea's maturation as a leading economic power and the emergence of the country as a liberal democracy. In the 3 decades since, South Korea has grown and matured at a remarkable speed so that it now has the world's 11th largest economy and is one of the top trading partners of the United States.

No doubt many Korean immigrants to the United States and their descendants are celebrating as a result of this announcement, and justifiably so. The Olympic Games provide any country the opportunity to shine, and I expect that Korea will shine brightly in 2018.

As co-chair of the Congressional Caucus on Korea, I wish to add my voice to the many Americans—both friends of Korea and sports enthusiasts—who today are cheering on the excellent choice of Pyeongchang as the site of the 2018 Winter Olympics.

IN HONOR OF MS. DORIS O'DONNELL

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Ms. Doris O'Donnell on the occasion of her 90th birthday.

Ms. O'Donnell was born on July 10, 1921 and grew up in the Old Brooklyn neighborhood of Cleveland. Her family was heavily involved in the community; her father was a fireman, her mother was a Democratic ward leader, and her uncle was the county sheriff.

Her career in print journalism began in 1944, starting at the Cleveland News. She would go on to work at numerous newspapers, including the Lake County News-Herald, the Tribune-Review based in Greensburg, Pennsylvania, and the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Ms. O'Donnell was a pioneer for female journalism. Her career spanned over five decades, and she covered such topics as police, the court system, organized crime, and local politics. She was the first female reporter to reach "superstar" status in the Cleveland area, and she won more state and local journalism awards than any female journalist in history.

She was known as a big-story reporter, and was able to use her fearless and brass-knuckles reporting style to report on such items as the Kremlin, and the assassinations of John Kennedy, Robert Kennedy, and Reverend Martin Luther King, Jr. Ms. O'Donnell's late husband, former Cleveland News city editor, passed away in 1976. Ms. O'Donnell currently lives in suburban Cleveland and serves on the board of a charitable foundation.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, please join me in honoring Ms. Doris O'Donnell, a woman whose relentless pursuit of the truth enabled her to rise to the top of Cleveland journalism, and whose brilliant career was a gift to the Cleveland community.

A TRIBUTE TO MISS SUSIE MUSHATT JONES

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Miss Susie Mushatt Jones for her love of life and service to her children.

Miss Susie as those close to her call her, was born in Lowndes County, Alabama, as the third of 11 children. Being raised in the segregated south, Miss Susie developed a warm and kind heart from the love her mother and father expressed. Throughout her life she has been led by a basic principle of giving all that she has, while living an upbeat life.

Miss Susie looks favorably and positively on her early life. After graduating from high school, she taught for two months before going to New Jersey in 1922. In New Jersey, Miss Susie worked for a wealthy white family which gave her the opportunity to travel from coast to coast. Using her resources, Miss Susie was able to send two of her nieces to college while sending lavish gifts to other family members. While traveling between coasts Miss Susie looks back fondly on her time spent in Hollywood where she was able to meet movie stars such as Clark Gable, Cary Grant, and George Raft.

Before retiring in 1965, during the height of the civil rights movement, she took a job with a Westchester County family that offered her great resources that would further support her family. Recently Miss Susie lost her vision, but has managed to still be an active member in her community, carrying on with an infectious laugh and upbeat attitude. She remains an active member of The Vandalia Houses tenant patrol, sitting in the lobby asking guests to sign in.

Miss Susie Jones has lived a full and joyful life, and celebrated her 112th birthday this week. She is believed to be the oldest living New Yorker! The Vandalia Senior Center funded by NYC Department for the Aging and sponsored by Millennium Development will be hosting a party later in the month to honor this milestone.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the life of Miss Susie Mushatt Jones.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. WILLIAM R. KEATINGOF MASSACHUSETTS
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Friday, July 8, 2011*

Mr. KEATING. Mr. Speaker, I was unavailable for votes on July 6th and a portion of July 7th, 2011, as I was attending the funeral services for Sgt. Matthew Gallagher, a constituent who was killed while serving this country in Iraq on June 26, 2011. Sgt. Gallagher would have turned 23 years old on July 5th, a mere day before we welcomed his body home to Cape Cod and two days before he was laid to rest.

While each fallen service member is a tragic loss for our country, it is their loved ones who have to live with this heartache every day. I hope that the families of our fallen warriors can find even the slightest measure of comfort in our nation's eternal gratitude for their loved one's service and sacrifice.

A TRIBUTE TO JOSEPH MARC
GALLET DE SAINT AURIN**HON. TOM LATHAM**OF IOWA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Friday, July 8, 2011*

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Joseph Marc Gallet De Saint Aurin's formal induction into the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Joseph's induction on June 30th begins his 47-month journey at the United States Naval Academy as he strives towards a career as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy. The United States Naval Academy was established in 1845 with a mission to help midshipmen develop morally, mentally and physically. Obtaining an appointment to this academy is a highly competitive process and based on evidence of character, scholarship, leadership ability, physical aptitude, goals and motivation.

Joseph has embodied these traits over the course of his life. In high school Joseph managed to maintain a 4.0 cumulative grade point average while balancing his roles as a student athlete, school council member, part-time employee, and volunteer by serving more than 100 hours at his church, local hospital, and various service programs. Joseph was also a member of the National Honor Society and received numerous awards as both a swimmer and as a student, including being named a three-time All-American, three-time State Champion, in addition to graduating with honors as an AP Scholar. Before his appointment Joseph also attended Iowa State University for a year and continued his path of excellence by maintaining high academics as a member of Phi Gamma Delta and the United States Navy Reserve Officer Training Corps. Joseph has consistently strove to be the best he could be and I am confident that he will continue to demonstrate these qualities at the United States Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Joseph's commitment to a cause greater than himself speaks volumes of this young man and the potential that he holds. I commend his parents, Andre and Lisa,

for their outstanding work as parents, and for their shared sacrifice as Joseph leaves their home. It is truly an honor to represent such an exceptional family. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Joseph and his family, and I wish him the best of luck in his studies and future career.

NAVY'S NORTHWEST TRAINING
RANGE COMPLEX**HON. MIKE THOMPSON**OF CALIFORNIA
IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES*Friday, July 8, 2011*

Mr. THOMPSON of California. Mr. Speaker, I submit a copy of an amendment that I had hoped to introduce during the debate of H.R. 2219, the Department of Defense Appropriations Act, 2012. However, I have learned that this important amendment would have been subject to a point of order and not be made in order.

My amendment would bar any funds in H.R. 2219 for the purposes of expanded training activities in the Navy's Northwest Training Range Complex (NWTRC). Once the Navy receives a new letter of authorization from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), taking into account marine mammal "takes," my amendment would then allow the Navy to use funds from this bill to expand their training operations in the NWTRC.

The Northwest Training Range Complex is a region of extraordinary biological diversity. It covers over 120,000 square nautical miles, spanning from Washington's border with Canada to waters off of my district in Northern California.

The Navy has used the NWTRC for training for the past 60 years. However, in October 2010, the Navy was permitted to expand training in the NWTRC that among other things involves increased use of mid-frequency active sonar.

As a military veteran, I strongly believe that sailors must have the training and experience they need to defend our country. However, I also believe that the Federal Government should follow science-based measures that will protect marine ecosystems and wildlife when the military pursues this necessary training.

Unfortunately, the use of mid-frequency active sonar is known to negatively impact marine mammals, especially toothed whales. And, its impact on many other fish species is not known.

NOAA conducted a comprehensive review of measures currently available to prevent harm to marine mammals from the use of sonar. One of the main findings of this review was that the most effective way to minimize impacts on marine mammals would be to protect important habitat, and NOAA is now coordinating a working group specifically to identify these areas within the NWTRC, also known as "marine mammal hot spots."

I have worked aggressively with constituents in my district to raise these issues to the Navy; however our concerns were simply dismissed without being addressed. In fact, the Navy has not been willing to consider avoiding or even limiting their training activities in specific areas that have been known to be heavily

populated by marine mammals and other species and habitats, to reduce the impact of sonar training exercises on them.

That is why I wanted to introduce this amendment—to guarantee that these serious and scientifically valid concerns are actually considered and addressed before the Navy moves forward with their plans of expanding training activities in the NWTRC.

It is important to note that this amendment is not about stopping Navy training altogether, that some argue would negatively impact our national security and military readiness. Instead this amendment is about requiring the Navy to be more deliberate when moving forward to expand training range activities that would undoubtedly impact local marine habitat.

I am disappointed that this important amendment was going to be ruled out of order. However, I wanted to once again put on record my concerns about this expanded training and its impact on marine mammals and sensitive marine habitat. I will continue to work with stakeholder to address this important issue.

AMENDMENT TO H.R. 2219, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. THOMPSON OF CALIFORNIA

At the end of the bill (before the short title), insert the following:

SEC. _____. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used for Navy training activities in the Northwest Training Range Complex beyond the number enumerated in the "No Action Alternative" of the Final Environmental Impact Statement/Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for the Northwest Training Range Complex until a letter of authorization issued pursuant to section 101(a)(5) of the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. 1371(a)(5)) and covering the second year of training activity under subpart M of part 218 of title 50, Code of Federal Regulations, expires or is superseded.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GARY C. PETERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. PETERS. Mr. Chair, like many Americans, I have been growing increasingly concerned about the ongoing war in Afghanistan. The war that was launched in the aftermath of the September 11 terrorist attacks was designed to destroy the capability of the al-Qaeda terrorists responsible for those attacks and root out the Taliban government that was harboring them. Over the years, the purpose and goals of this war have changed, and we are now engaged in a long-term effort to build up the capacity of the Afghan Government and its security forces, to improve the infrastructure and economy of the country, and to provide an improved standard of living for its people.

These are admirable goals, but after almost a decade of war where we've tragically lost

the lives of more than 1,600 American soldiers, we appear to be far from achieving them. I had the opportunity to visit Afghanistan last year to meet with our troops and commanders and see the situation on the ground for myself. Our men and women in uniform have been doing an outstanding job under incredibly difficult circumstances.

At the same time, my visit to Afghanistan also increased my concerns about our long-term goals and the viability of our mission there. Today, after having spent more than four hundred billion dollars, I believe we must ask ourselves how long we can continue spending \$6 billion every month for so little measurable gain.

I was disappointed by the President's announcement last month that we would be withdrawing only 10,000 troops this year and 23,000 by next summer, and that is why I supported an amendment to the Department of Defense Appropriations Act that would have accelerated that withdrawal. The amendment I supported, offered by my colleague, Representative GARAMENDI, would have reduced funding for combat operations while allowing for a reserve force of 25,000 troops to protect American personnel, carry out anti-terrorism operations, and assist with the training of Afghanistan's security forces.

While I was disappointed this amendment did not pass, I cannot in good conscience vote against the underlying bill at this time. While our troops remain in harm's way, we have an obligation to ensure that they have the equipment, training, and support they need. However, I plan to continue to press for a plan that will quickly and responsibly bring more of our troops home from Afghanistan so that we can focus our resources on protecting our Nation and targeting the terrorists who threaten our security.

HONORING ROBERT "BOB"
GILBERT

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Robert "Bob" Gilbert on being named the California State Fair "Agriculturist of the Year," and to thank him for his dedication to the agriculture community.

Bob Gilbert was born November 7, 1923, in Oakdale in the home he now lives in. He attended Oakdale Elementary and High Schools. He is the only surviving child of Emma and Amos Lawrence Gilbert. He currently works full time and is Chairman of the Board of Directors of A. L. Gilbert Company which was established November 1st, 1892, 118 years ago, by his father; A. L. Gilbert. It is the oldest still-in-the-family-business in Stanislaus County. A. L. Gilbert Company was inducted into the State of California Agricultural Heritage Club in 2005.

Bob was a freshman at Modesto Junior College on December 7, 1941. Following the attack on Pearl Harbor, he transferred to the University of California, Berkeley, and enrolled in the V-1 and V-12 Naval Programs. He received his commission from the United States Naval Reserve Mid-Shipman School at Northwestern University in Chicago at age 20.

After completing graduate school at the Naval Gun Factory in Washington, DC, he was assigned to duty on a new battle cruiser; the USS Guam, which was being commissioned in Philadelphia. This flag ship served in the 3rd, 5th, 7th, and 9th Pacific Fleets, and accepted the surrender of the Japanese in Korea in August of 1945. He returned to the United States on December 4, 1945, and married Beverly Stone on December 9th. They spent seven months in New Jersey while the battle cruiser was being mothballed.

Bob graduated from U. C. Berkeley under the G.I. Bill, receiving a B. S. in Agricultural Economics. In 1947 as a graduate student, he traveled over 4,000 miles covering the entire state of California. He spent seven days a week for six weeks with Professor Earl Storie, father of the Storie Soils Index, studying soil conditions which enable farmers to grow over 150 crops in California. He returned home in the fall of 1947, four months after his father died and joined the family business.

Bob discovered that agriculture was lacking in price enhancing marketing programs so he became involved in "END PRODUCT MARKETING." He has spent the last 60 years of his life as an advocate for agriculture. Over that time he worked building personal relationships with both industry and government on behalf of farmers and livestock producers, such as: California Department of Food and Agriculture, marketing and stabilization plans along with production cost studies; USDA and several Secretaries of Agriculture including Ezra Taft Benson, Earl Butz, Dick Lyng and Ann Veneman following trade policy, parity pricing and supply management programs; Food and Drug Administration; new drug applications, safety and efficacy; California Milk Advisory Board; allied industry support and awards; California and National Cattlemen's Marketing Committees—conducting extensive research studies; United States Congress, both House and Senate—working on key legislation and testifying in hearings; universities and research centers—throughout the United States; marketing research for Hershey Chocolate, 1962–1966—instrumental in their locating in California and Oakdale.

Some honors received include: 1964 Honorary Farmer Degree from Modesto Junior College; State Fair Grange Agriculture Day for contributions to milk pooling legislation; Grand Marshall, Oakdale Rodeo Parade; Rotary Paul Harris Fellowship, although not a Rotarian; Western United Dairymen Award for Outstanding Support of California Dairy Farmers; 50 years of economic testimony at CDFA hearings; Oakdale Chamber of Commerce and City of Oakdale Lifetime Achievement Award; California Dairy Campaign Award for dedication, strong leadership and unselfish giving; National Ag Science Center—Received 2005 induction into the Agricultural Hall of Fame.

Religious commitment: Served eight years on the Commission of Ministry for the Episcopal Diocese of San Joaquin; supportive and active in a wide cross-section of Christian churches to further ecumenical causes; has received many honors and awards from various religious orders and fraternal bodies.

Bob has served on the Animal Science and Development Boards at the University of California, Davis. Currently, and for the past 18 years, he has also served on the prestigious Advisory Board of the College of Natural Resources and Environmental Science at the University of California, Berkeley.

In 1992 on the 100th Anniversary of Oakdale High School, the "Hall of Fame" was established. Bob was among the first 10 graduates ever honored for Outstanding Achievements and Exceptional Service.

Bob has traveled abroad extensively for the past 40 years, visiting over 90 countries, some many times, studying production and marketing agriculture as globalization has developed. This includes attending the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland.

Bob's wife, Beverly, has been an integral part of all that he has done over the past 65 years. He continues to be a well-respected and active educator, business leader, patriot, politician, member of the laity, family man, student of and advocate for agriculture, and an exemplary citizen of the United States and the world.

A TRIBUTE TO ADAM GREGORY
HAGENSICK

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate and recognize Adam Hagensick's formal induction into the United States Naval Academy in Annapolis, Maryland.

Adam's induction on June 30th begins his 47-month journey at the United States Naval Academy as he strives towards a career as a commissioned officer in the United States Navy. The United States Naval Academy was established in 1845 with a mission to help midshipmen develop morally, mentally and physically. Obtaining an appointment to this academy is a highly competitive process and based on evidence of character, scholarship, leadership ability, physical aptitude, goals and motivation.

Adam has embodied these traits over the course of his life. In high school Adam managed to stay in the top 15 percent of his class while balancing his roles as a student athlete, Sunday School teacher, member of St. John's Lutheran Youth Group, and as a volunteer swim coach for the Waukon Swim Club. Adam was also a member of the National Honor Society and received numerous awards as a swimmer including a decade as a state qualifier as well as a national qualifier in 2009. Last year, Adam proudly accepted the Jack McDonald Award for Outstanding Male Swimmer which is awarded for team leadership and dedication to one's team and sport. I am confident that Adam will carry the lessons of his student leadership to his new classmates at the United States Naval Academy.

Mr. Speaker, Adam's commitment to a cause greater than himself speaks volumes of this young man and the potential that he holds. I commend his parents, Gregory and Ann, for their great work as parents and for their shared sacrifice as Adam leaves their home. It is truly an honor to represent such an outstanding family. I ask my colleagues in the United States House of Representatives to join me in congratulating Adam and his family, and I wish him the best of luck in his schooling and future career.

COMMEMORATING THE HEROISM OF THE U.S. ARMY'S 65TH INFANTRY REGIMENT BETTER KNOWN AS "THE BORINQUENEERS"

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to my colleagues' attention the celebration taking place in Osceola County, Florida, later this month. More specifically, on July 24, 2011, the Committee Desfile Puertorriqueno de Osceola, Inc., has chosen to dedicate the First Annual Puerto Rican Day Parade to commemorate the heroism of the U.S. Army's 65th Infantry Regiment, better known as "The Borinqueneers."

I rise today to join them in this recognition as we come together to celebrate the Borinqueneers, their commitment to the liberties of the United States, and their specific military achievements on the front line of the battlefield in advancing the values upon which this nation was founded.

On March 2, 1899, Congress authorized the establishment of the Army unit that became known as the "The Borinqueneers," an all-volunteer Puerto Rican unit. This brave unit was called upon to serve in World War I, World War II, and the Korean War and fought valiantly under the motto "Honor et Fidelitas," meaning Honor and Fidelity.

When "The Borinqueneers" were called to the front lines during the Korean War, General MacArthur said of the unit, "The Puerto Ricans forming the ranks of the gallant 65th Infantry on the battlefields of Korea . . . are writing a brilliant record of achievement in battle and I am proud indeed to have them in this command. I wish that we might have more like them."

The Borinqueneers consistently demonstrated exceptional and unyielding valor on the battlefield despite the hardships they endured. As a unit, they earned a Presidential Unit Citation, a Meritorious Unit Commendation and two Republic of Korea Unit Citations. Individuals within the regiment were also awarded Distinguished Service Crosses, Silver Stars and Bronze Stars.

I am honored to pay tribute to the service that "The Borinqueneers" have provided our nation.

Thank you, Mr. Speaker, for this opportunity to pay tribute to these fine soldiers.

TRIBUTE TO OPERATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES

HON. CHARLES A. GONZALEZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GONZALEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Operational Technologies (OpTech) on its 25th anniversary of providing business expansion opportunities and incredible employment sources for many San Antonians.

Founded by Max Navarro a quarter-century ago, OpTech has been committed to excellence and strives to provide scientific and technical solutions for global clients across a

range of service sectors. OpTech focuses on areas ranging from Supply Chain Management, Biotechnology, and Automotive Industry. OpTech has succeeded in exceeding client expectations and the achievement of outstanding corporate citizenship through its adherence to the highest levels of professional integrity.

From securing the defense contract to develop a nerve gas antidote or constructing an \$850 million state-of-the-art manufacturing plant to assemble the Toyota Tundra pick-up truck, OpTech has made great strides towards providing San Antonio a promising economic future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Operational Technologies on their continued success and contribution to San Antonio as a leading minority owned business.

SUPPORT FOR A TWO-STATE SOLUTION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, I rise to express my support for a two-state solution to the conflict between Israelis and Palestinians. I believe peace can be achieved only through negotiations between the parties. I believe, further, that these negotiations must be based upon mutual respect and upon the unequivocal commitment of each to the rights of the other, including the right to live in peace and security in a sovereign state. Because I believe this, I supported H. Res. 268. I did not, however, vote "yes" because I felt the resolution was likely to promote those ends. I voted in the affirmative because I could not take exception to its substance.

I oppose and I believe the United States should continue to oppose a unilateral declaration of statehood by the Palestinians, with a veto in the Security Council, if necessary. I believe that Hamas should accept the conditions set forth by the Quartet—the UN, the EU, the Russian Federation, as well as the United States—to renounce violence and acknowledge the right of Israel to exist. That said, I am not sure that it is helpful to the Palestinians, or to Arab governments in transition to democracy, to threaten suspending assistance to the Palestinian Authority as they seek to bring the West Bank and Gaza closer to a position from which negotiations with Israel could take place. If the resolution had called for the outright suspension of aid, rather than the consideration of its suspension, I would have had more difficulty supporting it. I would prefer, too, that the resolution had encouraged Israel to take positive steps, such as limiting settlement expansion, towards reconciliation with its neighbors.

I look forward to constructive U.S. engagement in real bargaining, not just in an interminable "peace process." I hope leaders in Israel and in Palestine will have the courage to present realistic options to their people, and I would like to see the United States foster serious diplomacy.

A TRIBUTE TO AARON D. SPRENGELER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate Aaron Daniel Sprengeler for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

The Eagle Scout rank is the highest advancement rank in scouting. Only about five percent of Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. The award is a performance based achievement whose standards have been rigorously maintained over the years.

To earn the Eagle Scout rank, a Boy Scout is obligated to pass specific tests that are organized by requirements and merit badges, as well as completing an Eagle Project to benefit the community. Aaron's project was to oversee and construct stairs and a bridge at the McHose Park Disc Golf Course in Boone, Iowa. This project allowed Aaron to demonstrate both his organizational and leadership skills as he directed the trail's construction and design. Aaron's efforts not only improved the overall accessibility of the course, but also provided much needed safety improvements that disc golfers can now enjoy for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, the example set by this young man and his supportive family demonstrates the rewards of hard work, dedication and perseverance. Aaron's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him and his family in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues will join me in congratulating him on achieving an Eagle Scout ranking and will wish him continued success in his future education and career.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ALLYSON Y. SCHWARTZ

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Ms. SCHWARTZ. Mr. Speaker, during roll-call vote No. 518, the Sherman Amendment on H.R. 2219, I mistakenly recorded my vote as "yes" when I should have voted "no".

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, June 23, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Chair, I rise in support of the FY2012 Defense Appropriations bill. I want to also thank Chairman YOUNG and Ranking Member DICKS for working together to craft this important bipartisan legislation.

As our men and women in uniform and their families sacrifice to keep our country safe, Congress must provide them with the support and equipment necessary to accomplish their mission. In this bill we have appropriated funding for equipment procurement, base operations, military healthcare and pay in order to address current defense needs and future challenges; to continue funding research and development; and to improve the essential health and quality of life programs for the men and women of the Armed Services and their families.

In total, the bill allocates \$530 billion for Defense Department operations and support. This funding cuts \$9 billion from the President's request while increasing overall base funding for the Department of Defense by \$17 billion. While I support this legislation, I believe we can meet all our national security needs with fewer resources. The testimony before the Budget Committee on July 8, 2011 made clear that we can reduce defense spending without compromising our national security. That is why I voted for the Frank Amendment that would have reduced the amount of this increase by half. I also supported an amendment offered by Representative MULVANEY that would have held funding in the bill to FY2011 levels. Unfortunately, both amendments failed.

The bill provides \$32.3 billion for defense health programs, which is \$119 million above the President's request and \$935 million above what was enacted in the FY2011 bill. This figure includes a \$125 million increase over the president's request for improved treatment and research of traumatic brain injury and psychological health conditions, \$30 million for orthopedic research and \$15 million for restorative transplant research, and \$2.3 billion for family support and advocacy programs.

To help financially struggling military families cope in this challenging economy, the bill also includes military pay funding of \$5.4 billion above last year's level and includes a pay raise of 1.6% and a comparable increase for housing and subsistence funding.

To ensure that all the funds allocated are used properly and for their intended purpose, the bill also contains enhanced oversight and accountability measures.

Mr. Chair, our troops deserve our support for the daily sacrifices they make for the security of the Nation. They depend on us to ensure that they have the resources they need to do their jobs.

They also count on us to see to it that the health and welfare of their families are assured so they can focus on the mission at hand. That is what this bill is about and I encourage my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

H.R. 1249, THE "AMERICA INVENTS ACT"

HON. HENRY C. "HANK" JOHNSON, JR.
OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. JOHNSON of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the "America Invents Act." I strongly support this bill, which will foster innovation, economic growth, and help America maintain its global competitive edge.

If we are going to have a healthy economy and be a global leader, we must have a healthy intellectual property system. In order to have a healthy intellectual property system, we must modernize our laws. Patent reform is integral to our economy.

Currently, the United States is the world leader in issuing patents. In order to maintain our position and solidify our position as a global leader, we must enact patent reform as soon as possible.

America is now on its way to the most significant patent reform in more than half a century. Our current patent system is outdated and in need in major reform. Pursuant to Article I, Section 8, Clause 8, "Congress shall have Power . . . [t]o promote the Progress of Science and useful Arts, by securing for limited Times to Authors and Inventors the exclusive Right to their respective Writings and Discoveries." This bill will strengthen our patent system and encourage innovation and drive economic growth.

The "America Invents Act" includes much needed improvements to the patent system that will help to maintain America's place at the forefront of innovation. America's ability to drive economic growth and job creation through innovation is currently hampered by a massive backlog at the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, USPTO. There is currently a backlog of approximately 700,000 patent applications.

While I preferred Section 22 of H.R. 1249, as reported by the Judiciary Committee, that would allow the USPTO to retain all of its user fees, I am supportive of the USPTO funding agreement that was reached in the House. It is intended to end fee diversion and provide the USPTO access to its user fees. Moreover, I believe in the overall goal of the bill to efficiently issue patents to businesses—especially small businesses and startups—to develop new products and create jobs. This compromise will allow the USPTO to process applications more efficiently and produce higher-quality patents which makes them less likely to be subject to a court challenge.

It is imperative that the USPTO have the resources it needs to hire more patent examiners and pay overtime to decrease this backlog. Every state in the United States of America has patent applications pending. In 2010, 2,194 patents were granted to residents in my home state of Georgia. The "America Invents Act" will ensure that residents in Georgia, and each and every State across the Nation, are granted patents in a speedy fashion.

This bill will help inventors like Lonnie Johnson in Atlanta, Georgia. He invented the Super Soaker that generated hundreds of millions of dollars in profits, created jobs and became the number one selling toy in America. Lonnie Johnson currently holds over 80 patents and has over 20 more pending. The sooner this 700,000 patent application backlog is cut down, the sooner Lonnie Johnson, and other inventors, can get their inventions to market, grow the economy, and create jobs.

Further, the "America Invents Act" will transition the United States from a first-to-invent system to a first-inventor-to-file system. This will bring the United States up to par with every other industrialized nation in the world. As business and competition becomes more global, patent applicants are increasingly filing patent applications in other countries for protection of their inventions. The first-to-invent

filing system in the United States differs from that in other patent-issuing jurisdictions. This can cause confusion and inefficiencies for American companies and innovators.

In a first-inventor-to-file system, the filing date of the application is most relevant: it is an objective date and is simple to determine because it is listed on the face of the patent. In contrast, in a first-to-invent system, the date the invention claimed in the application was actually invented is the determinative date. Unlike the objective date of filing, the date someone invents something is often uncertain, and, when disputed, typically requires corroborating evidence.

The first-inventor-to-file system will simplify the patent application system and harmonize it with the rest of the industrialized world, reduce costs, and improve the competitiveness of American inventors seeking protection globally. These changes are necessary for true, comprehensive patent reform.

I am extremely proud that our nation's universities will benefit from this bill. The patent system plays a critical role in enabling institutions like Georgia Institute of Technology and colleges belonging to the Atlanta University Center to transfer the discoveries arising from basic research into the commercial sector for development into products and processes that benefit society.

Patent reform is not a partisan issue, but an issue of the fairest way to encourage inventors and investors to create and develop new products that will benefit universities, create jobs, and spur economic growth.

Today marks a major milestone in moving this country forward. I was a freshman when patent reform last moved through the House in the 110th Congress. I am proud to be a part of this moment in history. The American people have waited long enough; Congress should act now to pass this important piece of legislation.

I strongly support the "America Invents Act" and urge my colleagues to do the same. We are close to the finish line and need to push on and finish the race.

THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN'S DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. MICHAEL T. MCCAUL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. MCCAUL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in recognition and support of Republic of South Sudan which will tomorrow become Africa's 54th country. As a co-chair of the House Sudan Caucus, I am grateful for the accomplishment of this successful milestone in the Comprehensive Peace Agreement process that has ended Sudan's 22-year civil war. In the past two decades, this civil war and famine took the lives of approximately two million people in Sudan.

The ability for South Sudan to declare for itself its own country is a testament to what can be achieved when a unified international community made of nation states, international organizations, and non-governmental organizations all come together to foster peace and assist in the resolution of difference between peoples.

Yet, the people of South Sudan still face many challenges. There is more infrastructure

to be built, governmental processes to be developed, and a new currency to be established. There are also unsettled issues with its neighbor, the Republic of Sudan, such as ending violence and suffering in Darfur, a long-term oil revenue sharing agreement, border demarcation, fair distribution of debts, and establishing the qualifications for citizenship.

Tomorrow, we will celebrate the birth of a new nation. However, with this tremendous event should come a renewed commitment from the world to preserve peace and cultivate a bright and stable future for the South Sudanese people.

RECOGNIZING THE INDEPENDENCE OF SOUTH SUDAN

HON. ALCEE L. HASTINGS

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. HASTINGS of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the world's newest nation, the Republic of South Sudan. On July 9, 2011, after months of preparation, South Sudan will officially declare its independence from Sudan. In January 2011, South Sudan held a referendum on the issue of secession, where 97.5 percent of Southern Sudanese turned out to vote and an overwhelming 98.8 percent voted for separation. Tomorrow, the independence of South Sudan marks the end of the Comprehensive Peace Agreement (CPA), which ended 22 years of war between northern and southern Sudan, and the birth of a new country based on the principles of self-determination, freedom, and justice.

However, South Sudan faces numerous challenges that will need to be resolved after its independence. South Sudan and Sudan still have to agree on issues such as revenue sharing, especially oil revenues, border disputes, security agreements, national debt, citizenship, and currency. In addition, South Sudan lacks two critical resources: government infrastructure and personnel, which are crucial to creating a strong and viable government.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the people of South Sudan on achieving their dream of independence, and extend my deepest sympathies to those who lost loved ones in the fight for freedom. I encourage my colleagues in Congress to join me in commemorating the struggle and sacrifices of millions of Southern Sudanese, and to work with the international community to ensure that South Sudan becomes a politically and economically stable nation.

A TRIBUTE TO MARIE WATERMILLER

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Marie Watermill of Hampton, Iowa on the recent celebration of her 100th birthday on June 24, 2011.

Marie was brought into this world on June 24, 1911 and more than 100 years later con-

tinues to live a vibrant life. Aside from her daily regimen of sewing, crocheting, and reading, Marie also stays busy by entertaining and quilting blankets for her 15 grandchildren, 42 great-grandchildren, and 5 great-great-grandchildren as she expects three more great-great-grandchildren within the year. Marie also spends her time assisting those that are ill by making lap robes to support the Church of the Living Word's most recent project.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past 100 years. Since Marie's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and the birth of new democracies. Marie has lived through 18 United States Presidents and 22 Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I congratulate Ms. Watermill for reaching this milestone of a birthday. I am extremely honored to represent Marie and her family in the United States Congress and I wish her happiness and health in her future years.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2012

SPEECH OF

HON. GEORGE MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 7, 2011

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2219) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2012, and for other purposes:

Mr. GEORGE MILLER of California. Mr. Chair, American children have already been the victims of the Republicans' inaction and spending cuts, and now the Republicans are specifically targeting the children of military families. The Flake Amendment to H.R. 2219 cuts \$250 million of critical funding for public schools on military installations.

These schools and families are already in dire need of support. Impact aid is provided to these schools as compensation for the federal activities that render them unable to collect property or other taxes to fund these schools. This is one of the oldest education programs administered in the United States, and these schools and families depend on these funds.

The men and women of our armed services make great sacrifices to keep our country safe. They deserve better from this Congress. They do not deserve to have their children's education sacrificed as well. I urge my colleagues to vote "no" on the Flake amendment to cut impact aid.

RECOGNIZING THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH SUDAN ON THEIR DEC- LARATION OF INDEPENDENCE

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Republic of South Sudan and

their declaration of formal independence on July 9, 2011. Six months ago, the people of Southern Sudan spoke clearly when nearly 99 percent of the voters declared independence from the repressive government in Khartoum. While this is a historic moment for southern Sudan and its people, this nation faces great challenges in the infancy of its sovereignty.

For the Republic of South Sudan to prosper, a number of challenges must be overcome. Foremost, the country must determine questions as fundamental as citizenship rights and the location of borders with neighboring nations. Additionally, Southern Sudan must establish peace and security within its borders in order to sustain meaningful growth. North Sudanese governmental support for attacks on Southern Sudan have killed more than 1,000 civilians, and have displaced hundreds of thousands of men, women and children over the past year and a half. Simply put, these attacks must cease.

In terms of the economy, international agreements regarding Southern Sudan's debts must be negotiated, as well as the development of an infrastructure to allow for the efficient export of oil. However, even in these challenging and uncertain times, this young nation has demonstrated a commitment to improve the lives of its citizens. Recently, we have observed marked increases in commerce and trade, both domestically and internationally, thanks to the government's continued development of modern infrastructure. The ruling government has reached out to opposition groups within Southern Sudan in an honest effort to maintain national unity throughout this momentous process. While there are still hurdles to be overcome, today I recognize and congratulate the Sudanese people for their significant accomplishments in having reached this momentous occasion.

THE FINAL FLIGHT OF THE SPACE SHUTTLE PROGRAM ON JULY 8, 2011

HON. ALLEN B. WEST

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. WEST. Mr. Speaker, today we close another chapter in the history book of manned space flight. Today Americans around the Nation watched the final launch of the Space Shuttle *Atlantis*, a journey that began 30 years ago with the first flight of Space Shuttle *Columbia*.

For 135 times the Nation has turned their eyes to the State of Florida to watch the solid rocket boosters ignite and lift the Space Shuttle through the bounds of our Earth's atmosphere. Each mission of the Space Shuttles' primary goal was to continue to push the bounds of space exploration. With each mission the United States achieved another milestone of expanding man's frontier in space earning the respect and admiration of the world.

The State of Florida has been the epicenter for manned exploration of space. Over the last 50 years from Gemini, to Apollo, to the Space Shuttles, hundreds of thousands of Floridians have contributed their talents, energy and knowledge to explore space. Some have dedicated their lives to the exploration of space.

Today I would like to recognize the men and women over the last 30 years who worked on

the Space Shuttle program. While the names of the astronauts will be recorded in the history books, we must also note the thousands of individuals who worked behind the scenes to make history by challenging the final frontier.

I am concerned about losing the workforce that has dedicated their knowledge to the exploration of our universe. I believe that we could lose a competitive and innovative edge that we maintain at the Kennedy Space Center at Cape Canaveral, Florida.

Soon the Space Shuttle Fleet will be shipped off to museums around the country and will become items that school children will visit to see America's past glories in space. These children will see these space exploration vehicles, then look towards the stars sparking their imagination to ask the question "what lies beyond?" However, when the Space Shuttle *Atlantis* lands in the next several days for the first time in my entire 50 years on Earth we will not have a vehicle or a plan to send humans from our planet into space.

The space program is essential to the State of Florida. Thousands of the brightest scientific minds reside in the area surrounding the Kennedy Space Center and billions of dollars of economic activity are generated in the States of Texas, California and my home State of Florida. In addition, since the Mercury Program, the Space Program has placed our Nation on the cutting edge of innovation.

President John F. Kennedy challenged our Nation to land a man on the Moon. In the space race with the Soviet Union, Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin placed an American flag on the lunar surface in 1969. Now the former Soviet Union is our taxi cab ride to the International Space Station at a cost of approximately \$63 million a seat. Further, China is now building their ability to be the leaders in space exploration. This is unacceptable and the antithesis of American exceptionalism.

While we have had failures in the space program along the way, such as *Apollo 1*, *Challenger* and *Columbia*, when some individuals felt we should stop manned space flight after the *Challenger* accident, President Ronald Reagan stated: "We'll continue our quest in space. There will be more shuttle flights and more shuttle crews and, yes, more volunteers, more civilians, more teachers in space. Nothing ends here; our hopes and our journeys continue."

I am concerned that the United States has no plans for human exploration capability to go beyond Earth's orbit for an indeterminate time into the future. Space will always be challenging and dangerous, but we are Americans and we have always met our challenges and faced danger. And with regard to space we must continue the journey, focus on the stars, reach for the heavens, and be a leader in space exploration in the 21st century.

Americans, by our nature, do not accept being in second place. I am committed to ensuring that one day we again will be the leaders in manned space exploration.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall votes No. 495–501, I am not recorded because I was absent from the U.S. House of Representatives. Had I been present, I would have voted in the following manner.

On rollcall No. 495. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 496. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 497. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 498. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 499. Had I been present, I would have voted "no."

On rollcall No. 500. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

On rollcall No. 501. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

IN TRIBUTE TO THE RONALD REAGAN PRESIDENTIAL FOUNDATION

HON. ELTON GALLEGLY

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GALLEGLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise in tribute to The Ronald Reagan Presidential Foundation and, in particular—Frederick Ryan, Jr., Chairman of the Foundation Board of Directors, and John Heubusch, Foundation Executive Director—and the Ronald Reagan Centennial Commission for their leadership in conducting a series of successful European events last week honoring our 40th President.

I and a number of my colleagues traveled to Europe last week to meet with our allies, particularly those in Eastern Europe, and to reassure them of America's continued friendship and support in light of Russia's continued commitment to one-party rule and suppression of human rights.

While there, we were fortunate to participate in several Foundation events honoring Ronald Reagan's role in bringing freedom to Eastern Europe. The people of Poland, Hungary, the Czech Republic and other former communist satellite states know well how President Reagan's commitment to peace through strength led him to abandon the failed policy of détente and to embrace a policy of actively opposing communist regimes around the world.

That opposition led to the fall of the Berlin Wall and the Iron Curtain and to freedom for millions of people choked by the Soviet's stronghold on their nations. In Krakow, we attended a Mass of Thanksgiving in honor of Pope John Paul II and President Reagan, the two leaders the Polish people credit with inspiring their revolution against the Soviet empire. In Budapest, we participated in the unveiling of a statue of President Reagan in Freedom Square. In Prague, we participated in naming the street in front of the U.S. Ambassador's residence for President Reagan.

Those public displays only underline the true love Eastern Europeans have for Presi-

dent Reagan. In meetings with East European officials and chance meetings with local people in East European capitals, everyone was effusive in their praise of Ronald Reagan. Americans recognize the peace and prosperity President Reagan brought to the United States during his presidency. For Eastern Europeans, he helped bring them their very freedom.

As the author of the bill that created the Centennial Commission and as a member of the Commission, I was duly impressed with the events and tributes the Foundation and Commission, under the direction of Mr. Ryan and Mr. Heubusch, masterfully undertook both in Europe and the United States to honor Ronald Reagan this year.

Mr. Speaker, I know my colleagues on both sides of the aisle join me in paying tribute to those who worked so hard to remember and honor a great president who changed the course of history both here and around the world and to thank them for their service to our nation.

A TRIBUTE TO KACIA CAIN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Ms. Kacia Cain, who teaches anatomy, physiology and biotechnology and was named outstanding biology teacher of the year for the state of Iowa by the National Association of Biology Teachers.

Ms. Cain previously taught biology at Des Moines East High School for 19 years before transferring this school year to Des Moines Central Campus High School. She is a native of Indianola, Iowa, and will be recognized in October at the National Association of Biology Teachers convention in Anaheim, California.

Having a hands-on teaching style has allowed Ms. Cain to be very successful with her students. Using resources from nearby colleges ensures that students are making as many connections with real world research experiences as possible.

I am honored to represent Kacia Cain in the United States Congress, and I wish her the best of luck in Anaheim, California. I also wish Ms. Cain the very best as she continues to serve as a mentor and role model to the students at Des Moines Central Campus High School. I know my colleagues in the U.S. Congress will join me in congratulating Kacia Cain.

TRIBUTE TO JOHN D. FILAMOR

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of myself and Ranking Member CONYERS, I would like to take this opportunity to recognize John D. Filamor who is leaving the House to take a position with the Department of Justice. Mr. Filamor served in the Office of the General Counsel for 10 years, first as a law clerk while he was still a student at George Washington University Law School; from 2001–10

as an Assistant Counsel; and more recently as a Senior Assistant Counsel. We will miss him.

Mr. Filamor provided frequent and invaluable legal advice and representation to the House Committee on the Judiciary, as well as to Members, officers and other committees of the House more generally. Our staff came to rely on his expertise and guidance in connection with many of their investigative and oversight activities, as well as in connection with the Committee's interactions with the other branches of the Federal Government. Over the years, Mr. Filamor played a significant role in safeguarding the legal and institutional interests of the House of Representatives.

Mr. Filamor served the House with great distinction, and we know he will serve the Department of Justice with that same level of distinction. On behalf of the House Committee on the Judiciary, we thank him for his many years of devoted service, and extend to him our very best wishes for his continued success.

RECOGNIZING MILITARY SUICIDES: CONDOLENCE LETTERS

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise tonight to express my gratitude to President Obama for altering U.S. government policy to end the practice of denying condolence letters to the families of soldiers who commit suicide while serving abroad. I strongly support that change, and I applaud President Obama for taking this important step.

The men and women who commit suicide while serving our country on active duty overseas are casualties of war, and I strongly believe that they should be remembered as such. Those soldiers suffer the unseen wounds of war, which, though often ignored, can be devastating. Their sacrifice for our Nation should be honored and celebrated, and their surviving families and friends should know that we appreciate their loved ones' service.

In his statement announcing the policy change, the President emphasized that these men and women suffered the consequences of war, and they did not receive the services and treatment that they needed. As the President emphasized, that needs to change. We need to do far more to help those who bear the burden of our wars, by ensuring that they have the physical and emotional support they need, access to quality mental health services, and assistance to help them and their families cope with the immense stress of war.

By changing this policy, the President has taken an important step towards reducing the stigma surrounding the invisible injuries of war. We need to continue to work to ensure that soldiers know what services are available to them and feel comfortable seeking out the help that they need.

The act of sending a condolence letter recognizes the tragic loss and enormous sacrifice of our military families. The mothers and fathers, sisters and brothers, sons and daughters who lose a loved one to either a visible or unseen wound of war should know that we, as a country, mourn their losses. We should honor the sacrifice of all who give their lives in the service of our country.

PAYING TRIBUTE TO A PUERTO RICAN-AMERICAN SUCCESS STORY—COMPOSER, LYRICIST AND ACTOR LIN-MANUEL MIRANDA

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Mr. Lin-Manuel Miranda for all of his marvelous accomplishments. It is my pleasure to pay tribute to this prodigious composer, lyricist and actor. I want to give thanks to this exceptional constituent for sharing his vision and talents with the world for all to enjoy.

Mr. Miranda is a native New Yorker who grew up in Manhattan's diverse and vivacious Washington Heights neighborhood and is of Puerto Rican descent. He attended Hunter College High School and later graduated from Wesleyan University in 2002. While pursuing higher education he wrote his earliest draft of *In the Heights* in 1999. He also wrote, acted and directed several other musicals while attending Wesleyan. While in school he diligently worked to perfect his craft, so it is of no surprise that Mr. Miranda would later take such large strides toward the road of success.

His claim to fame comes from writing and starring as Usnavi in the Broadway musical *In the Heights*, which opened on Broadway at the Richard Rodgers Theater in 2008. This phenomenal musical composer has won the Tony Award as composer and lyricist. With his creativity and determination he was able to take an idea and catapult it into success. He took a risk and believed in his dream as well as himself. We can all learn from this fine example and believe in ourselves, especially when no one else will. We should all have the courage to live out our dreams, while inspiring others. Les Brown once said "Shoot for the moon. Even if you miss, you'll land among the stars." This is exactly what Mr. Miranda did and now he is taking his dreams and plays to new heights.

With his countless accomplishments, it is impossible to single out Mr. Miranda's greatest achievement, but one could say that *In the Heights* has won critical acclaim. This extraordinary theater piece has been nominated and has won countless awards, such as the 2009 Grammy for Best Musical Show Album, 2008 Tony Award for Best Musical, 2008 Tony Award for Best Original Score, and was a Finalist for the 2009 Pulitzer Prize for Drama, among many other accolades. As a performer, Mr. Miranda has also showcased his talents on many popular television series, including *The Sopranos*, *House*, *Electric Company*, *Modern Family* and *Sesame Street*. Mr. Miranda is also a co-founder of the popular hip hop-improvisational group, *Freestyle Love Supreme* that has toured comedy festivals throughout the world and continues to perform at esteemed venues throughout the country.

The White House has taken notice of this rising star. In 2009 he was invited to perform at the White House Evening of Poetry, Music and the Spoken Word. The University of Yeshiva also took notice of his greatness and bestowed him with an honorary degree. He has also been acknowledged by former mayor of New York City Ed Koch. This young fresh tal-

ent continues to believe in his dream and make positive strides. He is currently working on a musical theatre version of *Bring It On*, which will start its National Tour in the fall of 2011.

Mr. Speaker, for this, I ask that you and my distinguished colleagues in Congress join me in applauding this prolific artist, who is truly an inspiration.

INTRODUCTION OF LEGISLATION TO UPDATE THE VPPA

HON. BOB GOODLATTE

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GOODLATTE. Mr. Speaker, today I am joined by my colleagues, Representatives COBLE, SENSENBRENNER and SANCHEZ in introducing a bipartisan bill to update the Video Privacy Protection Act of 1988, VPPA. This bill will ensure that a law related to the handling of video tape rental information is updated to reflect the realities of the 21st Century.

The VPPA was passed by Congress in the wake of Judge Robert Bork's 1987 Supreme Court nomination battle, during which a local Washington, DC, newspaper obtained a list of video tapes the Bork family rented from its neighborhood video tape rental store. This disclosure caused bipartisan outrage, which resulted in the enactment of the VPPA.

The commercial video distribution landscape has changed dramatically since 1988. Back then, the primary consumer consumption of commercial video content occurred through the sale or rental of prerecorded video cassette tapes. This required users to travel to their local video rental store to pick a movie. Afterward, consumers had to travel back to the store to return the rented movie. Movies that consumers rented and enjoyed were recommended to friends primarily through face-to-face conversations. With today's technology, consumers can quickly and efficiently access video programming through a variety of platforms, including through Internet Protocol-based video services—all without leaving their homes.

Our proposed amendment updates the VPPA to allow video tape service providers to facilitate the sharing on social media networks of the movies watched or recommended by users. Specifically, it is narrowly crafted to preserve the VPPA's protections for consumers' privacy while modernizing the law to empower consumers to do more with their video consumption preferences, including sharing names of new or favorite TV shows or movies on social media in a simple way. However, it protects the consumer's control over his information by requiring consumer consent before any of this can occur. And, it makes clear that a consumer can opt-in to the ongoing sharing of his or her favorite movies or TV shows without having to provide consent each and every time a movie is rented. It also makes clear that written, affirmative consent can be provided through the Internet and can be withdrawn at any time.

This amendment does not change the privacy standard adopted by Congress when the VPPA was first enacted. Specifically, it preserves the requirement that the users provide affirmative, written consent.

It is time that Congress updates the VPPA to keep up with today's technology and the consumer marketplace. This bill does just that.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this important piece of legislation.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN D. DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Mr. DINGELL. Madam Speaker, I rise to reluctantly support H. Res. 268. I support the resolution because I strongly agree in principle that the Israelis and Palestinians must negotiate a two-state solution.

H. Res. 268 contains much with which I disagree. We have seen such resolutions in the past. Unfortunately, their intent is to advance a specific narrative that I believe is at odds with the urgency of a negotiated peace. The resolutions are brought to the floor without the ability for Members of Congress to provide input at either the committee level or during consideration on the House floor. As a strong supporter of Israel and her right to self-defense, I take issue with this approach.

My biggest concern with H. Res. 268 is its call to cut aid to the Palestinians. Such a move would be at best premature and at worst detrimental to the prospects of resuming negotiations. The unity agreement between Hamas and Fatah is tenuous and the path forward for a potential unity government is unknown. Let me be clear: I would never advocate United States aid for Hamas or any government that contains Hamas. Hamas' charter calls for the destruction of Israel; it has never supported the peace process and it sympathizes with America's enemies like al Qaeda and Iran. But at a time when much of the Middle East is shifting toward democracy, it is irresponsible and against our own interests to withhold dollars that we know are being used by the Palestinian Authority in the West Bank to promote greater economic stability and physical security—for both the Israelis and Palestinians. Cutting off aid would be a setback for those working toward peace. Indeed, as the New York Times argues in its editorial on May 8, 2011, such a move may “shift the political balance dangerously toward Hamas.”

In addition, H. Res. 268 is as egregious for what it includes as what it leaves out. The resolution does not suggest that the United States should play a strong role in bringing both sides back to the negotiating table. It does not say that both sides must continue negotiating without preconditions. Nor does it say both the Israelis and Palestinians must cease unilateral actions. The omissions raise serious questions. How can we as leaders of our nation reaffirm our commitment to a lasting two-state solution without acknowledging that U.S. leadership is critical to bringing about that solution? How can we ask one side and not the other to make difficult concessions?

The stakes in reaching a negotiated peace agreement are as high as ever as the window for a two-state solution narrows. The United States must help both sides rejoin negotiations, not pass resolutions laden with threats,

grandstanding, and obfuscation. As the President stated in his speech at the U.S. State Department in May, “At a time when the people of the Middle East and North Africa are casting off the burdens of the past, the drive for a lasting peace that ends the conflict and resolves all claims is more urgent than ever. That's certainly true for the two parties involved.”

My stance on this conflict is well known. I support a two-state solution that results in a Jewish and democratic state of Israel living side-by-side in peace and security with a Palestinian state. H. Res. 268 does nothing to achieve this outcome.

CONGRATULATING DR. STEWART B. SIMMS

HON. PAUL C. BROWN

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BROWN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is my distinct pleasure to congratulate Dr. Stewart B. Simms, Jr. for 30 years of excellent service at Beech Haven Baptist Church.

I am confident that Athens is a better place in which to live, work, and study because of the presence of his fine church. Beech Haven's building stands as a stunning landmark and the reputation of its members as a powerful testimony to the beauty of our God. Beech Haven's success and strength is due, in large part, to Dr. Simms' faithfulness and care.

Many blessings as Dr. Simms continues on his journey of devoted service to the Lord. I not only value his friendship, but I hold him in the highest regard because of his work (1 Thessalonians 5:13).

HONORING MAJORS MANUEL AND JOANN MADRID OF THE ST. CLOUD SALVATION ARMY ON THEIR RETIREMENT AFTER 4 YEARS OF DEDICATED SERVICE IN OUR COMMUNITY AND 40 YEARS OF SERVICE WITH THE SALVATION ARMY

HON. MICHELE BACHMANN

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mrs. BACHMANN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Majors Manuel and JoAnn Madrid of the St. Cloud Salvation Army on their retirement after 4 years of dedicated service in our community and 40 years of service with the Salvation Army.

Since their arrival in St. Cloud 4 years ago, the St. Cloud Salvation Army has grown from 28 to 64 beds for the homeless, opened a transitional apartment housing program and broken ground for a new chapel last May. In the last two years alone, 47,000 people have entered the St. Cloud Salvation Army's doors for a meal, but they were blessed with so much more. From simple prayers for provision to places to rest their head at night, the Madrids have guided countless numbers of people from despair to hope with inspirational sermons, warm meals, and open arms.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that this body join with me in recognizing 40 years of service from

Majors Manuel and JoAnn Madrid. Manuel and JoAnn live every day reflecting the mission of the Salvation Army: “motivated by the love of God . . . to preach the gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination”. We are grateful for their service and wish them many years of happiness in their retirement beginning this fall.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF SOUTH SUDAN

HON. STEPHEN F. LYNCH

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LYNCH. Mr. Speaker, it is with an immense sense of hope that I rise today to congratulate the people of South Sudan on the eve of their independence.

South Sudan has overcome incredible devastation brought on by decades of violence and famine that killed and displaced millions. After years of brutal fighting, the Government of Sudan and the Sudan People's Liberation Movement signed a peace agreement in January 2005 that finally ended the civil war. And in January of this year the people of the south, by an overwhelming margin of 98.8 per cent to 1.17 per cent, peacefully voted for independence. The joy on the voters' faces as they cast their ballots, their hopes for the future, and their unshakeable resolve to determine their own fate was nothing short of inspirational.

South Sudan will face many challenges. There are still major issues to be addressed such as its frayed relations with Khartoum, the dispute over Abyei and the lack of agreement on borders, citizenship rights and other matters. In addition, there is the extremely worrisome violence that has grown in recent weeks in the northern border state of Southern Kordofan which has forced tens of thousands to flee. These tests will be difficult but I have no doubt that the people of South Sudan will continue to demonstrate the courage and strength of spirit that has brought them this far to take on these challenges. As they do so, the people of the United States will continue to support and stand by them as they build their new country.

However, tomorrow will be a day for celebrating a new nation that was able to overcome adversity and rise out of the ashes of genocide and civil war. On behalf of the people of the Ninth District of Massachusetts, I wish to extend my deepest congratulations to the people of South Sudan.

IN HONOR OF BETTY ROBERTS

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, Oregonians are mourning the passing of a pioneering female leader of truly historic dimension. Betty Roberts was a pioneer in every sense of the word.

There have been women in our community who as the first Oregon female Member of

Congress or first Portland Mayor over half a century ago were pioneers—but Betty was unique.

Yes, Betty Roberts was the first woman to serve on Oregon's Court of Appeals and State Supreme Court. Her most important contributions began when she was the only woman in the State Senate. In this unique position of leadership she willfully tackled the problems that face women in politics and society. She understood the challenges facing women who were pioneering these efforts. As she broke barrier after barrier she learned lessons the hard way. With grit and legislative leadership she fought to protect women's health and civil liberties and their efforts in the marketplace.

Betty ran amazingly strong statewide campaigns for Governor and U.S. Senate. While she didn't win the elections, she proved her strength, character, and vision. Her many accomplishments in politics, and a career as a successful educator, lawyer, legislator, and jurist stood out, but it was her strong will and sensitivity that made her an inspirational role model.

Betty demonstrated what was possible. Today there are hundreds of people that she inspired who have assumed leadership on the bench, at the bar, in government and through civic and business leadership. In turn, these women are inspiring the next generation which may be Betty's most enduring legacy—a legacy that will benefit our state for generations to come.

IN MEMORY OF CSM (RET) EDDIE ROBERTS

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a decorated soldier, community leader, public servant, and my longstanding friend, CSM (Ret) Eddie Roberts. Sadly, CSM Roberts passed away suddenly on July 6, 2011, but he left a legacy and a personality that will never be forgotten.

Eddie was a native of Pensacola, Florida. Spurred by a love of country, he enlisted in the U.S. Army in 1965 and completed basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina. Throughout his military career, he had 13 military assignments, which included tours in Korea, Germany, and Panama. He served two decorated tours in Vietnam, during which he displayed remarkable heroism and earned the endearing nickname, "Fast Eddie." During his tour in Panama, he trained soldiers to throw grenades. When one soldier dropped the grenade after pulling the safety pin, Eddie quickly grabbed the grenade and safely tossed it away from frightened soldiers.

His military career earned him many honors including: the Legion of Merit, Purple Heart with Oak Leaf Cluster, the Combat Infantryman's Badge, the Ranger Tab, Jumpmaster Wings and the Pathfinder Badge.

After his distinguished military career ended in 1995, he found other ways to give back to the community that he loved so much. He started work at Columbus Bank and Trust as Vice President and Military Sales Coordinator. He never forgot his experience in the military

and never forgot his love of soldiers. He used his position to help soldiers become better managers of their finances. Moreover, he advocated for their causes with a fervor and spirit that made you take notice and appreciate his passion for his comrades.

In addition to improving the lives of soldiers, Eddie was involved in many social and civic organizations dedicated to the improvement of his community. He was one of the founding members of the Controllers Civic and Social Club in Columbus, an organization that has given away more than 20,000 pairs of shoes to low-income children. Because of his infectious personality, Eddie never met a stranger he didn't like and always tried to put himself in the "shoes" of others. Consequently, thousands of young people have been able to walk in shoes with pride and dignity.

On a personal note, Eddie was my dear friend for many years. During my first Congressional campaign and subsequent campaigns, he was one of my drivers. He often joked that: "He was never paid for his services." He continued to provide me with treasured friendship and wise counsel over the years.

The phrase, "One of a Kind" is used too much in our everyday discourse. I can truly say that CSM (Ret) Eddie Roberts was one of a kind and will never be forgotten. One of my mentors, Dr. Benjamin E. Mays, once said that, "Every man and woman is born into the world to do something unique and something distinctive and if he or she does not do it, it will never be done."

Mr. Speaker, the world is a better place because CSM (Ret) Eddie Roberts passed this way. He did something unique with his life and the world is better for it. On behalf of my wife, Vivian and I, I extend my deepest sympathies to all those who knew and loved this special man.

A LOOK AT MEDIA BIAS

HON. LAMAR SMITH

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. SMITH of Texas. Mr. Speaker. I submit the following.

MEDIA FAIRNESS CAUCUS—A LOOK AT MEDIA BIAS

Rep. Lamar Smith (R-TX), Chairman
Rep. Jack Kingston (R-GA), CoChair
Rep. Michele Bachmann (R-MN), CoChair

MEDIA'S LIBERAL BIAS DISTORTS FAIR COVERAGE

From U.S. News & World Report:

"The liberal bias of the mainstream media tilts so far left that any outlets not in that political lane, like the Drudge Report and Fox News Channel, look far more conservative than they really are, according to a UCLA professor's new book out next month.

"In a crushing body blow to the pushers of the so-called 'Fox Effect,' which claims the conservative media is dragging the left into the center, UCLA political science professor Tim Groseclose in *Left Turn* claims that 'all' mainstream news outlets have a liberal bias in their reporting that makes even moderate organizations appear out of the mainstream and decidedly right-wing to news consumers who are influenced by the slant."

In the book, Groseclose writes: "Fox News is clearly more conservative than ABC, CBS, CNN, NBC and National Public Radio. Some will conclude that 'therefore, this means that Fox News has a conservative bias.' Instead, maybe it is centrist, and possibly even left-leaning, while all the others are far left. It's like concluding that six-three is short just because it is short compared to professional basketball players."

AMERICANS SEE MEDIA AS BIASED, LIBERAL

Two-thirds of Americans believe that reporters try to help the candidate they want to win an election, according to a recent Rasmussen public opinion poll. Only 2 in 10 think reporters try to offer unbiased coverage.

The survey also found that almost half of Americans think reporters would hide any damaging information about the candidate they wanted to win. And by more than two-to-one, Americans say the average reporter is more liberal than they are, rather than more conservative.

If the national media want to earn Americans' trust, they should give them the facts, not tell them what to think.

FIRST LADY THANKS MEDIA FOR "SUPPORT" AND "KINDNESS"

During a recent interview on CNN, First Lady Michelle Obama thanked the national media for their "support" and "kindness." Below is an excerpt from the interview:

CNN reporter: "How's the family ready for this [the election]? It's going to be quite vicious, isn't it? How do you prepare for that?"

First Lady Michelle Obama: "You know, it's . . . we're ready, you know. Our children, you know, could care less about what we're doing. We work hard to do that. Fortunately, we have help from the media. I have to say this: I'm very grateful for the support and kindness that we've gotten. People have respected their privacy and in that way, I think, you know, no matter what people may feel about my husband's policies or what have you, they care about children and that's been good to see."

A TRIBUTE TO NORMA DUFFIELD "DUFFY" STONG LYON

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life of Mrs. Norma Duffield "Duffy" Stong Lyon. Most Iowans would know her as Iowa's beloved "Butter Cow Lady."

For nearly a half-century, Mrs. Lyon shared her artistic skills with travelers from all over the world at the Iowa State Fair by creating a life-size sculpture of a dairy cow made from hundreds of pounds of butter. In fact, after crafting her first cow in 1960, she subsequently crafted 46 of the butter cow sculptures the Iowa State Fair has displayed over the past 100 years.

As many other community members know, Mrs. Lyon used her notoriety to raise funds for charitable projects in Toledo, Iowa for the betterment of the community.

Mrs. Lyon's family, including her husband Joe, nine children, twenty-three grandchildren, and five great-grandchildren, along with hundreds of members of the community gathered

to pay their respects to the "Butter Cow Lady" on Friday July 1, 2011.

It is an honor to have personally seen and enjoyed the butter cow sculptures at the Iowa State Fair for years, and I know my colleagues will join me in celebrating the life of the Mrs. Norma Duffield "Duffy" Stong Lyon.

A TRIBUTE TO WILMA CARTHAN

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Ms. Wilma Carthan for her service to and excellence throughout her community as a model citizen.

Ms. Wilma Carthan is an individual who understands and fully utilizes the opportunities provided by the Great Society programs. Ms. Carthan is a revered community leader who successfully raised six children as a single mother, and tirelessly worked her way from welfare recipient to social service executive.

Over a period of fifteen years anti-poverty programs assisted Ms. Carthan in obtaining a high school diploma, a Bachelor's Degree and a Masters Degree. A career which started as a neighborhood community action worker steadily changed into social worker positions. She became administrator of youth programs and eventually Director of Community Affairs, Marketing and Patient Advocacy at the Brownsville Multi-Service Family Health Center, one of the nation's oldest community health centers.

Because of her insights, team-work skills and bountiful grass roots wisdom, Wilma Carthan has been called upon to serve in many research studies, group counseling and community planning efforts. At Syracuse University she assisted in the study of violent criminal behavior, was a co-author of a book on criminology entitled *Pro-Social Gang: Implementing Aggression Replacement Training*. She served on the New York City Board of Education Board of Examiners and also was on teams evaluating Title I reimbursable programs. For two decades she served as chairperson of the Board of the 200 Central Avenue Day Care Center. She is the recipient of numerous honors and awards but the most appropriate and revealing one is the unofficial title conferred upon her once as "The First Lady of Brooklyn Community Action".

As she celebrates this 75th birthday Wilma Carthan is probably most proud of the success of her sons and daughters who, despite the hardships of poverty, have all become productive family builders with more than a dozen grandchildren now climbing the ladder to self-sufficiency as they fulfill their American dream. More than can be communicated with hundreds of slogans and thousands of words Wilma Carthan's life sends a message of revelation and how the highest returns are realized through our government's investment in our neediest citizens. With great admiration and appreciation we salute Wilma Carthan.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in recognizing the work of Wilma Carthan.

IN RECOGNITION OF DAVID
WILLIAMS

HON. JOHN GARAMENDI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. GARAMENDI. Mr. Speaker, Representatives GEORGE MILLER, BARBARA LEE, PETE STARK, JERRY MCNERNEY and I rise today to congratulate Mr. David Williams, Director of Wastewater for the East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) on his election as the new President of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies, NACWA.

Mr. Williams is an accomplished leader and committed environmental steward. From his military service to this country and throughout his career in clean water, Mr. Williams has exemplified what it means to be a public servant. He is ideally suited for this national leadership position with NACWA and to helping ensure that California's and the Nation's clean water agencies are sustainable, that the environment we live in is consistently improving, and our public health is protected.

At EBMUD, Mr. Williams leads one of the nation's most advanced wastewater treatment facilities, providing services to approximately 650,000 people along 88 square miles of the east shore of San Francisco Bay in Alameda and Contra Costa counties. Mr. Williams oversees a staff of roughly 300 professionals and technicians who are responsible for the operation and maintenance of the district's entire wastewater system.

Under Mr. Williams' leadership the district has led the industry through his innovative work on several notable programs: utilizing existing wastewater infrastructure to create a national model for recycling and energy creation; working with local dentists, universities and public schools to eliminate sources of mercury in the waterways; developing a partnership with Chevron to build the Richmond Advanced Recycled Expansion (RARE) Water Project; and creating dual plumbing ordinances requiring new development to plan for recycled water use.

Since joining others in founding NACWA 41 years ago, EBMUD has benefitted from its active engagement with the organization. A member of NACWA's Board of Directors since 2004, Mr. Williams has previously served as Secretary, Treasurer and Vice President for the organization and has been a member of many NACWA committees and workgroups. He has also been elected to serve on the Central Contra Costa Sanitary District Board, a position he currently holds.

In addition to his work with NACWA, Mr. Williams has actively participated in local, regional, state and national professional organizations including the California Association of Sanitation Agencies, Central Contra Costa Sanitary District, Bay Area Clean Water Agencies, TriTAC, Aquatic Science Center, the California Water Environment Association San Francisco Bay Section, and the Bay Area Dischargers Association.

David Williams has selflessly shared his time, passion, energy and ideas to carry out the objectives of the Clean Water Act and it is my sincere pleasure to ask our colleagues to join us in congratulating him on becoming the new president of the National Association of Clean Water Agencies. Mr. Williams' contin-

ued efforts will ensure water quality progress for the San Francisco Bay Area, the State of California, and the Nation.

REAFFIRMING COMMITMENT TO NEGOTIATED SETTLEMENT OF ISRAELI-PALESTINIAN CONFLICT

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 6, 2011

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Madam Speaker, there is no region of the world more critical to achieving peace and security for Americans than the Middle East, yet no series of interconnected issues that has been more complex or vexing.

Since coming to Congress I have been an advocate of stronger United States engagement to advance negotiations for a two-state solution and for a vision of a secure Israel and an independent Palestinian state living side by side.

I, along with the rest of Congress and the administration, share the goal of preventing a vote for Palestinian statehood in the United Nations this September. Such a course of action will not hasten the creation of an independent Palestine, and will undermine progress.

Unfortunately, the message delivered by H. Res. 268 was undercut by failing to present an evenhanded document. There was no acknowledgement of the administration's balanced approach to Middle East policy and the Israeli-Palestinian peace process in particular. The policy is consistent by political and historical standards—calling for a negotiated two-state solution along the 1967 borders with mutually agreed land swaps as the starting point in this dialogue. This is the language of current and previous U.S. administrations and was employed by the Israeli Prime Minister within the last year.

The resolution would have been more credible by mentioning the unfair comments of Benjamin Netanyahu during his recent visit to Washington. A mention of U.S. opposition to Israel's unilateral construction of settlements would get the attention of the Palestinians, who after all we are trying to influence.

To the extent that Congress is going to opine, it should do so in a balanced way. That is how we can move forward.

CONGRATULATING THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA'S HOSTING OF 2018 WINTER OLYMPICS

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 8, 2011

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to congratulate the Republic of Korea for winning the bid to host the 2018 Winter Olympic Games in Pyeongchang. I have no doubt that Korea will be an excellent host, as it was for the 1988 Summer Olympics and for the 2002 World Cup. This honor recognizes how far Korea has emerged from the ashes of war into a giant in Asia and throughout the international community.

When I first went to Korea over 60 years ago, I had no idea where it was. As a Korean War Veteran, I could not be more proud to witness today's "Dynamic Korea." Seoul's skyscrapers, booming businesses and rising apartment buildings are a testament to the resiliency and determination of the Korean peo-

ple. Just as the 1988 Olympics in Seoul demonstrated the promise of the Korea to the world, the 2018 Winter Games will showcase the economic superpower the great nation is now.

I never would have imagined that the Korea I left behind after the war would now be

hosting their third international sporting event. Korea will always have a place in my heart as it does in the hearts of all veterans who have served then and those who serve now and I am proud to congratulate the nation on this well deserved recognition.