

## EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

### CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4348, MOVING AHEAD FOR PROGRESS IN THE 21ST CENTURY ACT

SPEECH OF

**HON. JOHN L. MICA**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, June 29, 2012

Mr. MICA. Madam Speaker, I would like to extend my personal appreciation to the dedicated staff in the Office of Legislative Counsel here in the House of Representatives for helping us to write important legislation reauthorizing surface transportation programs. In addition, I would like to thank the staff of the Federal Highway Administration and the Federal Transit Administration for providing us with their technical assistance and expertise. In particular, I would like to thank the following individuals for their work on this legislation:

FROM THE OFFICE OF LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL  
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Rich Steinmann  
Kate Webb  
Bonnie Graves  
Rita Maristch

Thanks to the dedication of these experts we have achieved a major accomplishment in the passage of H.R. 4348.

### CELEBRATING THE 175TH ANNI- VERSARY OF THE CITY OF ALTON, ILLINOIS

**HON. JERRY F. COSTELLO**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. COSTELLO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 175th Anniversary of the City of Alton, Illinois.

Among the first Europeans to explore the area later settled as Alton, Illinois were Father Jacques Marquette and Louis Joliet in 1673. The Illiniwek tribes had lived in the area for many years and a Native American drawing, the Piasa, a fierce-looking bird that was painted on the bluffs overlooking the Mississippi River was first documented by Fr. Marquette. The drawing has been reproduced many times and the Piasa can still be seen on the bluffs today.

Situated on the banks of the Mississippi, between its confluences with the Missouri and Illinois Rivers, Alton was a natural location for development as a river town in the early 19th Century. Rufus Easton, a St. Louis businessman who ran a ferry operation at Alton named the town after his eldest son in 1818. Because of its excellent location, the community experienced tremendous growth and was incorporated as a city in 1837.

1837 was the year of another important event in Alton's history, although hardly a highlight. Abolitionist printer, Elijah Lovejoy, who had moved from St. Louis to Alton because of increasing tensions in the slave state of Missouri, was killed by a mob in Alton as he attempted to protect his printing press. Other significant historical notes of Alton in the mid-19th Century included being a major stop on the Underground Railroad and the site of a Union prison for Confederate soldiers, many of whom died there due to rampant disease. Alton was also the location for the final Lincoln-Douglas debate, in 1858.

Famous people from Alton include renowned jazz musician Miles Davis and Robert Wadlow, known as the "Alton Giant," and still the tallest human in recorded history at 8 ft. 11 inches tall.

The 20th Century saw an increase in manufacturing in the Alton area, with steel, glass and cardboard boxes among the leading industries that provided employment for Alton residents. As Alton has expanded and diversified, it has always remained tied to the river. The area is referred to as Riverbend because of the arc of the Mississippi at Alton. The National Great Rivers Museum and the National Great Rivers Research and Education Center, both near the Melvin Price Lock and Dam at Alton, are two recent additions that promote the study and appreciation of the rivers that gave rise to many cities like Alton.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in celebrating the 175th Anniversary of the City of Alton, Illinois and to wish them the very best for a bright and prosperous future.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 40TH  
ANNIVERSARY OF TITLE IX

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I wish to recognize the 40th anniversary of Title IX. This

historic piece of legislation has had a profound and lasting impact on gender equity in this country. While many people associate Title IX with primarily promoting funding equality in collegiate athletics, its impact is much greater—affecting the role of women as leaders and role models in our society. Title IX of the Education Amendments in 1972 prohibited sex discrimination in education programs and activities receiving federal financial assistance. It is the cornerstone of federal statutes that require equal access to all areas of education for women. Title IX sent a message to young women across this country that their achievements were just as great as those of their male counterparts.

The opportunity to succeed is an essential tenet of our American spirit; Title IX provides women with an opportunity to succeed in collegiate athletics and beyond. An entire generation of young women has seized this opportunity, as evidenced by their many achievements. In the past 40 years, women have excelled in all aspects of society. In law and government, we have seen the first female Speaker of the House, the first female Supreme Court Justice and the first female Secretary of State. In science and technology, we have seen the first female astronaut enter space and six female scientists receive Nobel Prizes. Title IX has helped lay the foundation for equal educational access for these achievements.

In addition, Title IX has helped create a generation of young female athletes: in 1972, only 1 in 27 women participated in high school sports; now 1 in 3 participate. Sports can play a key role in a young person's successful growth and development. Young people who participate in sports are more likely to be goal-oriented, healthy, confident and ambitious. These athletes have lower teenage pregnancy rates, are less likely to commit crimes and are less likely to use drugs or alcohol. The dramatic increase in female sports participation is undoubtedly an important factor in women's success and advancement in the past 40 years.

Women have come a long way since the 1970s, but considerable work remains. On average, a woman still earns only 77 cents for every dollar earned by a man across all occupations and levels of educational attainment. Further, women's rights to healthcare and prevention services are being challenged by courts and legislatures across this country. As policymakers, we must remember how long it has taken women to get to this point and must not allow gender equity to recede. We must continue to legislate with the spirit of equality and opportunity, as the Members of the 88th Congress did 40 years ago. I commend the many achievements that women have made since the passage of Title IX and look forward to seeing many more in the future.

• 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.

RECOGNIZING THE NIXA HIGH  
SCHOOL BOWLING TEAM

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Nixa High School Bowling Team for winning their second State High School Bowling Championship.

Nixa High School's bowling team, in its second year of existence, returned to defend its championship title at the Missouri State Tournament and left its competition in the gutter. The Eagles advanced with 3 other local teams to the Missouri State Championships where they competed against 23 other teams from all across the state.

The team, which included seniors Kyle Bates and Jacob Nelson; juniors Justin Lair, Kristen Nunn, Nick Zummo, and Brandon Maser; and sophomores David Krol, Shannon Burns, and Dylan Brentlinger, initially competed in 24 games which followed the Baker Format.

The Baker format is patterned after college bowling competitions and is used to maintain a quicker pace from game to game, yielding more excitement. Nixa bowling was the Number 1 seed out of the top five teams to advance to the championship round, and the team ultimately prevailed against Jefferson City after two straight games with scores of 215–174 and 211–196.

While bowling is usually recognized as an individual sport, the Baker competition format required each member of the Nixa bowling team to think as a team because each shot would be included as part of one score. As a result, teams competing in this format will only be as good as their weakest link because all players participate in only 2 frames each.

Coaches David Krol and Larry Hughes worked diligently to instill that concept in their team and should be proud of their accomplishment in guiding such a phenomenal group of young men and women. I commend them all on a job well done.

The Nixa community is justifiably proud of this extraordinary group of young and talented future leaders.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Nixa High School Bowling Team as they celebrate their second State Bowling Championship.

IN MEMORY OF SERGEANT JOSE  
RODRIGUEZ

**HON. DENNIS A. CARDOZA**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. CARDOZA. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sadness that I rise today with my colleague Congressman JIM COSTA to honor the late Sgt. Jose Rodriguez who was killed on June 19, 2012 in Kandahar province, Afghanistan while supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Sergeant Rodriguez paid the ultimate price, sacrificing his life, while protecting and serving the United States of America.

Sergeant Rodriguez was raised in Newman and Gustine. He graduated from Gustine High

School in 2008 and joined the army shortly thereafter. He was assigned to Joint Base Lewis-McChord near Tacoma, Washington in 2009. His first deployment was in July 2009 where he was a part of the 5th Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. Sergeant Rodriguez decided to re-deploy on a second tour of duty in order to better provide for his wife and young son. On his second tour, he was in the 4th Battalion, 23rd Infantry Regiment, 2nd Stryker Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division. He received the Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal Combat Service, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Non-Commissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Ribbon, NATO Medal, Certificate of Achievement, and Combat Infantry Badge.

Sergeant Rodriguez's family called him a responsible, quiet, and caring man. He had hoped to become a firefighter after returning home next year. He leaves behind a loving wife, Maria "Lupita" Rodriguez and a thirteen month old son, Octavian. He is also survived by his parents Margarita Rodriguez and Augustine Rodriguez; his brothers, Ruben Rodriguez, Julian Rodriguez, Edgar Rodriguez, Jonathon Rodriguez and his two sisters, Judith Rodriguez and Jacqueline Rodriguez.

Mr. Speaker, together with my colleague, Congressman JIM COSTA, the recognition that we are offering today before the House of Representatives for Sergeant Jose Rodriguez is small compared to the contributions and impact he had on the lives of so many. He was truly an invaluable member of our community and an outstanding human being. My thoughts are with Sergeant Rodriguez's family and the community as they grieve the loss of this wonderful young man.

BATTLE CRY, A CRY TO ACTION

**HON. RALPH M. HALL**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to present a poem by Dona Julian Cassel. Ms. Cassel graduated from East Texas State University, currently Texas A&M University-Commerce, in 1967 with a bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and 1971 with a master's degree in English. She is a retired teacher who has since formed her own training company which works with businesses to teach their staff communication and customer service skills.

Ms. Cassel's writing is timely for our Nation, and something I believe can inspire Americans to act.

BATTLE CRY, A CALL TO ACTION

Now is the time to take your stand!  
Don't huddle in the shadows anymore—  
Your collective voices must soon be heard.  
Send your lawmakers a resounding roar!  
Make your earnest requests be known!  
Demand from Congress and from your  
state—  
Empowerment to teach as you know best  
To produce the results that made America  
great!

O teachers! What power you still possess!  
Immortal forces upon the ages—  
This noble profession which is your calling

Deserves respect and rightful wages!  
Defend the honor of your vocation!  
Keep its standards lifted high!  
Unite! Join this call to action!  
Embrace these stanzas as your battle cry!

IN HONOR OF MANDELA DAY

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I happily rise today to celebrate Nelson Mandela's birthday on July 18. Mr. Mandela is a man whose life has been absolutely dedicated to service and social justice.

From a young age, Mr. Mandela was aware of the economic and civil injustices that plagued South Africa under apartheid, where racial discrimination was official government policy. Mr. Mandela joined the African National Congress and worked to end minority rule in his home country, becoming an enemy of the South African government.

In 1963, Mr. Mandela was sentenced to life imprisonment for political offenses, ultimately serving 27 years. During this time, he refused to renounce his political beliefs in exchange for a reduced term, and he remained steadfastly committed to his cause. Many would see a life sentence as total defeat, but Mr. Mandela continued his campaign and, in doing so, became an international symbol of resistance.

Despite a lifetime of constant struggle, Mr. Mandela never became bitter or overcome with anger. He instead looked ahead to the possibility of equality and freedom in a country that had always been divided by race. His dream was not to wage war against his oppressors. Rather he sought to liberate them from ignorance and hatred and create a unified nation.

Mr. Mandela's struggle has distinguished him as an extraordinary leader in the eyes of the international community and his fellow South Africans. Mr. Mandela was presented with the Nobel Peace Prize in 1993, and he accepted the award on behalf of all South Africans who had made tremendous sacrifices in the name of peace and liberty. The following year, he was elected President of South Africa in the first fully representative democratic election, defeating apartheid rule.

Even after stepping down from the South African presidency, Mr. Mandela's commitment to service did not waiver. Mr. Mandela has since founded three foundations: The Nelson Mandela Centre of Memory, the Nelson Mandela Children's Fund, and the Mandela-Rhodes Foundation. I am truly inspired by Mr. Mandela's tireless work and continued advocacy.

In 2009, July 18 was adopted by the United Nations as Nelson Mandela International Day of Service. Mr. Mandela gave 67 years of his life to the fight for human rights, and people all over the world are asked to spend Mandela Day giving 67 minutes of their time to serve their local communities and charities.

Mr. Speaker, apartheid has ended, but struggles for peace and human dignity persist in all corners of the world. I remember one passage that Mr. Mandela wrote: "After climbing a great hill, one only finds that there are

many more hills to climb." With this sentiment in mind, I ask my colleagues and fellow Americans to join me in observing Mandela Day and continuing Mr. Mandela's legacy in our own communities.

HONORING JOHN P. BRODER

**HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and honor my friend, John P. Broder, upon his retirement from Winthrop-University Hospital.

Mr. Broder has been in the marketing, public affairs and development profession for 42 years. For the past 20 years, he has been the Vice President for External Affairs and Development at Winthrop-University Hospital. He was responsible for government relations and development programs and has been instrumental in establishing the marketing, advertising and public affairs department at the Hospital.

Mr. Broder received his degree in business administration from the St. Michael's College in Vermont and earned his MBA in Marketing from the Hagen Graduate School of Business at Iona College. In addition, Mr. Broder was honorably discharged from the U.S. Army after serving a combat tour in the Republic of Vietnam. He began his career with the United Way of Tri-State before moving to the Columbia Presbyterian Medical Center where he was responsible for the hospital's successful \$110 million capital campaign. Prior to joining the team at Winthrop, Mr. Broder was the Vice President in charge of the development programs at Long Island Jewish Medical Center.

In addition to his impressive career, Mr. Broder has made time to serve the community through a variety of organizations. He is the Vice President of the Mineola Chamber of Commerce, a board member and past President of the Mineola Lions Club, Director of the Fair Media Council, works with the Mineola Community Planning Committee, and is a member of the Corporate Advisory Committee of Literacy Nassau, to name a few.

For more than 30 years Mr. Broder has been a resident of Long Island and through his work and his volunteer service he has done a great deal to help improve our communities.

Mr. Speaker, it is with admiration and respect that I offer my thanks and recognition to my friend John P. Broder for his many years of hard work and friendship.

HONORING RICE UNIVERSITY ON  
THEIR CENTENNIAL ANNIVERSARY

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BRADY of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the 100th Anniversary of Rice University in Houston, Texas as a prominent research university advancing education in the arts, humanities and sciences. Inaugurated on October 12, 1912 and named after its

benefactor, William Marsh Rice, the university has continued to excel, with an impressive list of accomplishments and achievements over the past century.

As a leading research university with a commitment to undergraduate education, Rice consistently ranks among the top 20 universities in the United States overall and ranks among the world's top 100 universities every year.

The University is leading research in a wide range of fields, from bioinformatics, cellular technology, and health, to nanotechnology, and space. Rice is the first university in the United States to create a department dedicated to space exploration. In fact, the land that is now home to the Johnson Space Center of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration in Houston was originally donated by Rice.

The university also has a proven track record of producing strong, dependable community and national leaders including: Former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, Former Attorney General Alberto Gonzalez, current City of Houston Mayor Annise Parker, Nobel Prize of Chemistry Dr. Richard Smalley, NASA Astronaut Peggy Whitson, and All-Star Major League Baseball player Lance Berkman, just to name a few.

Truth be told, each year I take my two sons down to Reckling Park to watch from the hill and left field the Rice Owls compete in NCAA baseball. It's a tradition in our family.

Mr. Speaker, it is an honor to join with Rice University administration, staff, alumni, students and community in celebrating this milestone and I look forward to the bright future and successes coming out of Rice University over the next centennial. I am confident the best is yet to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. YVETTE D. CLARKE**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, on the Legislative Day of July 9, 2012, I missed two votes. Had I been present for these rollcall votes, I would have voted "Yes" on rollcall 452—H.R. 4155—Veteran Skills to Jobs Act and "Yes" on rollcall 453—H.R. 4367—ATM Fee Disclosure Requirement.

HONORING NORTH CAROLINA  
STATE SENATOR EDWARD JONES  
ON THE OCCASION OF RECOGNITION  
BY DOWNTOWN ENFIELD  
RESTORATION AND PRESERVATION

**HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD**

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise with great pleasure to honor North Carolina State Senator Edward Jones. Senator Jones' steadfast commitment to North Carolina and its Fourth Senatorial District is to be applauded as a fine example of a public servant. As the only retired State Trooper elected to the North

Carolina Senate, Senator Edward Jones serves his constituency with a legacy of humility and patriotism. He truly embodies his personal motto, "We are not judged by the titles we possess, but by the job we do."

Senator Jones' public service extends back to his duties in the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army. After an honorable discharge from the military, Edward Jones served as Deputy Sheriff in Buncombe County prior to enrolling in the North Carolina Justice Academy where he became a patrolman in 1975. At the time, he was one of only three African American troopers in North Carolina, and defied odds by rising to the rank of Sergeant in 1985 and ultimately First Sergeant in 1995.

Upon retirement from the State Highway Patrol, he went on to serve as Chief of Police and later Mayor for the city of Enfield, located in Halifax County. His service in these two roles provided significant exposure to local concerns and a firm foundation for his subsequent political career.

In 2005, Jones was appointed to the North Carolina General Assembly to complete the unexpired term of Representative John Hall. In 2007, he was appointed again, this time to complete the unexpired term of Senator Robert Holloman. In this seat, which remains as his current post, he serves North Carolina Senate's Fourth District, one of the largest districts in the legislature. As Senator, Jones has distinguished himself in the area of crime and public safety. He not only leads from the senate floor, but also on a grassroots level as he frequently visits communities, agencies, and organizations to assess respective needs and concerns.

Outside the legislature, Senator Jones is decorated with many achievements. He is the first African American to serve on the Board of Trustees at Chowan University. He is a member of the Governor's Crime Commission, the North Carolina Legislative Black Caucus, and board member of the Halifax County Boys and Girls Club.

While his commitment to public service is commendable, it is noteworthy that he is deeply rooted in his faith and family. Jones is the proud husband to wife, Mary Ann, father to daughters Alesha and Andrea, and "Papa" to granddaughters, Charisma, Carmen, and Farrah.

Senator Jones is a man of honor, valor, and commitment. I urge my colleagues to join me in applauding Senator Edward Jones' lifelong dedication to the people of North Carolina.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEITH ELLISON**

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. ELLISON. Mr. Speaker, on July 9, 2012, I missed rollcall votes No. 452–454 due to a family obligation. Had I been present I would have voted "yea."

HONORING THE WORLD WAR II  
VETERANS OF ILLINOIS

**HON. MIKE QUIGLEY**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. QUIGLEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the World War II veterans who traveled to Washington, DC, on July 11, 2012 with Honor Flight Chicago, a program that provides World War II veterans the opportunity to visit the World War II Memorial on The National Mall in Washington, D.C. This memorial was built to honor their courage and service to their country.

The American Veteran is one of our greatest treasures. The Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, Marines, and Coast Guardsmen who traveled here on July 11 answered our nation's call to service during one of its greatest times of need. From the European Campaign to the Pacific Asian Theatre to the African Theater, these brave Americans risked life and limb, gave service and sacrificed much, all while embodying what it is to be a hero. We owe them more gratitude than can ever be expressed.

I welcome these brave veterans to Washington and to their memorial. I am proud to submit the names of these men and women for all to see, hear, and recognize, and I call on my colleagues to rise and join me in expressing gratitude.

Russell J. Abbott, Elizabeth M. Adamo, Kenneth H. Amdall, William B. Barnard, Philip Basic, Marvin D. Berns, Joseph A. Bertucci, Forest Black, Edward N. Boersma, Robert Bourdage, John A. Brodinski, Michael P. Cernyar, Leonard E. Chapp, Bernard J. Chesner, Daniel L. Chorney, Raymond E. Crotty, John A. Deora, Xenophon Doudalis, Robert C. Ellis, David Epstein, E. John Faassen, Natale Fazio, Peter A. Ferro, Ruthe C. Foster, Walter C. Gardynski, August Genge, Jr., Owen Gillespie, Helmuth Goering, Kent Goldbranson, W. Leonard Gregory, Lad Gregurich, John F. Gruber, Lewis Hague, Rueben W. Helander, Raymond F. Henders, James H. Hurley, Howard J. Jacklin, William N. Johnson, Raymond G. Kapinus, Edward Kelby, Vette E. Kell, Arthur M. Koblish, Ronald E. Kregel, Sophie E. Kulaga, James Lamont, Donald L. Lawler, Richard H. Leadbetter, Albert Lee, Howard D. Levinson, Philip J. LoMonaco, Louis Lowy, Raymond Lowy, Teddy A. Madej, Alvin B. Manheim, Randall E. McMinn, Eugene S. Mikos, John R. Minerick, Salvatore Morello, William R. Morrow, Glen E. Nelson, Henry L. Offerman, Edwin Ogonowski, Arthur Olsen, Calvin Parmele, Myron Petrakis, Raymond Anthony Pfeifer, Martin A. Poenisch, Daniel C. Reese, Amos John Roberts, John Patrick Roche, Ray Rooney, Frederick Rosenow, Eugene H. Seibert, Richard A. Siver, Donald E. Skelton, Charles A. Smith, Ora L. Smith, Richard L. Soderlund, Thomas E. Sullivan, Arthur R. Tessmann, Jasper C. Tromp, William John Unger, Jack Vollriede, Owen F. Wagener, Harry R. Warren, Joseph G. Wegrzyn, Oddie Wiley, Raymond A. Wilke, Ferguson L. Willis, William Fred Wilson, William F. Wolf, Arthur W. Youngberg.

HEALTHCARE REPEAL AND  
WOMEN'S RIGHTS

**HON. LOUISE McINTOSH SLAUGHTER**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Ms. SLAUGHTER. Mr. Speaker, this bill will never become law, and it is a perfect symbol of the failure of this Congress.

Over the last two years we've voted more than 30 times to mess with the healthcare reforms in the Affordable Care Act. This Congress could barely bring itself to pass a transportation bill, yet it found the time to vote on the same issue 30 times.

The second biggest priority of this Congress appears to be the legislative war on women. We've taken at least 9 votes to take away rights and protections away from women, and specifically attacking women's health.

In short, this Congress has spent two years actively working against the rights of women and healthcare of American families.

Prior to the Affordable Care Act becoming law, being a woman was a pre-existing condition. Women were denied health insurance coverage because they were victims of domestic abuse, and when they were given health insurance coverage, they oftentimes paid more than men for the same level of care. Companies that have a large number of female employees faced higher healthcare costs than other companies—all because health insurance companies could, and did, get away with price discrimination.

The Affordable Care Act finally gave women equal rights when it came to healthcare, and it is the reason I rise to defend that lifesaving legislation today. I strongly oppose the political charade that is being carried out here today—and on behalf of every woman who is no longer a second-class citizen, I urge my colleagues to vote against today's bill.

SUPPORTING PROTECTION OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, President Franklin Delano Roosevelt once said, "We cannot always build the future for our youth, but we can build our youth for the future." College access and success are fundamental stepping stones toward economic security and global competitiveness. As policymakers, it is imperative that we support students in making college affordable so that our citizens and nation can prosper.

I strongly supported the passage by the House of the bipartisan Senate agreement to prevent a doubling of the student loan interest rates. Without this action before July 1, more than seven million students would have seen their interest rates double, resulting in an approximate \$1000 additional debt burden per student for this year. Indeed, failure to act would have added \$6.3 billion to students' debt burden in 2012, with 1.5 million African-American students and 1 million Latino students experiencing an additional \$1.5 billion

and \$1 billion in loan repayment costs, respectively.

Unfortunately, the agreement prevents the interest rate hike by cutting student financial aid, continuing a disturbing trend in which the Republican Leadership insists that low-income and middle-class students pay for federal student aid programs and deficit reduction. In the last two years, the Republican Leadership has insisted on multiple cuts to student aid, including: elimination of the interest subsidy for graduate student loans; elimination of the interest subsidy for the six-month grace period after finishing school; elimination of summer Pell grants; reduction in the number of semesters a student can receive Pell grants; erection of barriers to qualifying for the maximum Pell grant; and reduced eligibility for the minimum Pell grant award. These cuts require low-income and middle-class students to incur roughly \$20 billion in the cost of their federal loans and resulted in 145,000 students losing their Pell grants. Rather than viewing federal support for higher education as an investment in our nation, Republicans in the House prefer to subsidize oil companies that make tens of billions of dollars in profits rather than help low-income and middle-class students afford college. I firmly believe that we must help all citizens access the American dream, not just the most privileged. We must strengthen the system of student aid, not weaken it.

In addition to interest rates, there are multiple other education policies that lawmakers must support in order to prepare our youth for the future. For example, we must increase Pell Grants, which constitute a critical avenue by which low-income students access higher education. If Pell Grants are reduced in any way, attending and completing college will be beyond the financial reach of the vast majority of low-income students. Reductions in Pell also will have a disparate negative impact on racial and ethnic minority groups given that 46% of African Americans, 39% of Hispanics, 36% of American Indians, and 22% of Asian American and Pacific Islander undergraduate students rely on Pell, with African Americans representing about one-quarter and Latino Americans representing approximately one-fifth of Pell recipients. For the 2012–2013 academic year, the maximum Pell Grant will be at a historic low, covering less than one-third of the cost of a four-year degree. This is unacceptable.

Further, policymakers must also maintain consumer protections on student loans, such as income-based repayment as well as re-institute bankruptcy protections for private student loans. Income-based repayment is a critical improvement to financial aid that makes higher education affordable by limiting repayment based on the income and family size of borrowers. For most borrowers, loan payments end up being less than 10 percent of their income—or nothing if the borrower experiences financial difficulty. After 25 years of qualifying payments, the remaining loan amount is eligible for forgiveness. These Democratically-championed policies promise to help borrowers handle their student loan debt in a responsible manner as they enter the workforce, have families, and purchase homes.

Consumer protections related to bankruptcy for private student loan debt are equally important, but will require Congressional action. Unfortunately, without any hearings, in 2005 Congress made private student loans by for-

profit lenders extremely difficult to discharge in bankruptcy even after meeting the restrictive criteria for bankruptcy, treating private student debt in the same manner as debts for criminal penalties and back taxes. This 2005 change gave special federal protections to for-profit lenders, penalized borrowers for pursuing higher education, and provided no incentive to private lenders to lend responsibly. Private education debt is no different than other consumer debt; it involves private profit and deserves no privileged treatment. Congress must restore fairness in student lending by treating privately issued student loans in bankruptcy the same as other types of private debt. This is why I introduced the Private Student Loan Bankruptcy Act, which I will continue to champion until it is law.

A strong economy requires an educated workforce, and an educated workforce comes from ensuring students and their families have what they need to prepare for, enroll in, and complete college. Given that student debt has surpassed credit card debt for the first time in history, our economy remains fragile, and the labor market demands increased skills, now is not the time to make deep and permanent cuts to critical college programs serving needy students. I urge the Republican Leadership to invest in education and support students. I will steadfastly protect federal financial assistance for higher education so that we can build our youth for the future.

HONORING THE LADY JACKET'S  
BASKETBALL TEAM

HON. RALPH M. HALL

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in honor of the Lady Jacket Basketball team of Rockwall, Texas for their efforts during the 2012 4A State Championship game in Austin, Texas.

The game was extremely close; however, the Lady Jackets fell short 45–42, showing incredible heart and determination throughout the game. I commend their hard work throughout the entire season.

The Lady Jacket's head coach, Jill McDill, praised her team as one of the best defenses she had ever coached.

Special congratulations to Paige Turner and Alyssa Lang for being named to the Class 4A All-Tournament Team.

The reputation of the Lady Jacket Basketball program is one that is filled with pride and respect from the players, fans, and the entire Rockwall community.

Mr. Speaker, as we adjourn today, let us recognize Rockwall's Lady Jacket Basketball team, commend them for their successful season, and wish them continued success.

CONGRATULATING ORASURE  
TECHNOLOGIES FOR HIV/AIDS  
BREAKTHROUGH

HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. DENT. Mr. Speaker, I am thrilled to draw attention to a landmark decision by the

Food and Drug Administration (FDA) last week approving the OraQuick In-Home HIV test and commend OraSure Technologies for this profound advancement in HIV/AIDS diagnostics. This test is the first rapid over-the-counter HIV test approved in the United States. The OraQuick In-Home HIV test detects the presence of HIV antibodies roughly 20 minutes after a simple oral swab. It is also the first rapid diagnostic test for any infectious disease that has been approved by the FDA for sale over-the-counter.

The FDA's decision is a significant moment in the history of our fight against HIV/AIDS. Since the beginning of the epidemic, getting individuals tested has been a critical component of HIV prevention and linkage to care. HIV testing enables individuals to know their status and protect their health as well as the health of others. Yet, over 1 million Americans are unaware of their infection. Those who do not know they have HIV are disproportionately responsible for the nearly 50,000 new infections that occur each year. The availability of an over-the-counter test will lead to greater testing, increased diagnoses, reduced transmissions, earlier treatment and saved lives.

OraSure Technologies, located in the heart of the Lehigh Valley in the 15th Congressional District of Pennsylvania, has been at the forefront of rapid diagnostics for over a decade. This most recent accomplishment comes on the heels of the company receiving approval for our nation's first rapid test for Hepatitis C. Headquartered in Bethlehem, PA, OraSure's innovation has led to an economic resurgence on a brownfield site where Bethlehem Steel once stood proud.

Again, it is an honor to commend OraSure for leading the way in transforming diagnostic testing through innovative new technologies and playing a key role in what will hopefully be a transformation in the fight against HIV/AIDS. I want to extend my congratulations to the company and all of its employees for earning approval of the first over-the-counter in-home HIV test. This achievement will have a dramatic impact on the number of individuals who will learn their HIV status and most importantly, save countless lives.

FORCED ABORTION AT 7 MONTHS  
OF FENG JIANMEI SPARKS  
GLOBAL OUTRAGE—AND CON-  
CERN

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, China's one-child policy in effect since 1979 is state sponsored murder and constitutes massive crimes against humanity. The Nuremberg Nazi war crimes tribunal properly construed forced abortion as a crime against humanity—nothing in human history compares to the magnitude of China's 33 year assault on women and children.

Abortion is a weapon of mass destruction. Millions have been exterminated.

Today in China, rather than being given maternal care, pregnant women without birth allowed permits are hunted down and forcibly aborted. They are mocked, belittled, and humiliated.

In recent days, the exploitation and forced abortion at seven months of Feng Jianmei has sparked global outrage—and deep concern for her welfare and that of the women of China (In early July, the European Parliament “strongly condemned” China's one child and forced abortion policy). While Feng remains in a hospital—she calls it a prison—her husband, Deng, has been beaten. Feng's gross mistreatment however is far too commonplace.

Feng Jianmei was forced to undergo an abortion on June 2nd, seven months into her pregnancy. Media reports indicate that local officials in northwestern Shaanxi Province held Ms. Feng for three days, blindfolded, and coerced her to consent to the abortion. Even with the supposed consent, it took five men to hold her down and administer the drug that induced the 48 hour labor. The injection was given directly to the child's head.

Ms. Feng's husband, Deng, posted graphic photos of his wife and the dead baby online, embarrassing the government. Deng Jicai, Mr. Deng's sister, said her brother and sister-in-law had refrained from speaking to media but decided to speak to German reporters who traveled to Shaanxi when the government did not produce investigation results as promised.

Ms. Deng reported to the media that the local government organized a backlash against the family members, calling them traitors and keeping them under surveillance, apparently angered over the family's contacts with journalists. Local residents took a long bus ride to the hospital where Ms. Feng was recovering from the abortion and demonstrated with banners reading, “beat the traitors soundly and expel them from Zengjia township!” Family members claim that the demonstration seemed to be a campaign organized and funded by the local authorities but made to look like a spontaneous public gesture. Mr. Deng reportedly also was beaten and labeled a traitor for speaking out about the crime.

The China Daily reported that there was no legal basis for the fine of \$6,300 for the second pregnancy that Ms. Feng refused to pay. The local government also has admitted that Ms. Feng's legal rights were violated. Publicity surrounding the forced abortion prompted the firing of two local officials and warnings or demerits being issued against five others.

Mr. Deng escaped from the hospital where both he and his wife were being forcibly detained. He traveled to Beijing and hired a lawyer to sue the local government. Mr. Deng's location is now unknown, but it is believed that he is in hiding. Ms. Feng is still being held at the hospital.

The lawyer, Zhang Kai, said recently that he has sent a legal request on behalf of Feng's husband, Deng Jiyuan, asking local police and prosecutors to investigate criminal infractions in the case. Deng also is seeking unspecified compensation from the government, Zhang said.

The widespread circulation of the photos posted by Mr. Deng has prompted renewed debate in China and the world regarding the one-child policy, possibly including within the government itself. Researchers with a center affiliated with China's State Council, the equivalent of China's cabinet, argued in an essay published in the China Economic Times newspaper on July 3, 2012, that China should adjust the one-child policy “as soon as possible” to head off a potential demographic crisis.

The Wall Street Journal on July 6th also reported that a group of prominent Chinese scholars issued an open letter on Thursday calling for a rethink of the country's one-child policy. The group argued that the policy in its current form is incompatible with China's increasing respect for human rights and need for sustainable economic development. The letter comes less than a month after Feng's photo and story ignited public anger.

"The birth-approval system built on the idea of controlling population size as emphasized in the current 'Population and Family Planning Law' does not accord with provisions on the protection of human rights contained in the nation's constitution," the authors of Thursday's letter wrote, adding that a rewriting of the law was "imperative."

The list of signatories to Thursday's letter included several high-profile figures, including Beijing University sociologist Li Jianxin and Internet entrepreneur James Liang. "This is a time during which people all over the world have realized there are problems with the [one-child] policy," Mr. Liang, the co-founder and chief executive of Chinese online travel site Ctrip.com, told The Wall Street Journal. Mr. Liang, who has spent the past five years pursuing a Ph.D. in economics at Stanford University and just published a book challenging the notion that China has too many people, said he has felt a recent opening up of discussion around the one-child policy.

Mr. Liang, who advocates a complete dismantling of the family-planning system rather than a two-child system put forward by others, said he initially became interested in the one-child policy when he came across research showing that innovation and entrepreneurship are dominated by young people. He said he feared a shrinking of the population of young people would hamper the country's efforts to evolve beyond being merely the world's factory. "From an economic perspective, the one-child policy is irrational. From a human-rights perspective, it's even less rational," Mr. Liang said.

Earlier this week, I heard testimony from Guo Yangling, who like Feng, will tell us how she suffered a brutalizing late term forced abortion:

Heading out to buy breakfast . . . I was stopped by an older woman in her 50s who asked me if I had a 'birth permit.' I said no . . . Then, two staff members from the Family Planning Commission came and asked me where I was from, where I lived and what my name was . . . I tried to walk away but they wouldn't let me go . . . 'Help, somebody!' But no one came to help. Then two vans arrived, their doors opened and people sitting inside . . . 'Get in quickly.' I refused and said, 'I don't know who you are, why you are asking me to get into your vehicle and where you are taking me?' They said, 'You will know after you get in' . . . On the road, in an attempt to save my baby who would soon be arriving in this world, I reached my hand for the van door. They grabbed me and held me down on the van floor, yanking my hair and trampling my limbs and body . . . I screamed again 'murder,' only to have a cloth used to wipe cars stuffed into my mouth . . . I got out, I was brought to the second floor of the building. There, I saw a number of female victims sitting on the benches in the corridor, their eyes filled with tears of anxiety, terror and sadness . . . a woman dressed in white and wearing a surgical mask told me to get on the delivery bed immediately. I refused, so they pinned me down on the bed by

force. After the person in white pressed my belly with her hands and felt the position of my baby's head, she stuck a big, long, fatal needle deep into my abdomen . . . By then, my unborn baby had already been murdered and I lost heart.

This is the grim reality of the one-child-per-couple policy. As we have known for three decades, there are no single moms in China—except those who somehow evade the family planning cadres and conceal their pregnancy. For over three decades, brothers and sisters have been illegal; a mother has absolutely no right to protect her unborn baby from state sponsored violence.

The price for failing to conform to the one-child-per-couple policy is staggering. A Chinese woman who becomes pregnant without a permit will be put under mind-bending pressure to abort. She knows that "out-of-plan" illegal children are denied education, health-care, and marriage, and that fines for bearing a child without a birth permit can be 10 times the average annual income of two parents, and those families that can't or won't pay are jailed, or their homes smashed in, or their young child is killed. If the brave woman still refuses to submit, she may be held in a punishment cell, or, if she flees, her relatives may be held and, very often, beaten. Group punishments will be used to socially ostracize her—her colleagues and neighbors will be denied birth permits. If the woman is by some miracle still able to resist this pressure, she may be physically dragged to the operating table and forced to undergo an abortion.

Her trauma, like Feng and Guo, is incomprehensible. It is a trauma she shares, in some degree, with every woman in China, whose experience of intimacy and motherhood is colored by the atmosphere of fear. The World Health Organization (WHO) reports staggering 500 female suicides per day in China. China is the only country in the world where the female suicide rate is higher than the male, and according to the Beijing Psychological Crisis Study and Prevention Center, in China the suicide rate for females is three times higher than for males.

The result of this policy is a nightmarish "brave new world" with no precedent in human history, where women are psychologically wounded, girls fall victim to sex-selective abortion (in some provinces 140 boys are born for every 100 girls), and most children grow up without brothers or sisters, aunts or uncles or cousins.

Over the years I have chaired 37 congressional human rights hearings focused in whole or in part on China's one-child policy. At one, the principal witness, Wujuan, a Chinese student attending a U.S. university testified about how her child was forcibly murdered by the government. She said, "[T]he room was full of moms who had just gone through a forced abortion. Some moms were crying. Some moms were mourning. Some moms were screaming. And one mom was rolling on the floor with unbearable pain." Then Wujuan said it was her turn, and through her tears she described what she called her "journey in hell."

At another hearing, a woman who was the director of a family planning clinic in Fujian said that by day she was a monster, by night a wife and mother of one.

Women bear the major brunt of the one-child policy not only as victimized mothers. Due to the male preference in China's society

and the limitation of the family size to one child, the policy has directly contributed to what is accurately described as gendercide—the deliberate extermination of a girl—born or unborn—simply because she happens to be a girl.

As a result of the Chinese government's barbaric attack on mothers and their children, there are some tens of millions of missing daughters in China today. It has been noted that the three most dangerous words in China today are: "it's a girl!"

Because of the missing girls—China today has become the human sex trafficking magnet of the world. Women and young girls from outside the country are being sold as commodities throughout China—a direct consequence of the one-child policy.

I am the author of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000, a comprehensive law to prevent trafficking, prosecute traffickers and protect victims.

One provision of the law requires an annual assessment of every country. According to this year's TIP Report released on June 19th:

China's birth limitation policy, coupled with a cultural preference for sons, creates a skewed sex ratio in China, which served as a key cause of trafficking of foreign women as brides for Chinese men and for forced prostitution.

The government took no discernible steps to address the role that its birth limitation policy plays in fueling human trafficking in China, with gaping gender disparities resulting in a shortage of female marriage partners. The government failed to take any steps to change the policy; and in fact, according to the Chinese government, the number of foreign female trafficking victims in China rose substantially in the reporting period. The Director of the Ministry of Public Security's Anti-Trafficking Task Force stated in the reporting period that "[t]he number of foreign women trafficked to China is definitely rising" and that "great demand from buyers as well as traditional preferences for boys in Chinese families are the main culprits fueling trafficking in China."

A June 26th op-ed in The People's Daily—the official newspaper of the Chinese Communist Party—shed light on the emerging demographic catastrophe that is China.

The article titled "Leftover men to be a big problem" admits that there is a "bachelors" crisis that will "trigger a moral crisis of marriage and family" and the "continual accumulation of the number of unmarried men will greatly increase the risk of social instability."

At a congressional hearing I chaired last September BYU Professor Valerie Hudson, author of *Bare Branches: The Security Implications of Asia's Surplus Male Population*, testified that "by year 2020 young adult bare branches—ages 15–34 will number approximately 23–25 million . . . the foremost repercussions will be an increase in societal instability, marked increases in crime, crimes against woman . . . and the formation of gangs . . ."

Nicholas Eberstadt, a world-renowned demographer asks, "What are the consequences for a society that has chosen to become simultaneously, more gray and more male."

In her assessment for security and potential war, Professor Hudson testified "faced with worsening instability at home, and an unsolvable economic decline at home (as China ages) China's government may well be tempted to use foreign policy to 'ride the tiger'

of domestic instability. The twin themes of anti-Japanese feeling and unfulfillment of China's reunification with Taiwan will be deeply resonant to much of the population of China. In the next two or three decades, we are likely to see observable security ramifications of the masculinization of China's growing young adult population, especially combined with an understanding of the consequences of global aging . . ."

Last August Vice President JOE BIDEN visited China, and told the audience that he was well aware of and "fully understood" the one-child policy, and that he was not "second guessing" the State for imposing it. Can you imagine what the public reaction would be if the Vice President had said that he "fully understands" and is not "second guessing" copyright infringement and gross violations of intellectual property rights?

The one-child-per-couple policy is the most egregious, vicious attack on women ever. For the Vice President of the United States to publicly state that he fully understands the one child policy and then say he won't second guess it is unconscionable, and sells out every mom in the PRC.

Although Vice President BIDEN attempted to modestly backtrack on his extraordinarily callous comment about the policy, his voting record as a Senator shines a spotlight on his long-held disregard for the severity of this human rights violation. On September 13, 2000, he joined 52 other senators in defeating an amendment by then-Senator Jessie Helms condemning the one-child policy. Then-Senator BIDEN reportedly did so because he was concerned that condemning China on fundamental human rights would interfere with the normalization of trade relations.

Not only is the Obama administration turning a blind eye to the atrocities being committed under the one-child policy, but it is even contributing financial support—contrary to U.S. law—to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA). Twenty eight years ago—on May 9, 1984—I authored the first amendment ever to a foreign aid bill to deny funding to organizations such as the UNFPA that are complicit with China's forced abortion and involuntary sterilization policy. It passed. After all these years, it is astonishing that policy makers—including and especially the Obama administration—remain indifferent or worse, supportive, of these massive crimes against women and children. The Obama administration has long enabled this cruel policy by its silence and financial support to the tune of over \$165 million to the UNFPA, an organization that supports, plans, implements, defends and whitewashes the Chinese government's brutal program.

On one of several trips to Beijing, I challenged Peng Peiyun—then China's director of the nation's population control program—to end the coercion. Madame Peng told me that the UNFPA was very supportive of the one-child-per-couple program and that the UNFPA adamantly agrees with her that the program is voluntary and that coercion doesn't exist.

For over 30 years, the UNFPA has consistently heaped praise on China's population control program and repeatedly urged other countries to embrace similar policies.

A few years ago, the UNFPA and the Chinese government rolled out the red carpet and hosted high level diplomats from Africa including health ministers to sell "child limitation"

policies. Despite the fact that China's enforcement mechanism relies on heavy coercion and its aging population will soon implode its economy, some African leaders seem to have taken the bait. Limitations on the number of children a mother may carry to term are under active consideration throughout the subcontinent.

And the UNFPA has tried to impose China-like child limitation policies on other nations as well, including the Philippines.

Finally, in 2000, I wrote a law—The Admiral James W. Nance and Meg Donovan Foreign Relations Authorization Act for fiscal years 2000 and 2001.

Section 801 of Title VIII of that Act still in effect today requires the Secretary of State not to issue any visa to, and the Attorney General not to admit to the United States, any foreign national whom the Secretary finds, based on credible and specific information, to have been directly involved in the establishment or enforcement of forced abortion or forced sterilization.

Owing to a glaring lack of implementation, only a handful of abusers of women have reportedly been denied visas to the U.S. That must change.

Lastly I thank each of our witnesses, who testified at a hearing I held earlier this week on this issue, for speaking out on this important topic.

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CONGRATULATING GLENDALE  
HIGH SCHOOL'S SPENCER HAIK

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Glendale High School's Spencer Haik for winning the 1600 Meter Run at the Missouri Class 4 State Track and Field Championships.

Through his hard work and dedication, Spencer placed first in the 1600 Meter Run with a winning time of 4:15.11. His winning time was 5 seconds off his previous school record of 4:20.23. This achievement also marked the third time this year Spencer established a new school record.

Spencer plans to participate in several meets across the country this summer and will be a junior at Glendale High School in the fall.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Spencer Haik, the winner of the 1600 Meter Run at the Missouri Class 4 State Track and Field Championships.

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IN SUPPORT OF SMALL BUSINESS  
TAX CUTS

**HON. LAURA RICHARDSON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Ms. RICHARDSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to applaud the Administration for the immediate executive actions that will accelerate our nation's small business growth. There are 28.6 million small businesses in the U.S. and small businesses create two out of every three jobs in the country. In the state of California

small businesses employ more than 50 percent of the state's 16 million workers and represent 90% of job growth for high-paying jobs. The statistics are clear, small businesses are the key to economic recovery and continued growth.

Ameliorating the burdens of small businesses stabilizes uncertainty and encourages critical job growth. Five of these initiatives are immediate executive actions that will accelerate Federal payments, reduce paperwork, and make it easier for small firms to access loans and tax credits, and one is a legislative proposal to raise the amount of investment small businesses can expense next year.

Mr. Speaker, let me briefly highlight some of the key initiatives:

(1) Accelerate payments to small business subcontractors: Through the Office of Management and Budget, agencies will be directed to make contract payments along an accelerated timeline to all prime contractors for the next year (typically 15 days after receipt of proper documentation, as opposed to 30 days), with the understanding that those prime contractors will similarly accelerate payments to their small business subcontractors.

(2) Announce support for Section 179 expensing at \$250,000 for one year: President Obama is calling on Congress to write legislation to allow small businesses to write off up to \$250,000 in capital investments in 2013, such as machinery and equipment, to drive productivity. Without an act from Congress, the expensing limit for small businesses is scheduled to decline to only \$25,000 in 2013.

(3) Increase access to capital through SBA's Small Loan Advantage (SLA) 2.0: SBA is re-launching Small Loan Advantage, one of its key small dollar loan products, as SLA 2.0. This revamped program raises the maximum loan amount from \$250,000 to \$350,000, streamlines the loan process, and makes it easier for lenders to extend loans to small businesses across America.

(4) Launch "Quick App" for surety bond guarantees under \$250,000: SBA is launching "Quick App," a streamlined application that will eliminate the need for contractors to complete five unnecessary forms to apply for surety bonds. Providing small firms, particularly in the construction industry, streamlined access to these bonds will make it easier for them to compete for and win additional business, which is important to allowing them to expand and create jobs.

(5) Reduce paperwork for SBA's Disaster Loan Program: Cutting the online application from 80 screens to three or four screens (depending on loan type) will allow families and businesses easier and quicker access to support for rebuilding after a disaster.

(6) Align New Markets Tax Credit with the needs of investors in growing small firms: Reforms the existing New Markets Tax Credit that will make it easier for community development entities (CDEs) to attract private sector funds for investment in startups and small businesses operating in lower-income communities. The regulations are designed to encourage CDEs to invest in other types of small local businesses by relaxing the reinvestment requirements for CDEs investing in certain operating businesses. The Treasury Department is also considering regulatory reforms that would further simplify the requirements for these CDEs and intends to publish these for comment in the future.

Entrepreneurs and small businesses are engines of innovation and economic growth; the small businesses in my district are at the forefront of innovation. The diverse innovation of small businesses in my district from aerospace to healthcare will be able to expand market share with the support of these six key initiatives. I will continue to fight for legislation that will support the approximately 16,300 small businesses in my district.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to commend the Administration for taking the necessary steps to help small businesses expand their export programs and alleviate potential layoffs. I urge my colleagues to build upon the Administration's executive actions and provide more support for small businesses.

HONORING THE MEMBERS OF THE  
NATIONAL GUARD AND ARMED  
FORCES RESERVES

**HON. KEVIN YODER**

OF KANSAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. YODER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor all the members of our National Guard and Armed Forces Reserves who defend our nation at home and abroad, and to voice my support of the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve (ESGR) program operated through the Department of Defense.

The ESGR provides education, consultation, and if necessary mediation for employers of Guard and Reserve employees. As the 1.3 million members of the National Guard and Reserve continue to perform an increasing number of unique missions within America's borders and beyond, ESGR will continue to be the resource for the employers of citizen warriors.

Members of the National Guard and Reserve bring a strong work ethic, leadership and specialized skills to the civilian workplace, and hiring veterans is a great way employers can show their appreciation for the service and sacrifice of our military men and women.

Mr. Speaker, I stand in support of ESGR and their mission to assure that all American employers support and value the employment and military service of members of the National Guard and Reserve forces.

IN CELEBRATION OF RICE UNIVER-  
SITY'S 100TH ANNIVERSARY

**HON. GENE GREEN**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the hundred-year anniversary of the founding of Rice University, one of our nation's preeminent research universities.

Founded through the estate of Mr. William Marsh Rice as a gift to the City of Houston, Rice Institute, as it was originally known, opened its doors on September 23, 1912, with 77 students and a dozen faculty.

From these humble beginnings, Rice University has risen to be a leader in science, engineering, medicine, music, and athletics.

Rice placed a critical part in the development of our nation's space program and was

the site of President John Kennedy's famous "moon speech" in 1962.

Today, Rice is recognized as one of the top national research universities in the country by such publications as *Forbes* and *U.S. News and World Report*.

Rice is also recognized for its residential college system, similar to resident colleges at Oxford and Cambridge, its beautiful campus grounds and architecture, and the high quality of student life.

A list of famous alumni include a "Who's who" of Houston's most recognized citizens, including George R. Brown, Thomas Cruikshank, William Hobby, and our present mayor, Annise Parker.

I congratulate Rice University, its students, faculty, and alumni on their 100 years of success and thank them for the vital role they serve on behalf of the Houston community and wish them another 100 years of trailblazing, discovery, and success.

THE SACRIFICE A SOLDIER MAKES

**HON. CHARLES J. "CHUCK"**

**FLEISCHMANN**

OF TENNESSEE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. FLEISCHMANN. Mr. Speaker, following is the essay written by Katie Smith in honor of her brother, SPC Andrew Smith, and all soldiers.

THE SACRIFICE A SOLDIER MAKES

(By Katie Smith)

The Tomb of the Unknown Soldier represents the sacrifices a soldier makes to defend our country. Knowing that I would be honoring the three fallen soldiers and any other soldier who made the sacrifice with laying the wreath meant the world to me. The history of the Tomb humbles me to know that people have given their lives protecting me and that they are still being honored for it. Multiple members of my family served in the U.S. military, including both of my grandfathers and my brother. In my opinion, the Unknown Soldier symbolizes the sacrifice, whether death or injury, a soldier risks taking.

I have personal experience with how a soldier sacrifices. My brother, SPC Andrew Smith, a soldier with the 82nd Airborne, was deployed to Afghanistan and was wounded in combat on March 8, 2012. While on patrol near Kandahar, an IED detonated next to him. He lost both of his legs and suffered some other severe wounds. Before he joined the Army, we asked why he wanted to do this, and he said, "I will do anything and go anywhere to keep this fight from coming here." He was aware of the risks that were involved in being a soldier, but he was so devoted to protecting our freedom that he was willing to sacrifice in a major way. Even though he is away from the war, he is still fighting. He fights for his life, mobility, and a somewhat normal life. While I was at Walter Reed National Medical Center, I noticed a whole community of people with titanium limbs, and knowing that they made the sacrifice for me and my freedom, as my brother did, is humbling. I will never again take for granted any of my limbs, my mobility, or my freedom because now I know that people lost those things while keeping me safe. I couldn't imagine what it would be like if I had to say that my brother made the same exact sacrifice the Unknown Soldiers did,

and I thank God every day that I don't have to. However, I would love to honor them in any way I can, all the same.

It is a great tragedy that has come over these soldiers, but it is also a great honor for them. They were brave enough to make that sacrifice, and they should be rewarded in every way possible. These men and women are true heroes, and I can't thank them enough for the service they've done for our country.

REMEMBERING HAROLD WILLIAMS

**HON. EARL BLUMENAUER**

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Speaker, Portland was saddened by the loss of longtime civic leader and community activist Harold Williams.

Harold was best known as the longest serving board member of Portland Community College with over two decades of outstanding service. But he was already a fixture in our community long before that.

Harold earned two degrees, both his bachelor and masters degrees, at Portland State University where he was Director of the Education Center and where he exercised a strong voice on behalf of inclusion. From the very beginning, Harold Williams was a champion of opportunity for the underserved so it was only natural he would gravitate to Portland Community College. Young African American men received special attention from Harold, but he was a strong proponent of opportunity for everyone throughout our community.

Harold was a large man with an even larger personality and a greater heart until it failed him on July 1st. We extend our condolences to the Williams family and to his much larger family in Northeast Portland which will miss him dearly, but will forever be thankful for his many contributions.

CONGRATULATING DR. ROBERT  
FAWCETT

**HON. TODD RUSSELL PLATTS**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. PLATTS. Mr. Speaker, I am delighted to offer my heartiest congratulations to Dr. Robert Fawcett of York, Pennsylvania on being named the 2012 Family Physician of the Year by the Pennsylvania Academy of Family Physicians. This is indeed an outstanding achievement.

Throughout his career, Dr. Fawcett has practiced a wide range of family medicine, including critical care, pediatrics, geriatrics and sports medicine. As evidenced by the previous awards for his medical work, Dr. Fawcett's skill and compassion has benefited hundreds of families throughout his career. In addition, his history of volunteer service has made his community a better place in which to live and work.

This dedication is shared by Dr. Andre Lijoi of York, who was previously named Pennsylvania's Family Physician of the Year in 2008. Dr. Lijoi has dedicated his career to making a meaningful contribution to the lives



of his patients. He has educated residents and students on the need to provide competent, compassionate care by strengthening the physician/patient relationship and by motivating patients to lead healthier lives. Dr. Lijoi has also been a very active community volunteer.

I once again offer my congratulations to Dr. Fawcett and Dr. Lijoi for personifying the best ideals and practices of family medicine. They have positively impacted countless of their fellow citizens throughout their careers and I know that their patients, friends, family and colleagues join with me in offering best wishes for continued success in their future endeavors.

H.R. 6079—OBAMACARE REPEAL  
ACT

**HON. ERIC CANTOR**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, there are many issues in the health care law that require Congressional attention. After repeal of ObamaCare, as we craft proposals to reform the health care system, there are a variety of issues that were dealt with in the original ObamaCare law that had nothing to do with the central elements of the law that we will seek to address. These include for example reforming the Medicaid program in a way that, among other things, addresses disparities in Medicaid funding amongst the states and territories. Puerto Rico Governor Fortuño has personally raised this latter issue with me. The Governor has taken commendable steps to reduce Puerto Rico's deficit and grow its economy and it is important that with respect to Medicaid, Puerto Rico and the other territories be treated fairly.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL  
DEBT

**HON. MIKE COFFMAN**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. COFFMAN of Colorado. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, on the 208th anniversary of the fatal wounding of Alexander Hamilton in his duel with Aaron Burr, it is \$15,879,266,313,073.20. We've added \$5,252,389,264,160.12 to our debt in just over 3 years. This is debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF EQUAL PAY FOR WOMEN

**HON. DANNY K. DAVIS**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. DAVIS of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, as we mark the 40th anniversary of Title IX—the his-

toric law establishing equal access to education for women, I would like to take a moment to recognize the importance of equal pay for equal work, another federal policy that is essential to providing equal opportunity for women in our country. The contemporary push for women's rights began with the passage of the Equal Pay Act of 1963. Although this statute was a great advancement for women in society, much work remains to strengthen the reality of equal pay for women. For example, in 1963, women earned sixty cents for every dollar a man made. Today, according to the latest Census statistics, women only earn seventy-seven cents for every dollar a man makes—progress but still an egregiously-unfair and unequal disparity. Equal pay is the foundation for economic well-being and security. Policymakers must take action to ensure that equity in pay is a national priority.

In 2009, the 111th Congress took strides to further close the gender discrimination gap in the professional work environment by passing The Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act into law. This law initiated great improvements for women in the workforce, such as allowing a time frame extension to file lawsuits against employers for wage discrepancies. However, additional protections are needed, which is why Democratic lawmakers are advancing the Paycheck Fairness Act. The Paycheck Fairness Act strengthens the equality provisions within the Lilly Ledbetter Fair Pay Act and eliminates the loopholes not seen in the past. For example, it increases penalties on employers who violate federal law and allows women to pursue legal matters if they are treated unjustly. The legislation also ensures equality in the tax code so that everyone—male and female, high-income earners and those living in poverty—pays their respective tax rate. Fairness should be applicable to all, in wages and in taxes. The Paycheck Fairness Act provides effective remedies to women who are not being paid equal wages for equal work, and Congress should pass the bill as soon as possible.

Equality in pay is an issue of civil rights. Women represent more than half of the workforce, and they deserve the full-amount of earnings for their work. Loss of hundreds of thousands of dollars over a lifetime due to unequal pay undermines the economic security of women and our nation. I will continue to steadfastly support and advance legislation that promotes gender equality and civil fairness.

CONGRATULATING VICTORIA  
FOLEY

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Victoria Foley of the Joplin McAuley Catholic Track and Field Team for winning the Discus State Title at the Missouri Class 1 State Track and Field Championship.

Victoria worked hard throughout the season to achieve her state title. She continuously strove to better her performance, inspiring her teammates as well as earning the respect of her competitors.

Victoria is a solid definition of what it takes to be a great student athlete by virtue of her

phenomenal talent and great sportsmanship. Through her hard work and dedication she won the Missouri Class 1 State Discus Championship with a throw of 121 feet 3 inches. In the end, she added herself among only 2 others who can share the State Champion title in the McAuley Catholic High School history.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Victoria Foley, the Missouri Class 1 State Discus Champion.

IN CELEBRATION OF MRS. BESSIE  
RUDOLPH ANDERSON'S 100TH  
BIRTHDAY

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

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a beloved role model and gracious woman of faith, Mrs. Bessie Mae Rudolph Anderson. On Saturday, July 14, 2012, Mrs. Anderson will be honored at an event celebrating her 100th birthday in Albany, Georgia.

Mrs. Anderson was born on July 6, 1912 in Mount Willing, Alabama to Isiaah and Ada Eula Cabbie Rudolph. She was the fifth of nine children. She and her brother, Will Arthur, are the only living siblings today.

As she grew up, Mrs. Anderson helped her father on the farm and her mother in the house. In her free time, she was the "Belle of the Ball" as she loved to dance. She has always enjoyed fishing, reading, telling stories about her childhood, and cooking her famous biscuits.

In 1924, Mrs. Anderson met William Anderson, a "Georgia Boy." After dating for five years, they were married on July 28, 1929. They began their life together in Alabama where they had five children: William, Jr., Mattie Pearl, John Samuel, Rosie Maxine and Ernestine. In 1940, they moved to Georgia where they had six more children: Katherlean, Sim Hill, Lee Ernest, Lottie, Freddie Mae, and Charles Edward. Mrs. Anderson was a devoted wife and loving mother and worked hard to make a home for her family.

When her youngest child started school, Mrs. Anderson began working for the Pope family in Thomasville, Georgia as a housekeeper and caregiver for their three children: Sissy, Dusty, and Miller. She was like family to the Papes and she loved those three children as her own.

Mrs. Anderson often said she was a chemist and a nurse licensed in all states because whenever and wherever anyone fell ill, she was always willing to go and nurse them back to health using her own homemade medical remedies.

Mrs. Anderson has achieved numerous successes in her life, but none of this would have been possible without the love and support of her late husband, William, her eleven children, and her 194 grandchildren and great-grandchildren.

Most important to Mrs. Anderson is her sturdy and enduring relationship with the Lord. She is a longtime member of Mercy Seat Christian Church. She served as treasurer for the church for many years and still serves as Mother of the Church.

The race of life isn't given to the swift or to the strong, but to those who endure until the

end. Mrs. Anderson has run the race of life with grace and dignity and God has blessed her over her lifetime.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying tribute to Mrs. Bessie Mae Rudolph Anderson as she and her family prepares to celebrate her 100th birthday.

RECOGNIZING ST ANN'S SCHOOL  
148 YEARS OF EDUCATING YOUTH

**HON. TOM REED**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. REED. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St Ann's School of Hornell, New York for educating the youth of the 29th district for 148 years. On Wednesday, June 20th, St Ann's school closed its doors for the final time, bringing to a close a long legacy of providing a strong Catholic education to the children of the Southern Tier.

Since its founding in 1863, St Ann's School has committed itself not just to the development of the skills necessary for learning, but to the development of the whole child. Operating in an atmosphere permeated by Christian values, St Ann's School has long provided families with an affordable option to instill in their children the intellectual, emotional, and spiritual values necessary to become outstanding citizens.

It has been my privilege to represent St Ann's School for the past 2 years, and although I regret the decision that was made to close the school, I am truly thankful for its deep commitment to the education of the children of the 29th District of New York.

RECOGNIZING THE IMPORTANCE  
OF THE SUPPLEMENTAL NUTRI-  
TION ASSISTANCE PROGRAM  
(SNAP)

**HON. ADAM SMITH**

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak in support of Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) funding as the House Agriculture Committee marks up H.R. 6083, the Federal Agriculture Reform and Risk Management (FARMM) Act.

As families struggle to meet their basic needs during the economic downturn, the SNAP short-term food assistance program has become more important than ever. With over 14 percent of American households suffering from food insecurity, SNAP works to ensure that children, unemployed workers, and seniors have the nutrition and extra help they need. SNAP provides essential support for 46.3 million Americans (nearly half of which are children) in 22 million different households. Washington State alone has nearly 1 million people that rely on SNAP benefits.

Changes proposed in the FARMM Act to end broad-based categorical eligibility would hurt low-income families in Washington State. An estimated 80,000 Washingtonians that currently receive SNAP benefits would not qualify or would be dropped from the program. Fur-

ther, an estimated 280,000 low-income children in SNAP-eligible households that currently have access to free or reduced school meals would no longer have access. Further, FARMM Act provisions to limit which Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) payments can apply to SNAP benefits, would further limit benefits received through SNAP. These changes would disproportionately impact children, seniors, and working families. In these trying economic times, many Washingtonians cannot afford these cuts.

Congress must stand up for SNAP funding, as the program plays a crucial role in our economic recovery. The best way to lower government spending on SNAP is not through major cuts, but by continuing to help families in need. In Washington State, the average SNAP recipient receives benefits for only nine months. In these tough economic times, SNAP is providing much-needed support in getting families back on their feet.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues protect SNAP funding as the FARMM Act goes through the legislative process.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. ED PERLMUTTER**

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. PERLMUTTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to correct an error I made in voting recently.

Rollcall vote 430, the twelfth Broun amendment, proposed to reduce the Public Housing Operating fund by \$56 million. Because that particular series of votes included six successive amendments by Representative BROUN of Georgia, and these votes were shortened to two minutes in length, I mistakenly lost track of the order of amendments and voted "yes" on rollcall 430. I ask that the RECORD reflect I intended to vote "no" on rollcall 430.

CONGRATULATING ARENA  
PHARMACEUTICALS AND THE FDA

**HON. BRIAN P. BILBRAY**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BILBRAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Arena Pharmaceuticals and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) on their work to approve a new weapon in the battle against obesity—Belviq. This is the first new drug for the treatment of this serious medical condition to be approved by the FDA in 13 years. According to the FDA, this innovative therapy works by activating the serotonin 2C receptor in the brain. Activation of this receptor may help a person eat less and feel full after eating smaller amounts of food.

Mr. Speaker, the health of our nation needs to be a top priority, and with over 93 million Americans impacted by obesity this type of innovation needs to be supported. The FDA's approval of Belviq is not only a step towards improving the lives of many Americans and significantly reducing healthcare costs, but it can also result in job retention and job growth in San Diego. Breakthroughs, like Belviq from

the San Diego life science community, create jobs in their search for innovations to ensure a healthier future. Arena Pharmaceuticals invested over \$1.5 billion dollars to get to this point, much of which was spent in California. In addition, all pivotal clinical trials were conducted here in the United States of America. By fostering cutting edge life science research, we can bring economic invigoration to San Diego and the U.S. while alleviating current medical ailments like obesity.

The life science industry employs over 2 million Americans, with the San Diego cluster being one of the largest at approximately 40,000 employees and 700 companies. Through successes in this industry with promising advancements like Belviq, more companies and research projects can emerge in the region to generate job opportunities. San Diego biotechnology is internationally renowned for important discoveries in the medical field. Belviq adds another distinction to San Diego biotechnology as our region is directly contributing to remedying obesity in the United States, which costs the nation \$190 billion per year. These medical breakthroughs not only help our local businesses, but also contribute to a healthier America.

Currently, less than one third of Americans have a healthy body weight. Americans across all social and economic groups are consequently affected by medical issues caused by being overweight. This recent innovation can allow us to look towards a future in which less Americans are affected by this serious medical condition and other weight-related illnesses. As doctors have been asking for more research into new treatments for weight-loss, Belviq begins to answer these calls. Now we have taken the first steps in a new approach to obesity and will hopefully see new results.

Congratulations to Mr. Jack Lief of Arena Pharmaceuticals. The work of this innovative company will not only be felt in San Diego but across this great country.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE  
GEORGIA PEANUT COMMISSION

**HON. AUSTIN SCOTT**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. AUSTIN SCOTT of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, with the discussion of a new farm bill heating up, I would like to pay special recognition to the Georgia Peanut Commission. In August, the Commission will be celebrating their 50th anniversary. Since 1961, they have successfully improved the profitability of peanuts and peanut products through research, promotion, and education, creating a better market for Georgia peanut farmers.

When the Georgia Peanut Commission began, farmers who harvested 475,000 acres of peanuts averaged yields of 1,200 pounds per acre. Last year, farmers who harvested the same 475,000 acres averaged over 3,500 pounds per acre, an increase of 350 percent. Due to their efforts, Georgia peanut yields are consistently higher than other states; possess superior quality, and contribute an estimated 2 billion dollars to the Georgia economy.

In fact, Georgia is number 1 in the national production of peanuts with nearly 50 percent of the annual crop.

And no one can miss those small red packs of peanuts. The Georgia Peanut Commission is recognized throughout the world by their red packages of Georgia peanuts. Annually, the Commission distributes 2 million of those little red packs, demonstrating their commitment to the peanut industry.

In addition, with farmers and ranchers being the true conservationists of America, the Commission, on August 1st, will open a net-zero energy building, which will serve as their new headquarters. During the construction of this new building, only local contractors and businesses were used and no government funding was provided, further showing their commitment to Georgia's agricultural future.

Mr. Speaker, with agriculture being one of the economic pillars of this great country, it is with pride that I congratulate the Georgia Peanut Commission on its 50th anniversary, and I look forward to working with the Commission for another 50 years.

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CONGRATULATING QUINTIN SMITH

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Quintin Smith on his 200 Meter Dash State Title at the Missouri Class 4 State Track and Field Championships.

Quintin Smith, a senior at Parkview High School, took home first place for the Vikings in the 200 Meter Dash with a time of 21.50.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating Quintin Smith on his 200 Meter Dash State Track and Field Title.

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HONORING MILLENNIUM MOMENTUM FOUNDATION, INC. FOR THEIR STRONG PUBLIC SERVICE

**HON. KAREN BASS**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Ms. BASS of California. Mr. Speaker, today I recognize an exceptional foundation in California's 33rd District—Millennium Momentum Foundation, Inc. (MMF). This Los Angeles based organization was formed on July 12, 2002 as a 501(c)(3) with the critical mission to increase the number of students and young adults from various backgrounds in the public service system through higher education, scholarships, mentoring, and leadership development training.

MMF empowers and encourages students to further develop their passion for service, commitment to change, and to become leaders within their communities. The program rewards exceptional student leaders with scholarships that are matched by their own institutions, providing more financial resources for students to complete their college degrees. Students attend life changing leadership development workshops focusing on important issues such as personal finance, professional communication, dispute resolution, and résumé and interview preparation. This foundation has an outstanding and effectual track record of equipping young people with the

tools and skills they need to reach success in public service.

Millennium Momentum Foundation, Inc. has become one of the premier providers of leadership development training in the nation with a 96 percent college graduation rate and an 85 percent employment matriculation rate among program participants completing service delivery from 2004 to 2011. MMF's capacity to effectively reach, educate, train, and professionally develop young adults was so impressive, it was selected by the Obama administration in 2012 to serve as a national partner to help implement the White House Young America Series, a non-partisan educational conference initiative aiming to merge President Obama's vision with young America's needs in 17 cities around the nation.

Mr. Speaker, we are very proud to have such an outstanding organization as part of the Los Angeles Community and California's 33rd Congressional District.

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CELEBRATING THE BIRTH OF SALLY WILLOUGHBY WILSON

**HON. JOE WILSON**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. WILSON of South Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to congratulate my son Julian Wilson and his wife Joy Wilson of Lexington, South Carolina, on the birth of their new baby girl, Sally Willoughby Wilson was born at 10:48 p.m., on Saturday, June 30, 2012, weighing 7 pounds and measuring 19 and 3/4 inches long. Sally joins an older brother, Jack Wilson. She has been born into a loving home where she will be raised by parents who are devoted to her well-being and bright future.

I would also like to congratulate Sally's grandparents Gary Strickland and Sherry Strickland of Nichols, South Carolina, and my wife, Roxanne Wilson of Springdale, South Carolina. I am so excited for this new addition to the Wilson family.

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ON THE OCCASION OF THE ANNEXATION OF ELSMERE CANYON IN SANTA CLARITA, CA

**HON. HOWARD P. "BUCK" McKEON**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. McKEON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the City of Santa Clarita and its residents on the recent annexation of Elsmere Canyon. This annexation completes a 25-year journey to protect a beautiful canyon that provides outstanding recreation opportunities to residents of the Santa Clarita Valley and visitors from surrounding areas.

Elsmere Canyon serves as an important wildlife corridor and is an integral part of the City's greenbelt. The Canyon is a popular destination for hikers and outdoor enthusiasts, and greatly enriches the recreational opportunities available in our area.

I am proud to have fought for, and won inclusion of, a legislative provision that was written into law which will forever protect Elsmere Canyon from being developed as a massive

landfill. In February of 1995, I introduced H.R. 924, legislation that would prohibit the Secretary of Agriculture from transferring any part of the Angeles National Forest from federal ownership to be used as a landfill. This language was included in the Omnibus Parks and Public Lands Management Act of 1996, which was signed into law that year.

I would like to recognize the efforts of the Santa Clarita City Council, Supervisor Antonovich, and the Santa Monica Mountains Conservancy for working together to purchase the land in 2010, which helped to pave the way for annexation into the City this spring. It is my sincere hope that Elsmere Canyon serves as a reminder that when residents, elected officials, and community organizations come together, we can create great opportunities for the residents that live in our beautiful valley.

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HONORING JAMES ROMAN CUTSHAW

**HON. PAUL C. BROUN**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BROUN of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a dear friend, a selfless humanitarian, a loving son, brother, husband, and father—Mr. James Roman Cutshaw, better known as Roman.

In addition to his unwavering dedication to his family, Roman is also a lifelong Marine who served in World War II as an artilleryman. Roman's father taught him about how precious freedom and liberty are, as he served during World War I. He encouraged each of his sons to enlist as well. Not only did Roman make his father extremely proud, he also took away intangible life lessons about camaraderie, duty, and honor that are still with him today.

After the war Mr. Cutshaw continued his education and received a Bachelor of Science in Accounting. He later moved his family from Greeneville, Tennessee, to Athens, Georgia, where he became a successful businessman, father to four boys, and pillar of the community.

After his retirement, Mr. Cutshaw has continued an active and engaging lifestyle all the while maintaining a constant drive to better himself in every way possible. At age 77 he returned to school to obtain a second degree in Heating and Air Engineering and at age 86 he received a third degree in Theology. Roman maintains a garden large enough to feed several families in his community and has done countless free repairs on refrigerators, freezers, and air conditioners in the hot Georgia summers for those not fortunate enough to afford these costly services. He is truly an example of what it means to put others' needs before your own and to always trust in the Lord.

In 2011, Roman was diagnosed with cancer and is now in his hardest battle yet. Just last week, he turned 92 years old and days before was placed under the care of Hospice. Our thoughts and prayers are with him, but we know God has blessed and will continue to bless Roman. This is a man who has not been afraid to get his hands dirty or make sacrifices on behalf of his neighbors. He understands the value of a hard day's work, the loyalty it

takes to make 50 years of marriage work, and above all, the importance of prayer. He has touched many lives, especially those of his children, and he continues to be an inspiration to all who know him. Please join me in honoring Roman and wishing him a very blessed 92nd birthday.

ATTACKS ON CHRISTIANS IN NIGERIA: UNPROVOKED, UNCONSCIONABLE

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, earlier this week I held a hearing to examine U.S. policy and policy options for managing relations with Nigeria in light of concerns on terrorism and social and political unrest.

The stability and commitment to justice and the rule of law of the Nigerian government is critical to regional, continental and global economic interests. Nigeria is hugely important on many fronts. Nigeria, Africa's largest producer of oil and its largest democracy, is one of the U.S. government's key strategic partners on the continent. It is Africa's most populous country, with more than 155 million people, roughly half Muslim and half Christian, and its second-largest economy. Nigeria supplies nearly three times the volume of imports to the United States as Angola, the second leading U.S. import supplier. The United States receives nearly 20% of our petroleum exports from Nigeria.

Consequently, Nigeria's stability is of critical interest for the U.S. economy and American policy interests in Africa.

Attacks by the Nigerian Islamic terrorist group Boko Haram on Christians, including attacks launched this past weekend, are unprovoked and unconscionable. People of all faiths—and all people of goodwill—must demand immediate action against this terrorist organization.

According to Catholic News Agency/EWTN News:

“Archbishop Ignatius A. Kaigama is concerned over the seemingly endless violence against Christians that claimed at least 58 lives this past weekend and hundreds of others in recent weeks. It is ‘our prayer that something definitive will be done to stop the situation that is inhuman,’ the Archbishop of Jos, Nigeria and Nigerian Bishops’ Conference president said. In a July 9 interview with Vatican Radio, Archbishop Kaigama said that the violence against Christian villages around Jos ‘doesn’t seem to stop.’ Although he was recently awarded the Institute for International Research’s annual peace building award, the archbishop said he and his priests are discouraged by the silence of foreign governments surrounding the violence in Nigeria. A peaceful resolution ‘cannot be left to just one country,’ the archbishop said, urging a ‘collective effort.’”

Boko Haram reportedly is in league with al-Qaeda in the Mahgreb and is involved at some level with Tuareg rebels in northern Mali, Islamists in Somalia and possibly even the Taliban in Afghanistan.

In addition to its well-publicized attacks on Christians in Nigeria, Boko Haram has been

involved in murdering those they consider moderate Muslims or Muslims collaborating with the central government or the West, including several Muslim clerics, the leader of the All Nigeria People's Party and the brother of the Shehu of Borno, a northern Muslim religious leader. There are reports that some northern Nigerian leaders may be supporting Boko Haram in some way as leverage against a government they oppose.

U.S. policy toward Nigeria also must take into account ethnic, religious and political challenges the Nigerian government faces outside of the Boko Haram dynamic. Furthermore, development deficits in Nigeria have had unequal impacts on various minority ethnic groups, such as in Nigeria's Delta region. This lack of attention to equitable development in Nigeria has led to violent uprisings that do not appear to be resolved in any part of the country, certainly not in the Niger Delta.

In Nigeria, President Goodluck Jonathan is considered to be the personification of his name: a fortunate politician who has been in the right place at the right time to enable him to enjoy a meteoric rise in politics with no perceived political base or political distinction in his relatively brief career. He was an obscure government employee before he entered politics in 1998, and a year later, he was elected Deputy Governor of Bayelsa State. Except for his success in negotiations with his fellow Ijaws in the troubled delta region, he served without any special distinction until he became the Governor of Bayelsa State, after his predecessor was impeached on corruption charges in 2005.

Outgoing President Olusegun Obasanjo selected then-Governor Jonathan to be the People's Democratic Party vice presidential candidate with Umaru Yar'Adua, a presidential candidate from the north, in the 2007 elections. Yar'Adua was ill for much of his time in office, and Jonathan was called on to exercise presidential authority in November 2009 when Yar'Adua was unable to do so. Nigerian power brokers accepted Jonathan as official Acting President in February 2010. When Yar'Adua finally died in May 2010, these power brokers only accepted Jonathan to be sworn in as president because he was not considered a threat and likely wouldn't run for reelection.

However, Jonathan surprised them by announcing in September 2010 that he had consulted widely throughout Nigeria and would run for president. Jonathan won the presidential election convincingly, but his ruling People's Democratic Party lost seats in the Senate and the House of Representatives, and PDP now holds four fewer governorships—down to 23 of 36.

In October 2010, the Jonathan Administration called for the fuel subsidy to be removed. The government's decision was met with demonstrations and strikes by national unions. But while the unions agreed to end strikes and protests, the Joint Action Forum, a civil society affiliate of the unions, continued protests for a time throughout the country. The government responded with what human rights groups charged was excessive force. In northern Kano State, a student was shot to death in the course of breaking up a rally.

In addition to the resentment caused by government brutality in dealing with the largely youth-led fuel subsidy protests, high unemployment, resentment over perceived government corruption, and mismanagement and ex-

perience in organizing social protests may yet have a lasting impact on Nigerian politics and society.

The issues of excessive government force in the Niger Delta, northern Nigeria and other areas of the country over several past governments in Nigeria has fed resentment. Combined with the northern political opposition, the increasing resistance by minorities and the civil society political revolt, the Jonathan Administration faces significant forces arrayed against it. The questions our government must answer are: will this government withstand its opposition and what can we do to help Nigeria to remain Africa's essential nation?

A TRIBUTE TO SUSANNAH MUSHATT JONES ON HER 113TH BIRTHDAY

HON. EDOLPHUS TOWNS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 11, 2012

Mr. TOWNS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute and to honor Susannah Mushatt Jones on the occasion of her 113th birthday celebration. Lovingly called “Miss Susie”, she is a symbol of longevity and commitment to family for all New Yorkers and our nation.

Susie Jones was born July 6, 1899 in Lowndes County, Alabama and was the third of 11 children. Susie survives all of her siblings and is a firsthand historian of a unique quantity of our American history and growth as a country. She never had children but has more than 100 nieces and nephews. She is generous to the core paying for two nieces through college and lavishing gifts on the rest.

Miss Susie grew up in the segregated South and taught for two months after graduating high school. She then moved to New Jersey to work with a wealthy family in 1922. The following year she moved to work with a Westchester County family. Her work with various families over those years took her from the East Coast to the West Coast. At one point, Miss Susie worked for a prominent Hollywood family, socializing with movie stars and attending movie premieres. According to her, one time she was “close enough to Ronald Reagan to reach out and touch him.” “Clark Gable, Cary Grant, I saw them all. George Raft was my favorite.”

Miss Susie uses the word wonderful a lot, but about the only time she doesn't use it is in reference to her ex-husband, Henry. “We married in 1928, I think. He wasn't a mean person. He was a very good cook,” she says. “But I don't know what happened to him.”

Miss Susie retired in 1965 during the Civil Rights Movement and witnessed the continued change in the country through the following years. She lost her vision about 12 years ago and maintains her infectious laugh and upbeat attitude. Although she now has limited mobility, Miss Susie was an active member of the Vandalia Houses Senior Center tenant patrol well beyond her 100 years. Twice a day she sat in the lobby checking the guests as they signed in.

We can all learn from Miss Susie's secrets to a long life. She never smoked, drank. She works hard and loves faithfully. “I thank the Lord for the love I receive from my family,” she says.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to recognize the wonderful life and important contributions of Susannah Mushatt Jones. She is a treasured and active member of Vandalia Senior Center. We are proud that she is still part of our community. This milestone gives all of us hope that people can truly live a long prosperous life.

HONORING COLONEL CHARLES C. GIBSON

**HON. TOM MARINO**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. MARINO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor my constituent, Colonel Charles C. Gibson, and congratulate him on his relocation to the United States Army Communications Electronics Command Headquarters at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland, as Chief of Staff.

Currently serving as a commander of Tobyhanna Army Depot, Colonel Gibson has devoted over two decades of heroic service to our country, demonstrating his devotion to the preservation of the United States of America and to our safety through numerous military campaigns, decorations and advancement to leadership positions.

Originally from Baltimore, Maryland, Colonel Charles Gibson was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Ordnance Corps in 1986. After receiving his degree in Mathematics from Bowie State University in 1987, he began his military career as a Platoon Leader for the 122nd Main Support Battalion, 3rd Armored Division, Hanau, Germany, which later deployed with the 3rd Armored Division to Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm in 1990.

Upon his return, Colonel Gibson assumed the position of Maintenance Officer, Support Operations Cell and Battalion S-3, 264th Corps Support Battalion, Fort Bragg, NC, and deployed to Haiti in 1994. Subsequently, he served in several leadership positions while assigned to the 25th Infantry Division, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii including; Support Operations Officer, G4 Division Logistics Planner, Battalion Commander of a Stryker BSB, 2nd Stryker Brigade, and Assistant Chief of Staff, Logistics Division G4. While with the 25th Infantry Division, he deployed to Bosnia as the Logistics Operations Planner. He also served one year as the BDE Support Operations Officer with the 45th Corps Support Group with a deployment to Thailand.

Colonel Gibson's awards and decorations for his service in the United States Army include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with five oak leaf clusters, Army Commendation Medal with three oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Southwest Asia Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, Kuwaiti Defense Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Southwest Asia Kuwaiti Liberation Medal, NATO Medal and Parachutist Badge.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Colonel Charles C. Gibson, and ask my colleagues to join me in praising his commitment to the protection and defense of our great nation.

RICE UNIVERSITY 100TH BIRTHDAY

**HON. K. MICHAEL CONAWAY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. CONAWAY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rice University on its 100th birthday. For over a century it has stood as one of the premier educational institutions in the world.

Over the past 100 years, Rice University's name has come to be synonymous with excellence. The institution consistently ranks among the top 20 national universities in the U.S. News & World Report and holds many other marks of excellence.

For example, in 2010 Rice University was ranked No. 1 worldwide in materials science research. In 2011, the Carnegie Foundation gave the university top classifications for "very high research activity" and "comprehensive doctoral program".

While this is an amazing accomplishment, Rice's work is more than just a statistic—it has changed the world we live in. The research performed by the university has proved groundbreaking on several fronts, most notably the discovery of "buckyballs." The discovery launched the field of Nanotechnology which has led directly to advances many fields, including medicine, technology, energy, defense, and transportation. Nanotechnology is already playing a powerful role in the lives of Americans, from its capacity to help find cures to deadly diseases to reducing the cost and extending the lifespan of consumer products like clothes and cars.

Rice's School of Business, Architecture, Engineering, Social Sciences, Music, Humanities, Institute of Public Policy, and the Alliance of Technology and Entrepreneurship all hold similar national standing.

Not only is Rice University a heavyweight contender in academic and research fields, the university also maintains a noteworthy athletic department. For 17 consecutive years, Rice has produced a NCAA conference championship team—another outstanding accomplishment.

Again, congratulations to Rice University on its 100th birthday. Rice University's devoted faculty and student body have continually endeavored for excellence, and as a result Texans, Americans, and people all over our world have benefited.

RECOGNIZING THE CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION OF RICE UNIVERSITY

**HON. RANDY NEUGEBAUER**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. NEUGEBAUER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commend Rice University and celebrate 100 years since its founding in Houston, TX. Since its first class in the fall of 1912, Rice has established itself as a flagship of Texas universities. This October, faculty, students and alumni will celebrate a century of excellence and distinction in the Houston community and the state of Texas.

Rice and Texas Tech, my alma mater, were in the Southwest Conference together during

my college years. We Tech fans are often described as very passionate at our football games and other sporting events. I remember how much fun we had when we played against Rice, because Rice fans are just as fanatical about their school as we are about ours.

Rice University cultivates a flourishing learning environment and empowers its students to explore opportunities in and out of the classroom. It has a prestigious and notable alumni list comprised of many people I respect and admire in Texas and throughout the country, including my friend and Texas colleague, Congressman PETE OLSON. I'm proud Texas can boast of a quality university like Rice, and I stand today to congratulate Rice University on 100 years of excellence.

RICE UNIVERSITY'S CENTENNIAL COMMEMORATION

**HON. JOE BARTON**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. BARTON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to commemorate Rice University on reaching its centennial. Since its founding a hundred years ago, Rice University has become a distinguished institution, high in the ranks of academic achievement amongst our country's best colleges and universities. Rice's research programs are highly regarded and it is the proud alma mater of many intellectuals who have been recognized for their accomplishments, including numerous Marshall Scholars, Rhodes Scholars, and Fulbright Scholars.

In addition to their extraordinary academic programs, Rice has made a name for itself in the area of collegiate sports. The Rice University Owls became the kings of baseball when they won the 2003 College World Series, and they have continued to stand in the ranks with the country's best college baseball teams. Rice has also succeeded in the area of women's athletics. Its volleyball, soccer, basketball, and tennis teams have competed in many NCAA tournaments, earning Rice a varied set of achievements.

As Rice University reaches its centennial in October, I want to give credit to its students and professors for their hard work and commitment to higher education. Their consistent dedication to academic advancement makes Rice the prestigious institution it is today.

I commend Rice University for reaching this impressive milestone, and I wish them the best of luck for the next 100 years. I look forward to seeing the big things the faculty, alumni, and current students at Rice will undoubtedly continue to accomplish.

I hope all Members will join me in congratulating Rice University for 100 years of academic excellence.

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS FOR  
OBTAINING THE RANK OF EAGLE  
SCOUT

**HON. SANDY ADAMS**

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mrs. ADAMS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate Joshua Whetman for achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

For his Eagle Scout Project, Joshua developed an action archery course to benefit a local youth camp. Throughout the history of the Boy Scouts of America, the rank of Eagle Scout has only been attained through dedication to concepts such as honor, duty, country and charity. By applying these concepts to daily life, Joshua has proven his true and complete understanding of their meanings, and thereby deserves this honor.

I offer my congratulations on a job well done and best wishes for the future.

RECOGNIZING PARKVIEW HIGH  
SCHOOL BOYS 4X100M RELAY  
TEAM

**HON. BILLY LONG**

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 11, 2012*

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Parkview High School Boys 4x100m Relay Team for winning Missouri Class 4 State Track and Field Championships.

The team, which included juniors Christopher Hargrove, AJ Green and Myron Willis, and senior Quintin Smith, won the relay event with a time of 42.17.

Coach Jay Miller and his talented coaching staff should be proud of their accomplishment in guiding this group of talented athletes. I commend them all on a job well done.

I urge my colleagues to join me in congratulating the Parkview High School State Champion Boys 4x100m Relay team.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

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

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

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, July 12, 2012 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

JULY 17

9:30 a.m.

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the next ten years in the fight against human trafficking, focusing on attacking the problem with the right tools.

SD-419

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Investigations Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine United States vulnerabilities to money laundering, drugs, and terrorist financing, focusing on HSBC case history.

SD-106

10 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine the "Dodd-Frank Wall Street Reform and Consumer Protection Act", focusing on two years later.

SR-328A

Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the semi-annual Monetary Policy Report to Congress.

SD-G50

Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine the status of action taken to ensure that the electric grid is protected from cyber attacks.

SD-366

2:30 p.m.

Appropriations

Financial Service and General Government Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine if consumers are adequately protected from flammability of upholstered furniture, focusing on the effectiveness of furniture flammability standards and flame retardant chemicals.

SD-138

Intelligence

To hold a closed mark-up to consider certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 18

10 a.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

To hold hearings to examine improving the transparency of Federal spending.

SD-342

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine improving forensic science in the criminal justice system.

SD-226

Veterans' Affairs

To hold hearings to examine the nomination of Thomas Skerik Sowers II, of Missouri, to be Assistant Secretary of Veterans Affairs for Public and Intergovernmental Affairs.

SR-418

2 p.m.

Aging

To hold hearings to examine Medicare and Medicaid coordination for dual-eligibles.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the census, focusing on planning ahead for 2020.

SD-342

Foreign Relations

To hold hearings to examine the nominations of Marcie B. Ries, of the District of Columbia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Bulgaria, John M. Koenig, of Washington, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Cyprus, Michael David Kirby, of Virginia, to be Ambassador to the Republic of Serbia, Thomas Hart Armbruster, of New York, to be Ambassador to the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and Greta Christine Holtz, of Maryland, to be Ambassador to the Sultanate of Oman, all of the Department of State.

SD-419

Judiciary

Privacy, Technology and the Law Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine what facial recognition technology means for privacy and civil liberties.

SD-226

3 p.m.

Commerce, Science, and Transportation  
Aviation Operations, Safety, and Security Subcommittee

To hold hearings to examine the global competitiveness of the United States Aviation Industry, focusing on addressing competition issues to maintain United States leadership in the aerospace market.

SR-253

JULY 19

10 a.m.

Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

To hold hearings to examine making college affordability a priority, focusing on promising practices and strategies.

SD-430

2:15 p.m.

Indian Affairs

To hold an oversight hearing to examine climate change, focusing on impacts on treaty rights, traditional lifestyles, and tribal homelands.

SD-628

2:30 p.m.

Intelligence

To hold closed hearings to examine certain intelligence matters.

SH-219

JULY 25

10 a.m.

Judiciary

To hold hearings to examine ensuring judicial independence through civics education.

SH-216

2:30 p.m.

Energy and Natural Resources  
Water and Power Subcommittee

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the role of water use efficiency and its impact on energy use.

SD-366

AUGUST 1

9 a.m.

Agriculture, Nutrition, and Forestry

To hold hearings to examine MF Global, focusing on accountability in the futures markets.

SR-328A