

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

TRIBUTE TO AMBASSADOR
KENNETH QUINN

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. LATHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ambassador Kenneth Quinn for receiving the Distinguished Service Award from the American Farm Bureau Federation.

The Distinguished Service Award is the American Farm Bureau Federation's highest honor and is reserved for individuals who have dedicated their careers to the advancement of agriculture. The president of Iowa Farm Bureau, Craig Hill, nominated Ambassador Quinn to receive this esteemed national award.

Dr. Kenneth Quinn's career and achievements are truly ones for the history book. A native Iowan, Kenneth grew up in Dubuque where he obtained his Bachelor's Degree from Loras College. Ambassador Quinn's wide-ranging diplomatic career led to his ascension as one of the federal government's most decorated Foreign Service officers, a top U.S. expert on Indochina, President Ford's Vietnamese interpreter, and ultimately as United States Ambassador to the Kingdom of Cambodia from 1996–1999. Dr. Quinn is regarded as the first person to report on the 1974 Cambodian genocide and is the only civilian to receive an Army Air Medal in Vietnam combat operations. Ambassador Quinn is also among the prestigious recipients of the Secretary of State's Award for Heroism and is the only Foreign Service office to receive the American Foreign Service Association Rivkin and Herter Awards for intellectual courage on three occasions.

Following his 32 year career in the Foreign Service, Dr. Quinn began his role as President of the World Food Prize Foundation in 2000. Since assuming this leadership role, Kenneth has overseen tens of millions of dollars in fundraising and the successful distribution of the annual Nobel Prize Food and Agriculture award. His contribution to the legacy of Dr. Norman Borlaug and the World Food Prize Foundation has been nothing short of remarkable.

Mr. Speaker, I can think of no better recipient for Farm Bureau's Distinguished Service Award than Ambassador Quinn. The dedication Dr. Quinn has displayed to his state and country throughout his career continues to change our world for the better. Ambassador Quinn's efforts embody the Iowa spirit and I am honored to represent him in the United States Congress. I know that all of my colleagues in the House will join me in congratulating him for this achievement, thanking him for his service, and wishing him continued success in the future.

RECOGNIZING THE LOCKPORT
TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL BOYS
BOWLING TEAM'S STATE CHAM-
PIONSHIP

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lockport Township High School Boys Bowling Team on winning their first Illinois High School Association championship.

Although they were in 12th place earlier in the tournament and risked elimination, the Porters demonstrated toughness and determination to maintain a qualifying position. Their persistence eventually allowed them to overcome a 300 pin deficit.

The Porters averaged an impressive 214 points per game, with their leading scorer and individual state champion, Shane Matejcek, scoring 286 points in his fifth game to help keep his team in contention for the title. Shane would finish with a total of 2,924 pins, the second highest score in state history. The team entered the second day in 3rd place, but emerged victorious after an impressive display of teamwork on a 12 for 13 run of strikes.

This victory is a reminder of how preparation, practice, and perseverance produce solid results, even when facing difficult challenges. Today, I am pleased to call on all my colleagues to join me in congratulating the young men of Lockport Township High School on winning the IHSA championship. Great job, Porters!

NATIONAL PEDIATRIC RESEARCH
NETWORK ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 4, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 225, the "National Pediatric Research Action Network Act of 2013." This legislation would authorize the National Institutes of Health (NIH) to establish an up to 20 national pediatric research consortia. Each consortium will be a collaborative effort involving a leading pediatric medical center and numerous supporting institutions, and each will focus on both basic and translational research as well as training for new researchers. Additionally, this Act seeks to bring much needed attention to pediatric rare diseases. The intent is to expand, enhance, and improve coordinated NIH pediatric research.

As the Founder and Co-Chair of the Congressional Children's Caucus I have been a tireless advocate on behalf of our nation's children for decades and an avid supporter of children's health.

Improved coordination under the guidance of the NIH will only enhance the communication and collaborative efforts between leading regional pediatric medical center and supporting smaller community centers. This will enable researchers to develop and hone their research on rare pediatric diseases such as spinal muscular atrophy, in addition to serving as training centers for new cutting edge research in this field. Researchers like those who work for the Pediatric Research Center.

Located in Houston, TX, the Pediatric Center is the premier research center within the University of Texas Health Science Center. Researchers who work at the center are currently working diligently to identify the causes of disorders that affect children. They are experts in their fields and working on a variety of issues. One of which is trying to identify genes that result in birth defects.

Across our nation, birth disabilities, developmental disorders, and prematurity are leading cause of death in children, affecting nearly 25% of both newborns and children. We must support efforts to improve research. According to the Texas Department of State Health Services as of 2009, over 19,000 Texas babies are born each year with one or more major structural malformations or chromosomal anomalies.

For every 10,000 live births, about six births are affected by neural tube defects; 11 babies are born with cleft lip, and 13 are born with Down syndrome. Approximately 28.9% of all babies born from 1999–2008 with birth defects have more than one major birth defect. Certain birth defects exhibit higher rates in some racial/ethnic groups than others.

Birth defects are also the leading cause of death among infants in Texas. From 1999–2008, 5.3% of all live born babies delivered with a birth defect died; most died before their first birthday (4.6%) and 29% of all deaths to live born babies before their first birthday occurred among babies with a birth defect.

In 2010, birth defects resulted in nearly 42,000 hospitalizations among infants in Texas, with total charges over \$2.2 billion, based on hospital discharge data. The average length of stay was 6.2 days and the average cost was \$53,000 per hospitalization. While the average cost per hospitalization is comparable to national data, due to the large population of Texas relative to other states, total cost of hospitalization for infants with birth defects is high.

Texas has unique concerns about some of the potential causes of birth defects such as those concerning environmental pollutants (hazardous waste sites, air pollution, drinking water contaminants), health disparities (income, ethnicity), and maternal factors (diabetes, obesity).

Effective collaboration with the NIH could result in finding cures and treatments to prevent these deaths. Treatments of diseases like Spinal Muscular Atrophy.

Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) Types I, II, and III are a group of hereditary diseases that cause weakness and the destruction of voluntary muscles in the arms and legs of infants and children.

• 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.

An estimated one in 40 people are carriers of SMA and if both parents are carriers, there's a 25 percent chance of their child having SMA.

Most babies born with SMA Type I, die before their 2nd birthday. It is the number 1 genetic killer of children under the age of 2 in the United States. As it stands, there is no cure for SMA; however, I hope the research that is generated as the result of this bill will lead to great strides in tackling this devastating illness.

As we consider this measure, let us reflect upon the thousands of children's lives that might be saved as a result of this bill.

STORY OF AVERY

Lives like that of baby Avery, who was born in Texas. Avery, at 5 months old was diagnosed with Type 1 SMA and her parents were given the grim prognosis that their precious child would only live for another 18 months. Sadly for Avery's time with us was brief. Just prior to her passing, her father Mike pledged that he would work to raise SMA awareness. Today we have an opportunity to help Mike achieve his promise and through research and the debate on the floor today draw further attention to SMA.

TRIBUTE TO COACH ANDREW
TRENKEL AND THE MAINE
SOUTH HIGH SCHOOL CONSTITUTION
TEAM

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Coach Andrew Trenkel and the Maine South High School Constitution Team for their achievement in winning the Illinois State Title of "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution." This marks the twenty-first time that Maine South's Constitution Team has won this title. "We the People: the Citizen and the Constitution," a program sponsored by the Center for Civic Education, aims to develop critical thinking, problem solving, and cooperative participation skills through educating students about the American Constitutional democracy. During the competition, students participate in replicated Congressional hearings, present arguments, and respond to complex questions on the United States Constitution.

The primary goal of "We the People" is to encourage civic proficiency and develop responsibility among the students of the United States. Clearly the 2012–2013 Maine South Team members have accepted this challenge and are working to become future leaders.

Congratulations to all of the members of the 2012–2013 Constitution team: Coach Andrew Trenkel, Mark Abtahi, Jane Acker, Hannah Beswick-Hale, Elizabeth Black, Anthony Borkowski, Matthew Brendza, Patrick Devereuz, Claire Dockery, Renee Hannan, Natalie Kirchhoff, Rebecca Klages, Kevin Kohler, Philip Kulas, Michael Martino, Maddie McGrady, Jenny Mocarski, John Moran, Emily Murphy, Gibson Odderstol, Augusta Paulik, Tim Prinz, Paige Sammarco, Michael Solberg, Pavel Tamas, Jack Touhy, Justin Tomczyk, Dragan Trivanovic, Ryan Walek, and Henrik Weber.

On behalf of the 9th Congressional district of Illinois, I congratulate you on your achievement, and wish you the best of luck in the national competition in April 2013.

HONORING MAYOR JOHN REDNOUR

HON. WILLIAM L. ENYART

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. ENYART. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the dedicated community service of Du Quoin, Illinois Mayor John Rednour as he retires after 24 years as mayor.

John Rednour grew up in Cutler, Illinois and began working as an ironworker. He worked on projects throughout the State, from Southern Illinois, to the St. Louis area and Chicago. It was during this phase of his career that John founded Rednour Steel Erectors, a company with which he maintains a partnership to this day.

John moved with his family to Du Quoin in the early 1970s and, in the 1980s he began a successful banking career when he led a group of investors that assumed control of the Du Quoin State Bank. John continues to serve as chairman of the bank.

While John was raising a family and embarking on successful careers, he also showed an early interest in public service. He served six years as a Perry County Commissioner, from 1967 to 1973, and was elected to the Trico School District Board of Education while in his 20s. John was elected mayor of the City of Du Quoin in 1989 and will officiate at his last City Council meeting next Monday, February 11.

In his 24 years as Mayor, John Rednour has left an indelible mark on Southern Illinois. He has been able to lead as well as compromise and he is justifiably proud of the infrastructure improvements that have occurred during his tenure as mayor, most notably the Highway 51, Poplar Street overpass, an industrial park and water and sewer improvement projects. All of these infrastructure improvements were completed while maintaining balanced municipal budgets. In evaluating potential projects, John's simple criterion was always, "Is it good for Du Quoin?"

John Rednour's community contributions were not limited to his successful business ventures and service as mayor. John also serves as Chairman of the Illinois State Police Merit Board and is a commissioner of the Perry County Housing Authority. He has been active in politics his entire adult life, having served as a member of the Democratic National Committee for nearly 40 years.

John and his wife, Wanda, have been married for over 60 years and are proud parents, grandparents and great grandparents.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in an expression of appreciation to Mayor John Rednour in recognition of his years of service as a community leader and to wish him and his family the very best in the future.

HONORING MRS. HELEN AGNES
WEAVER

HON. ROBERT A. BRADY

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mrs. Helen Agnes Weaver, a constituent of my district, who celebrated her 101st birthday on August 1, 2012.

A native of Philadelphia, Mrs. Weaver is devoted to her community and family. She is the proud mother of two children, the grandmother of seven grandchildren, and the great-grandmother of twenty-three great grandchildren, and the great-great-grandmother of seventeen great-great-grandchildren.

I ask that you and my other distinguished colleagues help me in honoring the significant occasion of Mrs. Weaver's 101st birthday. Mrs. Weaver is the epitome of a life-long Philadelphian and a model citizen. We can all learn something from her fortitude and her commitment to her city and family. She will remain an inspiration for many generations to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 34 On Agreeing to H. Res. 48. Had I been present, I would have voted, "no."

TRIBUTE TO CPSC EMPLOYEE
BILL MOORE ON HIS RETIREMENT

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the distinguished career of my constituent William J. (Bill) Moore, Trial Attorney in the Office of the General Counsel at the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, and to congratulate him on his retirement after 36 years of service at the CPSC.

Bill was born in New Jersey and has lived in Maryland most of his life. He began his career at the CPSC in 1974 as a law clerk while studying at American University's Washington College of Law and became one of CPSC's treasured compliance attorneys.

Bill worked chiefly in the Office of Compliance and Administrative Litigation and, most recently, in the Division of Compliance within the Office of the General Counsel. Over the course of his long and distinguished career, he helped to negotiate numerous major product recalls in a variety of product categories, including durable infant goods, toys, furnaces, electrical appliances, and outdoor equipment. He also served as lead counsel in some of the Commission's most prominent corrective action litigations, including those on gas valves, worm probes, BB guns, and toasters.

As an attorney working at the Commission shortly after its inception, Bill was instrumental

in ensuring the enforcement of the newly-drafted safety regulations. When the agency banned refuse bins that were tipping over, pinning down, and killing children who were playing around them, Bill was part of the team that travelled the country, engaging in enforcement litigation to have the unstable bins removed from public use. He later worked with the Commission's Office of Compliance to lay the groundwork that led to the guidance to eliminate soft bedding in cribs and to have babies placed on their backs for safe sleep. Bill was also instrumental in drafting the certification requirements for bicycle helmet and cigarette lighter regulations. During his tenure, Bill negotiated over \$16 million in civil penalty fines, the highest cumulative amount of civil penalty fines in the agency's history.

Bill has played a major role in protecting the public from unreasonable risks of injury posed by consumer products. He has provided guidance to other attorneys and compliance staff as they pursue legal strategies against manufacturers, importers, distributors, and retailers of dangerously defective and hazardous products. Over the years, he received many well-deserved distinguished and meritorious awards for his outstanding work.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in congratulating Bill Moore and in extending our nation's gratitude to him for his honorable and productive service.

HONORING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF DOROTHY ROCKAITIS

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mrs. Dorothy Rockaitis, a lifelong resident of Chicago who is celebrating her 90th birthday today.

Dorothy Victoria Cichoszewski was born on February 6th, 1923, and was raised in Brighton Park by her parents, Victoria and Michael. She would later move to Garfield Ridge, where she lived for 50 years. In 1963, Dorothy married Frank Rockaitis, her steadfast partner for nearly four decades.

For over forty years, Dorothy was actively involved in government and politics. Not only did she work for Chicago Aldermen Frank Kuta and Bill Krstyniak, she also worked for Illinois State House member Robert Terzich. She later served Illinois' 3rd Congressional District on the staff of Congressman Bill Lipinski. As an office manager, secretary, and Democratic Precinct Captain, Dorothy faithfully served her party, city, and country for nearly half a century.

A vibrant and lively aunt, mother, grandmother, and great grandmother, Dorothy is beloved by so many around her. From her seventeen-year marriage with Frank Miller, Dorothy has three children: Michalene, Patricia, and Charles. Dorothy also has five grandchildren: Gina Glaubke, John Glaubke, Aaron Conrad, Keith Conrad, and Alicia Miller. From her grandchildren come four great grandchildren: Luca Conrad, Odette Conrad, Clare Glaubke, and Emma Glaubke.

Dorothy is a caring, energetic, and dedicated American who is deserving of our recognition and praise. Today, I ask my col-

leagues to join me in wishing Dorothy Rockaitis a very happy 90th birthday, and to thank her for being such an active contributor to her community.

HONORING THE LIFE AND CONTRIBUTIONS OF HATTIE ELIE JACKSON

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and contributions of Mrs. Hattie Elie Jackson, a Memphis educator, a devout woman of faith and a leader in the Civil Rights Movement. An Arkansas native, Mrs. Jackson graduated from Arkansas AM&N College, and obtained her master's degree at Columbia University in New York. She received further graduate-level education at the University of Chicago, and finally obtained her Education Specialist degree from the University of Tennessee at Knoxville.

Mrs. Jackson used her extensive education and many talents to serve and nurture the Memphis community. For 25 years she presided as principal over Double Tree Elementary School, inspiring young hearts, and helping to shape the minds of local luminaries such as former Memphis Congressman, Harold Ford, Jr. She was a devoted member of St. Andrew AME church, and played an active and energetic role in her faith community. She was the former first lady of St. Andrew AME Church, where she served as a trustee, Sunday school teacher and President of the Ruth Circle Club.

Mrs. Jackson was a leader in the Civil Rights Movement and in the Memphis Sanitation Strike of 1968. In 2004, she was inspired to write and publish an account of her personal recollection of the Sanitation Strike, entitled 65 Dark Days in '68. Her primary purpose in recording her memories, thoughts and feelings was to educate younger and future generations as to what transpired in 1968, and to inspire them to continue to strive for greater things.

Mrs. Hattie Jackson passed away on January 13, 2013 at 88 years of age. She leaves to cherish her memory two daughters and their husbands, Zita and Glenn Blankenship, and Cheri and Joseph Harrell as well as five grandchildren, two great granddaughters, a host of loving and supportive nieces, nephews, cousins, extended family and friends. I extend my heartfelt appreciation for the life and work of Hattie Elie Jackson. Hers was a life well-lived.

LAKE CHARLES AWARDED ACADIANA'S CITY OF THE YEAR

HON. CHARLES W. BOUSTANY, JR.

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. BOUSTANY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to applaud the city of Lake Charles for its recent selection by the Acadiana Profile magazine as the city of the year. Lake Charles continues to make major progress improving the economic

opportunities and cultural life for its citizens. In the next few years, approximately 34,000 jobs will be generated in the petrochemical industry due to significant and meaningful commitments to the region by international companies including Sasol and Cheniere Energy, Inc. Also, the Calcasieu Parish and the city of Lake Charles' tourism produced \$358 million just last year alone and this number is expected to increase in the future. Furthermore, residents are enjoying the luxuries of a more personable and hospitable community, with the new Millennium Park serving as a pillar of the downtown area.

Due to the redevelopment of the downtown area, the Charpentier Historic District is more inviting than ever. With seventy-five festivals held annually in addition to the construction of the National Hurricane Museum and Science Center, Lake Charles' impressive progress will continue into the future.

I am proud of Lake Charles' improvements and want to commend Mayor Randy Roach and the City Council for their vision and dedication.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 31 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 225, the National Pediatric Research Network Act of 2013, I was unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

INTRODUCTION OF A BILL TO AMEND TITLE IV OF THE EMPLOYEE RETIREMENT INCOME SECURITY ACT OF 1974 TO PROVIDE FOR A GUARANTEE BY THE PENSION BENEFIT GUARANTY CORPORATION FOR QUALIFIED PRERETIREMENT SURVIVOR ANNUITIES UNDER INSOLVENT OR TERMINATED MULTIEMPLOYER PENSION PLANS

HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to rectify an inequity regarding the benefits provided to surviving spouses through the Pension Benefit Guaranty Corporation (PBGC). I am pleased to be joined by Representative ROB ANDREWS in this effort.

PBGC provides pre-retirement survivor coverage, which provides a benefit to the surviving spouse of a pension participant who dies before retirement. However, in the case of a multiemployer pension plan turned over to PBGC, this benefit is guaranteed only if the plan participant dies before the plan is turned over. For single-employer plans the benefit is guaranteed regardless of when the participant dies.

The PBGC website acknowledges this discrepancy, stating

... For the most part, the PBGC guarantees the same type of benefits for multiemployer pension plans as for benefits in the

single-employer program, with the exception that preretirement survivor annuities are forfeitable in multiemployer plans if the participant has not died as of the termination date.

The debate over how to best provide income security for older Americans will continue for some time. However, in the meantime, it is unconscionable that a widow or widower would be denied the modest benefits provided under the PBGC multiemployer plan simply because his or her spouse did not die before the plan was turned over to the PBGC.

This discrepancy appears inadvertent and deserves to be corrected by Congress. I ask my colleagues for their support of this legislation so we can address this issue quickly.

HONORING KRISTINA “KRISTY”
MARIE SERMERSHEIM

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to acknowledge and honor Kristina “Kristy” Marie Sermersheim. I first met Kristy more than 30 years ago. I was a brash candidate for office not backed by the establishment and not expected to win. Kristy was a union activist who didn’t know the meaning of the word “no”. Together we challenged the conventional wisdom. Voters decided that an emphasis on children and families was what they cared about. I was elected to the Board of Supervisors of Santa Clara County. That same year, in 1981, she became a full-time Service Employees International Union (SEIU) staff member.

The financial roof fell in on the county shortly thereafter, the impact of Proposition 13. Neither of us wanted a reduction in services to people in need. But we faced the imperative of reductions.

We worked together to cut the budget, to make sure that as we dealt with the budget reality we protected the most vulnerable and never scapegoated our employees. Kristy Sermersheim proved her bona fides in those tough times. She was smart, pragmatic but idealistic. She had values. She stood up for her members and she stood up for those in need. She was a star.

She continued to represent workers for another 32 years. As a passionate advocate for workers’ rights, she held a range of positions on various local, state, national, and international organizations, including SEIU Local 715, SEIU International Union, South Bay American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL–CIO) Labor Council, California Labor Federation, SEIU Public Services Division, and SEIU California State Council. Kristy assumed the leadership role of SEIU local 715, the largest union representing employees of Santa Clara County.

Born in New Albany, Indiana, during elementary school, her family lived in Michigan, San Diego, and Long Beach, California. In 1961, her family moved to San Jose. In 1967, she graduated from Leigh High School. Kristy’s good grades earned accolades as a National Merit Scholar Finalist and she was voted “Most Likely to Succeed” by her classmates. After she graduated, she took classes at San Jose State University and began work-

ing as a Santa Clara County Social Services Eligibility Worker in the Welfare Department.

Kristy has devoted her life to social justice and workers’ rights. She served 11 years as a member leader for the Santa Clara County Employees Association.

As head of the former SEIU Local 715 in Santa Clara and San Mateo counties, Kristy expanded the union from 5,000 members working for four employers to more than 30,000 members with over 20 different contracts. She led the consolidation of five unions, including Local 715, to form the new SEIU Local 521. As Chief Elected Office of SEIU 521, she fought on behalf of 57,000 workers throughout North and Central California. Under her leadership, the County of Santa Clara and SEIU negotiated an \$80 million settlement that established pay equity by removing discrimination in wage-setting for women and people of color.

We worked together for rights for women. Kristy helped make sure that the union represented a female worker in the county roads department in an affirmative action case that went all the way to the United States Supreme Court. County government was her partner in the case. I remember so well listening to the oral arguments on that case as a young County Supervisor. We were proud that local government and the union were partners in the quest for equal rights for women.

The case confirmed that government agencies must consider previous discrimination history as well as qualifications when making hiring decisions. In recognition of over 40 years of contributions to the social and political advancement of women, Kristy was awarded the South Bay AFL–CIO Labor Council’s 2012 COPE Award for Service Above Self.

Throughout her career, Kristy worked together with public workers to obtain improvements in working conditions, wages, and benefits. She forged alliances with other unions and community groups to improve public services to the residents union members serve. Kristy is now retired and lives in Morgan Hill with her two sisters, Andrea and Teresa. The three sisters have collectively raised their brother’s children after he passed away. They live with their niece Flori, a little dog, and three cats. In her retirement, Kristy wants to help the developmentally disabled community and volunteer where she can make a difference. I join in honoring her decades of contribution and service to the betterment of our society. The community is very fortunate to have benefited from her advocacy, dedication, and leadership. She has left her mark in the community and I know she will continue to play a positive role.

COMMEMORATING THE 21ST ANNI-
VERSARY OF THE KHOJALY
MASSACRE

HON. STEVE COHEN

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. COHEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate the 21st anniversary of the Khojaly massacre perpetrated by Armenian armed forces on February 25–26, 1992 in the town of Khojaly in the Nagorno-Karabakh region of Azerbaijan. Khojaly, now under the oc-

cupation of Armenian armed forces, was the site of the largest killing of ethnic Azerbaijani civilians in the course of the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict.

Khojaly, once the home to 7,000 people, was completely destroyed. Six hundred thirteen people were killed, of which 106 were women, 83 were children and 56 were purported to have been killed with extreme cruelty and torture. In addition, 1,275 people were taken hostage, 150 went missing and 487 people became disabled. Also in the records maintained, 76 of the victims were teenagers, 8 families were wiped out and 25 children lost both of their parents while 130 lost one of their parents. According to Human Rights Watch and other international observers, the Armenian Armed forces were reportedly aided by the Russian 366th Motor Rifle Regiment.

At the time, Newsweek magazine reported: “Azerbaijan was a charnel house again last week: a place of mourning refugees and dozens of mangled corpses dragged to a makeshift morgue behind the mosque. They were ordinary Azerbaijani men, women and children of Khojaly, a small village in war-torn Nagorno-Karabakh overrun by Armenian forces on 25–26 February. Many were killed at close range while trying to flee; some had their faces mutilated, others were scalped.”

As part of the Khojaly population that tried to escape, they encountered violent ambushes that led to abuses, torture, mutilation and death. The Russian organization, Memorial, stated that 200 Azerbaijani corpses were brought from Khojaly to Agdam within four days.

Time magazine published the following description: “While the details are argued, this much is plain: something grim and unconscionable happened in the Azerbaijani town of Khojaly 2 weeks ago. So far, some 200 dead Azerbaijanis, many of them mutilated, have been transported out of the town tucked inside the Armenian-dominated enclave of Nagorno-Karabakh for burial in neighboring Azerbaijan. The total number of deaths—the Azerbaijanis claim 1,324 civilians have been slaughtered, most of them women and children—is unknown.”

The extent of the cruelty of this massacre against women, children and the elderly was unfathomable. This anniversary reminds us of the need to redouble efforts to help resolve the Armenia-Azerbaijan conflict. The United States as a Co-Chair of the OSCE Minsk Group should intensify its efforts to reach a resolution of this protracted conflict.

Mr. Speaker, Azerbaijan is a strong ally of the United States in a strategically important and complex region of the world. I ask my colleagues to join me and our Azerbaijani friends in commemorating the tragedy that occurred in the town of Khojaly.

TERRITORIAL SEA

HON. GREGORIO KILILI CAMACHO
SABLAN

OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN
MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. SABLAN. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill that will return to the people of the Northern Marianas ownership of the three

miles of submerged lands surrounding each of our islands. In doing so, this bill also puts the management of these lands back in the hands of those who have the greatest interest in protecting the natural resources there and in developing their economic potential—the people of the Northern Mariana Islands.

I say “return” because, until 2005, we believed we owned these lands around our islands; and we cared for them accordingly. But in 2005 the Ninth Circuit Court of Appeals ruled that—unlike the case for every other coastal state and territory in our Nation—the submerged lands and waters off our shores did not belong to us, but rather belonged to the federal government.

The Court did acknowledge in its ruling that Congress had the authority to convey these lands to the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands; and it is that authority that my bill would exercise.

We have been here before. In three previous Congresses legislation has been offered to provide the same ownership of submerged lands to the Northern Mariana Islands as is enjoyed by American Samoa, Guam, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. In 2005 Representative Jeff Flake of Arizona—now Senator Jeff Flake—introduced H.R. 4255 for this purpose. And in 2009, when for the first time the people of the Northern Mariana Islands themselves were represented in this House, I introduced H.R. 934, conveying these lands. That bill passed the House without dissent, 416–0, in July of 2009, but died in the Senate. Again in 2011 I introduced this legislation, as H.R. 670. Again the House passed the bill without dissent, 397–0. Again the Senate failed to act, although the Senate Energy and Natural Resources Committee held a hearing on a companion measure, S. 590, sponsored by Senator Jeff Bingaman and Senator LISA MURKOWSKI.

In each Congress each bill introduced on this issue has progressed farther down the legislative track.

I hope the fourth time proves to be the charm.

We know from past action that this House supports local control of these local resources in the Northern Mariana Islands. The Obama Administration has testified in favor of the conveyance. And I can attest that my constituents desire equivalent treatment to other U.S. coastal jurisdictions. So, we just have to give the other body one more opportunity to join in this wide agreement.

Let me add that the cost of the measure I have introduced is nothing and that Congress has the Constitutional authority to enact this bill—two threshold questions that we must always answer.

And let me thank the hundreds of Members who voted in favor of this conveyance in the 111th and 112th Congresses and all those Members who are original co-sponsors of today's measure, which provides the right of ownership and responsibility of management for submerged lands and waters to the Northern Mariana Islands that every other coastal area of our Nation enjoys.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF REVEREND JAMES S. YOUNG

HON. JEFF MILLER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. MILLER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I am privileged to recognize Reverend James S. Young for his selfless service to the Northwest Florida community.

Reverend Young founded the Pensacola chapter of the Southern Christian Leadership Conference more than 50 years ago after an inspirational meeting with Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. in Birmingham, Alabama. The Southern Christian Leadership Conference not only played a critical role in the civil rights movement, but continues to push for effective policy in four major realms: economic development, education, community empowerment, and technology.

Reverend Young's contributions to the civil rights movement include working closely with local ministers and leaders to organize boycotts throughout the city in order to further their cause for justice. Under his leadership, several ministerial and civil leaders were able to conduct meetings with businesses specifically regarding merchants' discrimination practices. Most notably, Reverend Young was selected to meet with the Supreme Court Judges in Washington, D.C. to participate in a discussion on segregation issues. The list of Reverend Young's accomplishments extends far beyond what is noted here, but they all highlight his devotion to improving the lives of those around him and to bettering his community through service.

In addition to his involvement with the Southern Christian Leadership Conference, Reverend Young serves as the Dean of the Baptist Ministers Union of Pensacola, the Executive Director of the Martin Luther King, Jr. Commemorative Celebration Committee, and senior pastor at Mt. Canaan Ministry Baptist Church. He also offers his leadership and expertise as a member of the NAACP, the Ministerial Association, and the God in Government Committee.

Reverend Young's commitment to service and passion for bettering the lives of others has been recognized through the countless awards bestowed to him; most recently with proclamations from the Pensacola Mayor and County Commission. For the past several decades, Reverend Young has served his community and organization with unwavering dedication. There is no question that Reverend Young has left an invaluable impact on not only Northwest Florida, but to the national human rights and justice movement as well.

Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the United States Congress, it gives me great pride to recognize Reverend James S. Young for his lifetime of service. My wife Vicki joins me in wishing James and his wife Marie all of the best.

IN HONOR OF WILLIE F. MONDAY

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, Bill Monday of Locust, North Carolina, dedicated his life to

the service of his country. His military career and civic service make admirers of all those fortunate enough to have known him.

Bill Monday selflessly volunteered for service in June of 1940 and was sent to Ft. Bragg as part of the 4th Field Artillery Battalion in the United States Army Air Corps.

Bill's long and distinguished career in the Corps began with his enlistment and ended with his promotion to Captain after his skill and commitment to duty qualified him for Officer Candidate School. He went on to qualify and earn his wings as a Field Artillery Liaison Pilot.

During his military career, Bill was stationed throughout the South Pacific though the bulk of the action he saw was in the ferocious campaign for the Philippines in October of 1944. In this campaign Bill's intrepid flying ability allowed him to land on small dirt roads and school yards in order direct fire, provide reconnaissance, and drop supplies to cut off troops. All of this was done with nothing more than a thin layer of plywood to protect him from the rain of anti-aircraft and small arms fire.

It was here, flying up to ten miles behind enemy lines in an unarmed aircraft, that Bill earned a Silver Star in December of 1944. This was followed up by the Air Medal with Oak Leaf Clusters in June and September of 1945.

His Silver Star citation reads: “Flying from short, hazardous fields, he was not able to take an observer with him, but was nonetheless able to make accurate and skilled adjustments of artillery fire. By his outstanding courage and willingness to meet military necessities beyond the call of his normal duties, Lieutenant Monday conducted himself in a manner worthy of the highest traditions of the military service.”

After the war ended, Bill returned to Fort Bragg. After being discharged in August of 1949 he settled in Locust, NC with his wife, Virginia, where he lived a long prosperous life.

Bill loved flying and said that even during wartime there was a peace to flying and that he never felt closer to God than when he was in the air alone. As he is laid to rest, let us hope that he finds that same peace.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to call his extraordinary service and devotion to the United States to the attention of my colleagues and other readers of the RECORD.

IN HONOR AND REMEMBRANCE OF TED SCHLOSSMAN

HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and remember Ted Schlossman, a great husband, father, and grandfather. He was an outstanding businessman, a volunteer in his community, and a friend of mine. Ted passed away unexpectedly Sunday, January 20, 2013, while attending a conference. I know the contributions he left us with will not be forgotten by his family, friends, or his community.

I had the privilege of knowing Ted for more than 20 years and his dedication and service to the housing industry has truly made a difference. Ted was not only a strong advocate

for the industry, but served in numerous leadership capacities. When you wanted something done, you wanted Ted on your team. It is fitting that Ted departed this earth on the way to chair a meeting.

Ted wore many hats in the residential construction industry throughout his career. He did everything from serving as a supplier of doors and windows to building houses in both Texas and Virginia. Before he moved to Texas in 1983, Ted served as president of both the Tidewater Builders Association and the Virginia State Home Builders Association in Virginia. Ted was also recognized for his service to the industry with numerous awards. In 2011, he was inducted into the Texas Association of Builders Housing Hall of Honor.

Ted lived the American Dream that so many of us strive for. He enjoyed a loving family and a thriving career. Ted has left a legacy that many people will enjoy for years to come through the homes he built and the lives he touched.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in extending my sincere thanks to Ted Schlossman, for leaving this world a better place than he found it. I am truly honored to recognize my friend and his accomplishments. He will be missed.

HONORING THE 4TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE LILLY LEDBETTER FAIR PAY ACT

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the progress we've made in ensuring equal pay for equal work, and the 4th year anniversary of the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act. Lilly Ledbetter performed equal work but received less pay than her male colleagues at Goodyear. Despite experiencing pay discrimination over the course of her career, Ledbetter was barred by the Supreme Court from challenging her discriminatory pay because she did not pursue legal action soon enough.

Fortunately, this is no longer the case. On January 29, 2009, President Obama signed the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. This law restored an employee's right to challenge pay discrimination. Women today have the right to pursue legal action for pay discrimination whenever it occurs.

Despite this victory, challenges still remain for women receiving equal pay for equal work as evidenced by the pay gap that still exists. Today, women are paid only 77 cents to every dollar made by men. And for women of color, that number falls even lower. African American women receive 68 cents and Hispanic women 59 cents to every dollar earned by men. This pay disparity not only affects women during their careers, but follows them into retirement as they receive lower pensions and Social Security benefits based on receiving lower wages than they deserved.

Although today we take a moment to celebrate the restoration of the right to challenge pay discrimination, now more than ever, we must strengthen our resolve to ensure equal pay for equal work. Eliminating pay discrimination not only benefits women—it benefits families. In most American households today,

women are either the sole breadwinner or essential co-breadwinner. Those families rely on women's income to meet the daily needs of the family—including groceries, rent, and medical care. As we celebrate the 4th anniversary of this important law, we must commit to passing the Paycheck Fairness Act now to take another major step in ensuring equal pay for equal work.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DELEGATE CHRISTINE M. JONES

HON. DONNA F. EDWARDS

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. EDWARDS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the life and service of Christine M. Jones, a resident of Temple Hills in the Fourth Congressional District of Maryland. She unexpectedly passed from this life on January 26, 2013. As her funeral service is this coming Friday at Bethlehem Baptist Church on Martin Luther King Avenue in Southeast Washington, DC, I want to remember the legacy Ms. Jones leaves behind.

Ms. Christine Jones's long and distinguished career served the people of Maryland for over 40 years both as a teacher in Prince George's County and in the Maryland House of Delegates. Delegate Jones served as a mentor and inspiration to countless individuals throughout our state. All of Maryland mourns the loss of a great woman and unparalleled public servant.

Delegate Jones was born in Navasota, Texas, on Christmas Day in 1929. She graduated from the historically black university, Huston—Tillotson University, in Austin, Texas, in 1949 with a Bachelor of Arts degree.

Delegate Jones had a long career as a teacher and educator in the Prince George's County Public Schools system and specialized in physical education. Just as she lived her life, she stressed service to those students that were lucky enough to have her as a teacher and mentor.

After a 30 year career as an educator, Ms. Jones decided to continue her public service on behalf of Prince George's County by becoming the first African American to represent the County in the Maryland General Assembly. She represented the 26th Legislative District in the House of Delegates from 1982–1994. Delegate Jones rose to the position of vice chairman of the County's delegation and was the first woman to serve as chairperson of the Legislative Black Caucus of Maryland. In her last year in office in 1994, she worked as the Assembly's assistant majority floor leader. The Legislative Black Caucus recognized Delegate Jones for her contributions and service to the state of Maryland and its residents in 2010.

After her time in office, Delegate Jones continued to be active in her community through service in political, educational, and religious organizations. With her passing, it is my hope that Christine M. Jones has found the peace earned from such a wonderful life. Delegate Jones made a difference in our community with everything she did, and I am grateful for her life and service to Prince George's County, Maryland, and our country.

On behalf of this House, I extend our condolences to her entire family, especially her

son, Robert E. Jones, Jr., her three grandchildren, and three great-grandchildren, and the thanks of a grateful nation.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I was not present during the rollcall vote No. 5, on January 3, 2013. I would like the record to reflect that I would have voted "yes."

OPINION EDITORIAL WRITTEN BY MARION P. HAMMER OF FLORIDA

HON. RICHARD HUDSON

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. HUDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to call to the attention of my colleagues an opinion editorial that was written by Marion P. Hammer, of Tallahassee, Florida.

Marion has diligently served as a staunch advocate for Second Amendment Rights for nearly her entire life. She served as the first female President of the National Rifle Association (NRA) from 1995 through 1998, and remains on the NRA Board of Directors today.

The opinion editorial explains in very plain language, just like our Second Amendment, the glaring problems our nation's one hundred million gun owners, sportsmen and women, and law abiding citizens have with the misguided proposals we are hearing from the President and his Democratic colleagues.

"UNIVERSAL BACKGROUND CHECKS"— ABSOLUTELY NOT

(By Marion P. Hammer)

Imagine a grandfather who wants to give a family shotgun to his 12-year-old grandson having to do a background check on his grandson before giving him the shotgun.

Or a friend having to do a background check on his lifetime best buddy before lending him a hunting rifle.

Or, if your mother had a prowler at her home, having to do a background check on your own Mom before you could give her one of your guns for protection.

That's what "universal background checks" do. They turn traditional innocent conduct into a criminal offense. They target you, law-abiding gun owners.

Universal background checks are background checks on EVERY transfer, sale, purchase, trade, gift, rental, and loan of a firearm between any and all individuals.

All background checks must be conducted through a federally licensed dealer. Universal background checks have nothing to do with gun shows—they are about you.

It is ALREADY a federal felony to be engaged in the business of buying and selling firearms without having federal firearm dealer's license.

It is ALREADY a crime for a federally licensed dealer to sell a gun without doing a background check—that's all dealers, everywhere, including at retail stores, gun shows, flea markets or anywhere else.

Further, it is ALREADY a federal felony for any private person to sell, trade, give, lend, rent or transfer a gun to a person you know or should have known is not legally allowed to own, purchase or possess a firearm.

The penalty for selling a gun to a person who is a criminal, mentally ill, mentally incompetent, alcohol abuser or drug abuser is a 10-year federal felony. That's now, today, with no changes to the law.

It is even a federal felony to submit false information on a background check form for the purpose of purchasing a firearm.

Even so, according to a 2012 report to the Department of Justice, more than 72,000 people were turned down on a gun purchase in 2010 because they didn't pass the background check. Yet, only 44 of those cases were prosecuted. Why, when criminals are caught in the act of lying on the form to illegally purchase a firearm are they not prosecuted?

On Thursday, January 10, 2013, in the White House meeting of President Obama's Gun Agenda Task Force, Vice President Joe Biden answered that question, telling NRA's Director of Federal Affairs, James Baker, that the Obama administration didn't have time to prosecute people for lying on the federal background check form.

In an article in The Daily Caller (1/18/2013) Biden said, "And to your point, Mr. Baker, regarding the lack of prosecutions on lying on Form 4473s, we simply don't have the time or manpower to prosecute everybody who lies on a form, that checks a wrong box, that answers a question inaccurately."

If the Obama Administration currently doesn't have the time or manpower to prosecute those who lie on background check forms, then why do they want more background checks, more paperwork and more forms? It's backdoor gun registration.

Universal background check system legislation that we have previously seen, allows the government to keep a computerized government registry of gun owners.

In addition to the absurdity of having to do background checks on people you know are not criminals, would you like to pay up to \$100 or more just to give your grandson a shotgun or lend a hunting rifle to your best friend or give your Mom a gun for protection?

Transfer fees alone could run from \$50 up. Firearms dealers, like other businesses, charge as much as they can get away with. Background check fees for a federally mandated program can be any amount they decide.

The Obama administration's gun ban agenda and universal background check system are unconstitutional regulatory schemes to gut the Second Amendment. These proposals which mandate the government collection of data on lawful gun buyers and sellers amount to universal gun registration and gun owner licensing.

This agenda focuses on peaceable citizens, not violent criminals who obtain guns on the black-market to carry out unspeakable crimes already prohibited under federal and state laws. Instead of stopping crime and eliminating criminal conduct, they are creating more criminals—they are targeting you.

That's why NRA Members and the nation's 100 million firearms owners will stand in solidarity and fight against these misguided and diabolical proposals that have nothing whatsoever to do with curbing criminal violence but everything to do with stripping us of our guaranteed civil rights and our freedom.

Marion P. Hammer is past President of the National Rifle Association and is Executive Director of Unified Sportsmen of Florida

HONORING DONALD VAUGHN,
FORMER CHIEF ENGINEER, ALA-
BAMA DEPARTMENT OF TRANS-
PORTATION

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise to pay tribute to Mr. Donald W. Vaughn, a distinguished civil servant of the State of Alabama who will be inducted into the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame on February 23, 2013.

A 1971 graduate of Auburn University's School of Engineering, Don Vaughn served the Alabama Highway Department for more than 40 years before retiring in 2012. His contributions to the enhancement of Alabama's transportation system over the last four decades are reflected in the state's modern highways and continued emphasis on traffic safety.

Don holds a lifelong passion for engineering that began even before he earned his degree. Indeed, he started work as a survey party member for the Alabama Highway Department in 1966 at the same he entered college. He spent summer breaks and between quarters assisting state surveyor crews even as he studied at Auburn University. After graduation in 1972, Don began full-time work in the Alabama Highway Department's Engineering Education Training Program as a Graduate Civil Engineer. He subsequently rose in the ranks, starting as an Interstate Bureau Engineer, 1973–1976, Assistant Location Engineer, 1976–1979, Location Engineer, 1980–1983, Assistant Chief of Design Bureau, 1983–1987, Bureau Chief of Office Engineer Bureau, 1987–1989, and, in July 1989, he was appointed Administrative Engineer to the Transportation Director.

Under Governor Fob James, Don was promoted to Assistant Transportation Director on October 1, 1997. He served in that position until February 1999 when he was appointed Assistant Chief Engineer. Governor Donald Siegelman appointed him Assistant Transportation Director on July 1, 2001. He was appointed to the position of Deputy Director, Operations in February 2003. On June 1, 2005, Don was appointed Chief Engineer by Governor Bob Riley.

An active leader in Alabama and national transportation organizations, Don was President of the Alabama Section of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Chairman of the Traffic Safety Committee, Chairman of the US Route Numbering Committee, and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Safety Management of the Standing Committee on Highways of the American Association of State and Highway Transportation Officials. He also served on the Alabama Enterprise Zone Advisory Council, the Inland Waterways and Intermodal Infrastructure Advisory Board, and the Alabama Toll Road, Bridge and Tunnel Authority.

Don retired at the rank of Commander in the U.S. Naval Reserves Civil Engineer Corps and was the 2009 Auburn University Outstanding Civil Engineer Alumnus.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I would like to extend personal congratulations to Don on his induction into the Alabama Engineering Hall of Fame. His service to improving the

quality and safety of Alabama's roads, bridges and transportation infrastructure is second to none.

I wish Don and his wife, Becki, and their entire family the very best in their future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING PATRICIA "PATTY" BENNETT AS THE 2012 CITIZEN OF THE YEAR FOR THE TOWN OF NOVATO, CALIFORNIA

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate Novato resident Patricia (Patty) Bennett as the 2012 Citizen of the Year for the Town of Novato located in Mann County in Northern California.

Patty's enduring service to the town is marked by her quiet presence and many positive outcomes. As a local community activist committed to the growth and care of the Novato community, Patty has been serving on various committees around town for many years. Since 2004, Patty Bennett has served on the board of the Novato Youth Center (NYC), where in addition to her duties as Vice-President of the NYC Board and chairperson of the Development Committee, she founded and co-chairs their biannual fundraising event Cruisin' the Classics.

Patty's strong compassion for working parents motivated her to join NYC board of directors in 2004 to help make accessible quality childcare for these parents. Among her many contributions as a director, Patty played a critical role in transitioning the leadership of the NYC after the retirement of an Executive Director who served 23 years.

Patty's dedication to Novato has remained constant though the years. She currently serves as Treasurer for "Novato 2010—Celebrating 50 years" Birthday Celebration Steering Committee and has worked for many years on the Coordinating Committee for the Paint the Town Red event. She is also an Elder at the Presbyterian Church of Novato and has served as President of the Parent Teacher Association for Pleasant Valley Elementary School and on Leadership Councils for Novato Unified School District schools including Pleasant Valley Elementary, Sinaloa Middle and San Marin High School.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate that we honor Patty Bennett for her exceptional community service and civic engagement, commend her generosity of spirit and extend to her our congratulations for her selection as the 2012 Citizen of the Year.

WHERE'S THE BUDGET

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, Groundhog Day has come and gone.

The little fella did not see his shadow, and once again, Congress saw no budget from the White House.

That's right, MS, for the fourth time in five years this Administration has missed its legally required deadline to submit a budget.

The Budget Act of 1974 says: "On or after the first Monday in January but not later than the first Monday in February of each year, the President shall submit a budget of the United States Government for the following fiscal year."

But once again the White House ignores laws it doesn't like.

Ironically, the Administration missed the legal deadline the same day that the "No Budget No Pay" act was signed into law.

That law freezes pay for Members of Congress unless we pass our own budget by April 15.

Last year, the President's tardy budget failed to receive a single vote in either Chamber.

So what's the plan now?

Show us the budget.

Your move, Mr. President.

And that's just the way it is.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL E. CAPUANO

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. CAPUANO. Mr. Speaker, due to constituent obligations in my district, I was unavoidably detained in Massachusetts on February 4, 2012. I was therefore unable to cast a vote on rollcall votes 31, and 32. Had I been present, I would have voted "yea" on rollcall 31, and "yea" on rollcall 32.

HONORING THE LIFE OF R. BRIAN KIDNEY

HON. JIM COSTA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. COSTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today with my colleagues and former members of the California State Legislature Mr. FARR, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. LEE, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. THOMPSON and Mr. WAXMAN to pay tribute to the life of R. Brian Kidney, who passed away on December 22, 2012 at the age of 82. Mr. Kidney was an extraordinary person, and he will always be remembered as a man who lived his life with purpose and a dedication to public service, with almost 30 years in the California State Assembly, Office of the Chief Clerk.

Brian Kidney earned a Bachelor's degree in Russian History from the University of Michigan. He went on to further his education at the University of San Francisco and earned a Master's degree in Government. Upon completion of his Master's degree, Mr. Kidney joined the United States Air Force and served our nation as a Russian Translator in Libya.

His impressive and irreplaceable service to the State of California began in 1963 in the California State Legislature, where he served as an office messenger for Assembly Speaker Jesse Unruh. Two years later he became assistant clerk, and in 1991, Mr. Kidney retired after serving 25 years as chief clerk.

Mr. Kidney was an expert at his profession, but he brought more than knowledge and expertise to work every day. His understanding of the legislative process was an asset to each member who served in the California State Assembly during his tenure. Mr. Kidney's passion for government positively impacted the State of California in numerous ways.

In 1989, Mr. Kidney created the Assembly Chief Clerk Legislative Internship Program. He recognized the importance of having young minds with innovative ideas in the office, and paid interns began to work full-time alongside staff to gain the most fruitful experience possible. The interns benefit from their involvement and the office gains a fresh perspective from the interns.

Mr. Kidney did not stop working after retirement. He served as a parliamentary consultant to governments in Hungary, Malawi, Namibia, and South Africa, and spent several years as a lobbyist for The Gualco Group.

However, life did not always revolve around politics for Mr. Kidney. He never took for granted the simplicity of a great meal surrounded by conversation and laughter with his family and friends.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great respect that I ask my colleagues in the House of Representatives to join Mr. FARR, Mr. GARAMENDI, Ms. LEE, Mr. MCCLINTOCK, Ms. ROYBAL-ALLARD, Mr. THOMPSON and Mr. WAXMAN in paying tribute to the life and career of R. Brian Kidney. He was a shining example of a true public servant and proud American.

TRIBUTE TO STATE SENATOR HINTON MITCHEM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a long-time Alabama political leader and businessman who dutifully served the Tennessee Valley region for more than 30 years in Montgomery. Former State Senator Hinton Mitchem, of Union Grove, passed away on January 22, 2013, after an extended illness.

A Georgia native and a 1961 graduate of the University of Georgia, Senator Mitchem served in the United States Coast Guard before moving west to Alabama in 1962 to pursue his future. It was not long before he left a mark on his community by becoming both a successful businessman and a respected public official.

In 1965, Senator Mitchem founded Hinton Mitchem Tractor Co., Inc. in Albertville and continued to serve the farming community for 40 years before selling his business in 2005. He first entered politics as a member of the Albertville City Council in 1968. In 1974, he was elected to the Alabama House of Representatives, representing the 25th District, serving a single four-year term from 1975 through 1979. He then ran and won election for State Senate in 1979. His Senate district included Marshall County and parts of Blount, Madison, and at one time, DeKalb County.

In 1986, Senator Mitchem set his gaze towards higher office, entering the Democrat primary for Lieutenant Governor. After coming in

third in the statewide contest, he returned to the Senate a year later easily winning a special election created when a vacancy occurred in his former Senate seat.

A statesman who was respected by politicians on both sides of the aisle, Senator Mitchem was elected President Pro Tempore of the Alabama Senate on January 9, 2007. He chaired the Finance and Taxation and Education Committees and, twice, the General Fund Committee. He was selected as one of the five Outstanding Senators in 1983 and again in 1984. In 1985, he was voted by his colleagues "The Outstanding Senator" in Alabama. When he retired from public office in 2010, he held the distinction of being the longest-serving member in the Alabama House and Senate, having served a total of 36 years.

Upon his retirement in 2010, Senator Mitchem told the Arab Tribune that his single most significant legislative accomplishment for his constituents was the passage of a bill directing TVA "payment in lieu of taxes" funds to the Alabama counties in which the federal utility is located. Prior to the passage of the legislation, the Alabama general fund received the TVA payments. Senator Mitchem also sponsored legislation creating the Alabama Housing Finance Authority, and was a staunch supporter of Alabama's two-year college system and Alabama's State Parks, to name but a few of his many contributions.

Senator Mitchem's public service was not limited to elected office. In 1980, he was appointed by then-Republican Governor Fob James, Jr. to chair the Alabama Governor's Commission on Physical Fitness, serving in that capacity for 28 years. He also served 18 consecutive years as Chairman of the Alabama Special Olympics.

On behalf of the people of Alabama, I wish to extend my personal condolences to his wife, Judy; and their four children, Todd, Tanya, Dee and Brittnie; their three grandchildren and their extended family. You are all in our thoughts and prayers.

TRIBUTE TO THE MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY'S ELECTRIC EDGE BAND

HON. HAROLD ROGERS

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to the talented musicians of the "Morehead State University and Electric Edge" band, which performed at the renowned Kentucky Society of Washington DC's Inaugural Bluegrass Ball on Saturday, January 19, 2013. Known for its high class entertainment, fine food, and Kentucky hospitality, the Bluegrass Ball is our premier inauguration party, made even more memorable when Electric Edge takes the stage.

Great music is synonymous with the Commonwealth of Kentucky, and so it has been my pleasure to welcome these gifted educators and musicians to the nation's Capitol City.

In fact, music has always been an important way of life in Kentucky. We enjoy a rich music heritage from Appalachia on into the cornfields of western Kentucky. In classrooms and on stage, these band members are helping keep

our proud musical traditions alive, while training up the next generation of Loretta Lynns and Ricky Scaggs. A couple weekends ago, their abilities were on display at the Bluegrass Ball, indulging us with the melodies of Kentucky right here in Washington, DC.

The band includes nationally and internationally acclaimed members, some of them on the distinguished faculty of Morehead State University. They include hit-chart writer and singer Tony Pence, Professor Glenn Ginn on electric guitar, Professor Gordon Towell on Saxophone, Professor Steven Snyder on piano, Danny Cecil on bass, vocalist-favorite Lisa Ginn, and Paul Deatherage on percussion.

It likewise goes without saying that great food is synonymous with the Commonwealth of Kentucky. So, I'm also very pleased to recognize one of our nation's most celebrated chefs, Edward Lee, of Kentucky's famous "610 Magnolia" restaurant, who smartly found his way from New York to the Kentucky Derby and decided to stay. Chef Lee has a huge following as an alumnus of the "Iron Chef of America" and "Top Chef" television programs. One of his favorite foods is fried chicken, and he loves animals, especially horses. A true Kentucky gentleman, he graciously provided an exquisite three-course dinner for the Bluegrass Ball.

I ask the Congress to join me in thanking the band and chef for showcasing their extraordinary talents and participating in the 57th Presidential Inauguration festivities.

CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL GME SUPPORT REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2013

SPEECH OF

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, February 4, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, the Children's Hospital Graduate Medical Education program was first created in 1999, because there were not nearly enough pediatricians and pediatric subspecialists to serve the children of our country. The program has been overwhelmingly successful, increasing the number of pediatricians by 35 percent. Today, CHGME provides funding to train more than 40 percent of pediatricians in the U.S. However, at current funding levels, we still don't have enough providers to treat the unique needs of children in our country.

I cannot emphasize enough how critical this funding is to stand-alone children's hospitals, such as Lucile Packard Children's Hospital in my Congressional District. We have a responsibility to help train the next generation of pediatricians who will care for our children through the earliest, and often the most critical time of their lives. Under the Affordable Care Act, all Americans will have access to healthcare, but we have to ensure we have an adequate medical workforce to care for them.

I look forward to the passage of CHGME reauthorization in the House, and I will continue to work with my colleagues in the Senate to see that we move forward with a bill that can swiftly pass both bodies and be sent to the President for his signature.

TRIBUTE TO MS. MOLLY F. RYAN

HON. WILLIAM L. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the service of a friend, constituent, and faithful public servant, Ms. Molly F. Ryan of Rouses Point, New York, and to congratulate her on her new endeavor as Manager of Community Outreach at the Champlain Valley Physicians Hospital (CVPH).

Ms. Ryan was one of the first to join my staff when I was elected to Congress in 2009, and for over three years, loyally served constituents of New York's 23rd Congressional District. While running my Plattsburgh District Office, she successfully assisted hundreds of constituents with their casework, and did so each and every day with an uplifting smile and positive attitude. Although her tenure was short, my constituents and the State of New York are fortunate to have benefitted from her commitment to public service.

It has been a pleasure to work with Ms. Ryan, and I look forward to seeing her in Plattsburgh in the years to come. I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating her on her new position and wishing her all the best in what is sure to be a long and prosperous career.

NONADMITTED AND REINSURANCE REFORM ACT (NRRRA)

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I rise to address an important issue regarding the implementation of the Nonadmitted and Reinsurance Reform Act (NRRRA). The NRRRA is legislation that I co-authored and was signed into law as part of the Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act.

The NRRRA was drafted with the specific intention of addressing burdensome and often conflicting regulatory and tax compliance issues facing only two industries—the surplus lines and reinsurance. This legislation received bi-partisan support and was passed by the U.S. House of Representatives in multiple Congresses. At no point during the bill's multi-year consideration was its application to the captive insurance industry ever discussed.

Unfortunately, several states have indicated that they plan to interpret the NRRRA to also apply to the captive insurance industry. This was not the intent of Congress. In drafting this legislation, it was never contemplated to have the captive industry fall under the NRRRA. In addition, this legislation has been subject to numerous Congressional hearings and has been approved by this body on multiple occasions. At no time was the legislation's application to the captive industry addressed or suggested. Furthermore, in the bill's summary, the intent of this legislation was clearly stated to impact only two specific industries—surplus lines and reinsurance.

Inaccurate and inconsistent interpretations will cause confusion throughout the captive insurance industry. Should regulators implement

this faulty interpretation, captive insurance companies would be subject to additional taxation and regulation—the exact opposite intent of the underlying legislation.

As one of the authors of this legislation, I am committed to ensuring that this title of Dodd-Frank is implemented as Congress intended, and I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Financial Services Committee to address this issue if necessary in the future.

RECOGNIZING DAVID OLIKER'S THIRTY YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. TOM REED

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate David W. Olikier's 30 years as President and Chief Executive Officer of MVP Health Care. Mr. Olikier has been a successful and steadfast advocate for improved health care and economic prosperity in my Congressional district, but will be retiring during this calendar year.

Through Mr. Olikier's efforts, MVP Health Care has become a leader in the promotion of wellness and health education in our communities as a vehicle to lower health care costs and drive collective well-being. As a non-profit organization, MVP Health Care demonstrates what a truly successful public-private partnership looks like.

Advancing our nation's educational system has also been a priority of Mr. Olikier's. He has served on multiple boards, including the Advisory Council of Union Graduate College and the Albany College of Pharmacy. His hard work has ensured that generations to come will be well prepared for the future.

It has been an honor and a privilege to work with Mr. Olikier and I wish him the best in his retirement. The health care system in the Northeast will not be the same without him.

CELEBRATING ROSA PARKS' 100TH BIRTHDAY

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my deepest appreciation for the life, legacy, and actions of Mrs. Rosa Parks on what would have been her 100th birthday.

Our society today, is a far cry from the one into which Mrs. Parks was born. We are now living in a time that is a direct reflection of the efforts of the trailblazers who came before us.

Trailblazers like Rosa Parks, Shirley Chisholm, Frederick Douglass, Martin Luther King, Barbara Jordan and Walter Fauntroy whose actions transformed history and paved the way for a brighter future for all of us. Remembering these remarkable trailblazers is just one way to demonstrate not only our appreciation for their efforts but also to ensure that we continue to move forward in society.

While I believe that our fight is not over and that we must continue to address civil rights

issues; I am still in awe of the progress that has been made as the result of decades of work, diligence, sweat and tears of our country's civil rights trailblazers.

One century ago, today, Mrs. Parks was born in Tuskegee, Alabama. As many of you already know, on December 1, 1955 Mrs. Parks refused to give up her seat to a white passenger on a Montgomery city bus.

At that time in our nation's history as an African American woman in Montgomery, Alabama Mrs. Parks was actually risking her life by sitting in a seat that was denied to her because of the color of her skin. Although she knew she risked being beaten, insulted, bullied, and jailed that did not stop her from sitting down in order to stand up against injustice.

The arrest of Mrs. Parks led to the NAACP's boycott of the Montgomery, Alabama bus system. The boycott began on the first day of Mrs. Parks first court hearing on December 5, 1955, and did not end until December 20, 1956. It marks the first of many large-scale demonstrations against segregation.

For 381 consecutive days, men, women, and children stood up against injustice. In lieu of taking the bus, in many instances they elected to walk for miles to work, school, or for errands. Just for a moment envision that amount of dedication and commitment it takes in the hot days of a Alabama summer to opt to walk rather than take the bus for over a year.

Rose Parks by taking a seat was just the public spark needed to bring international attention to the civil rights movement and is in no small measure the genesis for the beginning of desegregation.

Again, because of the fearless actions of women and men, like Rosa Parks, the face of leadership in our nations is now more diverse than at any other point in our nation's history.

This change has been seen here within our own walls as well. Members of Congress are now a stew pot of races, ethnicities, cultures, sexual orientations, religions, and genders. This has only allowed us to have a diversity of perspective and has enabled us to better address the needs of our constituencies. Today, Congress in many ways reflects the America, what we represent.

The actions of Rosa Parks and thousands of other proud Americans and their supporters fueled the civil rights movement that advanced the principles upon which our nation was built. As I have stated before, although, we have come a long way we still have a long way to go. As we honor the life and legacy of Rosa Parks. As we reflect upon those who lost their lives standing up against injustice. As we celebrate what was almost unimaginable in 1955, the second inauguration of our nation's first African American President. We must also look again at our democracy and how in a time when we are making so many steps forward there is still an attempt to limit the votes of Americans. Given the progress that we have made as a result of the civil rights movement it is still incumbent upon each of us to continue to fight for the rights of all Americans. Recently, there have been systematic attempts to limit the rights of Americans to vote. Last year we celebrated the 47th anniversary of the Voting Rights Act, amid efforts by certain states to erode the right of Americans.

Today, most Americans take the right to vote for granted. We assume, as citizens of

this fine Nation, that we can register to vote if we are over 18. Most of us learned in school that discrimination based on race, creed or national origin has been barred by the Constitution since the end of the Civil War. We celebrate moments like today, Rosa Parks birthday, that stands as a reminder of our Nation's honored and sometimes troubled past. Yet, at the time Rosa Parks sat down on that bus, the right to vote did not exist in practice for most African Americans. And, until 1975, most American citizens who were not proficient in English faced significant obstacles to voting, because they could not understand the ballot.

Even though the Indian Citizenship Act gave Native Americans the right to vote in 1924, state law determined who could actually vote, which effectively excluded many Native Americans from political participation for decades.

Asian Americans and Asian immigrants also have suffered systematic exclusion from the political process and it has taken a series of reforms, including repeal of the Chinese Exclusion Act in 1943, and passage of amendments strengthening the Voting Rights Act three decades later, to fully extend the franchise to Asian Americans.

It was with this history in mind that the Voting Rights Act of 1965 was designed to make the right to vote a reality for all Americans. And the Voting Rights Act has made giant strides toward that goal. Without exaggeration, it has been one of the most effective civil rights laws passed by Congress.

In 1964, there were only approximately 300 African-Americans in public office, including just three in Congress. Few, if any, black elected officials were elected anywhere in the South.

The Voting Rights Act has opened the political process for many of the approximately 6,000 Latino public officials that have been elected and appointed nationwide, including 263 at the State or Federal level, 27 of whom serve in Congress. And Native Americans, Asians and others who have historically encountered harsh barriers to full political participation also have benefited greatly.

We must not forget the importance of protecting this hard-earned right. I believe that the courage that Mrs. Parks displayed throughout her life helped shaped the United States. I believe that the courage she showed that day, changed our society. I believe that it is our duty to honor the Constitution and to honor the civil rights of all those who stand upon our shores. Today, as we celebrate the life of Rosa Parks, we must continue to push forward in ensuring that all those who have a right to a voice in our society have one. The right to vote is the great equalizer, one person—one vote. Yet, there are those who are attempting to impinge that right by requiring the use of Voter ID cards. Now these photo ID proposals have a forceful momentum that have not seen in years past, as part of broader legislative movements to limit access to the political process for disenfranchised groups at a level not seen since post-reconstruction era laws that implemented poll taxes and literacy tests. In just over the first two months of 2011, photo ID proposals were introduced in 32 states and passed out of one legislative chamber in twelve states. Lawmakers across the Nation have pinpointed photo ID as a top legislative priority. The Governor of Texas designated photo ID as a legislative emergency in order to allow it to be procedurally fast-tracked

through the legislature, photo ID proposals were pre-filed before legislative sessions began in half a dozen states, and secretaries of state in a number of states have listed photo ID as a top priority. I was pleased when the Department of Justice took action to stop that flowed piece of legislation.

Photo ID proposals have garnered significant momentum in more than a dozen states and opponents are having difficulty waging effective counterattacks to curb movement on these bills.

The time is now to stand up to protect the rights of the disenfranchised, the elderly, the disabled, and college student access to the right to vote. Now is the time, to remember the courage of those who participated in the bus boycott, recall their willingness to walk in the hot southern sun for over a year to stand up for their belief is justice, liberty and the pursuit of happiness. Now is the time to truly honor the life of Rosa Parks, who by sitting down, stood up for justice. We must continue to move forward rather than backwards in this country. We must honor our past by standing up to protect every one's right to vote.

Today I remember Mrs. Parks for her courage and for everything she has done to advance civil rights movement. And to remember that although much progress has been made there remains much more to accomplish.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 3, 2009, the day I took office, the national debt was \$10,627,961,295,930.67.

Today, it is \$16,480,910,656,603.96. We've added \$5,852,949,360,673.29 to our debt in 4 years. This is a \$5.8 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a Balanced Budget Amendment. We must stop this unconscionable accumulation of debt.

23RD ANNIVERSARY OF BLACK JANUARY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate the 23rd anniversary of a tragic event in the history of the country of Azerbaijan.

On the night of January 19, 1990, Azerbaijan was invaded by thousands of Soviet troops. These troops entered Azerbaijan under the pretext of restoring public order, but with the true aim of ending peaceful demonstrations for independence.

Despite resistance to the Soviet troops by Azerbaijanis, more than 130 Azerbaijani people were killed and hundreds more were wounded or detained indefinitely. This episode came to be known as "Black January," a terrible event that only sharpened the desire for independence among the people of Azerbaijan.

By 1991, popular pressure had restored the independence of Azerbaijan. On August 30, 1991, Azerbaijan's Parliament adopted the Declaration on the Restoration of the State Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan, and on October 18, 1991, the Constitutional Act on the State Independence of the Republic of Azerbaijan was approved. The United States established diplomatic relations with Azerbaijan in 1992. Since then, Azerbaijan has been a steadfast ally to the United States and an important strategic partner in the region.

Each year, the people of Azerbaijan remember those who lost their lives on Black January in 1990 and honor their sacrifice through their commitment to the ideals of democracy.

I urge my colleagues to commit to fostering a strong partnership between the United States and Azerbaijan so that together, we can promote freedom and democracy around the world.

RECOGNIZING THE 90TH BIRTHDAY OF MIRIAM LAWLER

HON. JARED HUFFMAN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. HUFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise to commemorate San Rafael, California, resident Miriam Lawler on the occasion of her 90th birthday on January 30, 2013.

Miriam Lawler is a native Californian, born in Los Angeles on January 30, 1923. She attended Santa Monica College and moved to San Francisco where she worked for the San Francisco Chronicle. Miriam went on to obtain her bachelor's degree from Dominican College and studied Spanish at the College of Marin.

During WWII, Miriam met William Lawler during his shore leave from his Navy destroyer. They married and settled in San Rafael, California, where she still lives today. Miriam has two sons: Martin and William Jr.

Always active in politics, Miriam worked on the presidential campaigns of Adlai Stevenson, John F. Kennedy, and Robert Kennedy. In Northern California, she also was involved in helping launch Clem Miller's successful congressional election. Throughout her life, Miriam has advocated for social justice and civil rights, has assisted children with learning disabilities, and has volunteered to help children learn to read.

Mr. Speaker and colleagues, it is appropriate that we honor Miriam Lawler as she turns age 90 for her inspirational and prolonged civic engagement.

IMPORTANCE OF FUNDING IN MEDICAL RESEARCH FOR EPITHELIOID HEMANGIOENDOTHELIOMA AND OTHER DISEASES

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to discuss the importance of funding medical research for epithelioid hemangioendothelioma and other diseases. Epithelioid hemangioendothelioma, known simply as EHE, is a rare cancer affecting both men and women of all ages, causing disability, pain, and often death. The disease causes tumors in the endothelium, often affecting numerous organs at a time.

A study done by the American College of Chest Physicians states that EHE most often affects the lungs, liver, and bones, or a combination of these organs. Moreover, the disease causes a range of symptoms including pain, upper respiratory infections, bone fractures, weakness, and fatigue. The study also cites that while EHE is more common in women, men are more likely to die from it.

Currently, there is no effective treatment for EHE. The American College of Chest Physicians study states that EHE does not respond to chemotherapy and radiation as well as other cancers, causing many sufferers of the disease to resort to surgeries and organ transplants to try to relieve EHE's painful symptoms.

My constituent, Isaac Weinberg, is currently suffering from EHE. Because there is no cure for the disease, Isaac must have a liver transplant to alleviate some of the pain caused by it. Cutting medical research funding and limiting access to affordable healthcare would only hurt Isaac and other people suffering from EHE, as well as those suffering from other diseases.

However, providing funding for medical research would not only help those with EHE, but people with other diseases, as well. EHE is a sarcoma, a type of cancer that is very

common. Therefore, research for EHE would be beneficial in finding effective treatments and cures for many different cancers and diseases, potentially helping thousands of people.

I want to thank my constituent and Isaac's father, Dr. Guy Weinberg, for establishing the Center for Research and Analysis of Vascular Tumors. CRAVAT provides desperately-needed research money dedicated to learning more about EHE. However, we cannot rely on private efforts alone. Federal funding is necessary if we are to make significant advances in discovering ways to treat, cure, and eliminate EHE and other diseases.

Mr. Speaker, I rise to bring awareness to this important cause. Cutting medical research funding will hurt thousands of Americans suffering from diseases both rare and common, and we cannot allow that to happen. Instead, we must provide the crucial funding needed to research EHE and other diseases, allowing us to find cures, save lives, and help families like the Weinbergs.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MICHAEL K. SIMPSON

OF IDAHO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Mr. SIMPSON. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 32 on Motion to Suspend the Rules and pass H.R. 297, the Children's Hospital GME Support Reauthorization Act of 2011. I was unable to vote.

Had I been present, I would have voted "yea."

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ROSA L. DeLAURO

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, February 6, 2013

Ms. DeLAURO. Mr. Speaker, I was unavoidably detained and so I missed rollcall vote No. 33 On Ordering the Previous Question (H. Res. 48). Had I been present, I would have voted "no".