

I must observe this has been a painfully protracted process; it is a fact that what we've tried to accomplish for the last two-and-a-half months had once been considered a common-sense, bipartisan response to natural disasters. And the calls for offsets and a slower pace of funding in the wake of natural disasters are a recent phenomenon, even though previous Congresses quickly supported measures that provided relief to affected states.

For example, within two weeks of Hurricane Katrina, Congress provided \$70 billion in disaster funding to the Gulf Coast with great bipartisan support, and with virtually no discussion about how to pay for it. Congress recognized this was a major disaster, people were hurting, and it had to act to alleviate the suffering.

Congress, with bipartisan support, continued to appropriate emergency funds for various Katrina projects and activities totaling \$120 billion, all without payoffs. For example, Congress funded \$1 billion to build a retractable seawall to protect New Orleans from rising storm surge. And it approved \$14 billion to rebuild and upgrade critical flood prevention infrastructure to minimize, or mitigate, the risk of such devastation occurring again. Why do New York and New Jersey deserve less urgency? And why are mitigation projects for New Orleans considered prudent, and mitigation projects for New York and New Jersey characterized as pork?

Mr. Speaker, our states are not asking for anything more than help to get back on their feet and rebuild. We are asking for nothing more than to respond to this disaster as we have for Hurricane Katrina and other natural disasters that have wrought damage upon fellow Americans. I urge my colleagues to support this package without any damaging amendments.

PROVIDING FOR CONSIDERATION  
OF H.R. 152, DISASTER RELIEF  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2013

SPEECH OF

**HON. RUSH HOLT**

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 15, 2013*

Mr. HOLT. Madam Chair, I rise in support of the Disaster Relief Act. This bill brings much needed aid to the residents of central New Jersey.

I am concerned that several amendments to H.R. 152 would impair the ability of money in the bill to be spent wisely. The amended bill includes a provision that would block funding that enables coastal communities to develop mitigation plans for future hurricanes and other severe weather events. We should not be limiting NOAA's ability to forecast and respond to hurricanes in an emergency appropriations bill that is designed to respond to a hurricane.

I intended to offer to H.R. 152 an amendment that would have lifted the \$250,000 cap on Community Development Block Grant Funds (CDBG) that can be used by towns and municipalities to finance critically need infrastructure projects. There are towns in my district that would benefit from upgrades to exist-

ing flood management infrastructure, yet are unable to afford the costs associated with these projects. Unfortunately, my amendment was not made in order by the House Leadership.

While I support strongly passage of H.R. 152, I want to reiterate that our fellow citizens affected by Hurricane Sandy have already waited far too long for help from Congress. In other natural disasters, such as Hurricane Katrina, Congress acted swiftly, and aid reached those in need. And yet, the 112th Congress adjourned before passing a much-needed disaster relief package. The Senate had already acted to pass a well-constructed aid package bill. The only reason that this bill is not law today is that House leadership refused to act.

This devastating storm has left many people hurting in many different ways—shopkeepers, homeowners, fishermen, hotel and restaurant owners—and has damaged the entire economy. H.R. 152 responds to this variety of needs and concerns. I urge my colleagues to support the bill.

IN MEMORY OF CARMEN  
WARSCHAW

**HON. NANCY PELOSI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 18, 2013*

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, today, the people of California mourn the passing of a political legend of unsurpassed wit, a political leader of unyielding will, and a force for progress—for women, for Democrats, for our state and our country, Carmen Warschaw.

Carmen believed in the power and promise of our democracy. She believed that politics was about people, that the political process should be a force for good, that elections should produce leaders of bold vision and strong values, courage and character. She believed all Americans bore a responsibility to participate, to vote, to make our voices heard. She believed we all had the ability and the obligation to make a difference—whether in a campaign, in our schools, or in our communities. And she never hesitated to act on her beliefs.

I was on the foundation of these principles that Carmen made her mark. It was on the basis of these values that Carmen built her legacy.

She left footprints on the lives and careers of countless political figures—as a fixture at every Democratic National Convention from 1948 to 2008; as the Democratic Party's Chairwoman in Southern California; as a power broker in state government. She was never afraid to go toe-to-toe with the most powerful people in our state, whether a governor or a state party chair. She would, in the words of her alma mater, always "fight on."

She was a pioneer. The daughter of immigrants, she became the first woman to lead the state's Fair Employment Practices Commission, standing firm for civil rights, equality, and justice for all.

She was a philanthropist to her core, investing in the causes of Los Angeles' Jewish com-

munity; supporting the state and people of Israel; endowing chairs and backing research at USC—the school where she met the love of her life, Louis.

She loved music and the arts, and was surrounded by them in her beautiful home. She loved sports, and could regularly be found on a hot summer day in her seat behind the home dugout at Dodger Stadium.

She was intensely loyal, fiercely independent, extraordinarily wise, and unabashedly proud of her heritage, her values, and her political activism. Indeed, it was only fitting that Carmen would pass away on November 6, 2012—Election Day. In characteristic fashion, she had already voted, leaving one last, indelible mark on history.

To borrow a phrase from Jewish tradition, Carmen Warschaw was a "woman of valor." May she forever be an example of grace, passion, and commitment to all of us. May her memory be a blessing to all who knew her. May it be a comfort to her daughters, Hope and Susan, her grandchildren and great-grandchildren, her friends and loved ones to know that so many share in their grief at this time.

HONORING THE HONOREES OF THE  
KENNEBEC VALLEY CHAMBER  
OF COMMERCE AWARDS

**HON. MICHAEL H. MICHAUD**

OF MAINE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 18, 2013*

Mr. MICHAUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the Honorees of the 2013 Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce Annual Banquet Dinner. The Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce serves the people and business community of the Augusta area, working hard to strengthen economic opportunity throughout the region and the state.

Each year, the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce recognizes local businesses, business leaders, and individuals who promote and advance a vital and healthy business environment. These individuals and businesses are committed to strengthening opportunity and prosperity in Maine.

This year's award recipients include J.S. McCarthy Printers, recipient of Business of the Year; Peter E. Prescott, recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award; Scott Bolduc, recipient of Business Person of the Year; Andy and Sheree Wess, recipients of the President's Award; Deborah Shepherd of the Family Violence Project, recipient of the Community Service Award; Mike Seitzinger, Esq., recipient of the Community Service Award; Randy and Teresa Hutchins of O'Connor Auto Group, recipient of the President's Award; and Laura Benedict of The Red Barn, recipient of the President's Award.

These recipients are among the best that Maine has to offer. Through their leadership and incredible commitment to their communities and the region, Maine is a better place to live and do business.

Mr. Speaker, please join me again in congratulating the Kennebec Valley Chamber of Commerce and these individuals on their outstanding service and achievement.

INTRODUCTION OF THE FIREARM  
SAFETY AND PUBLIC HEALTH  
RESEARCH ACT

**HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 18, 2013*

Mrs. CAROLYN B. MALONEY of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to introduce the Firearm Safety and Public Health Research Act and I commend my colleagues, Mr. MARKEY and the other 31 members who have joined me in sponsoring this bill.

Gun violence is a public health issue and public health agencies should have the ability to develop and pursue violence prevention and mental health research.

Unfortunately, since 1996 a rider to the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) appropriations bill has prohibited the agency from conducting high-quality, peer-reviewed research into gun violence prevention. Congress expanded the ban in 2011 to apply to the entire Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including the National Institutes of Health (NIH).

For over 16 years, gun deaths have continued to plague this country while we have restricted any meaningful, government sponsored scientific research on gun violence. We are unable to answer fundamental questions on the underlying causes of gun deaths because special interests and Members of Congress have restricted federal agencies from researching it.

Now is the time to repeal this ban.

The bill I am introducing will do just that.

The Firearm Safety and Public Health Research Act will lift the current prohibitions on CDC and NIH research into firearm safety. Federally-supported public health research would resume at these key agencies to help understand the causes of gun violence and make sure that we are best prepared to address this enormous public health crisis.

Even former Representative Jay Dickey, the Congressman who was instrumental in passing the 1996 ban agrees and is now calling for its repeal.

Congress should not be able to establish politically motivated restrictions on specific areas of research. We have witnessed far too many tragedies as the result of firearms and we need all the data and information we can get to inform policy.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this important legislation.

CELEBRATING 30 YEARS OF  
LEADERSHIP MODESTO

**HON. JEFF DENHAM**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 18, 2013*

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Leadership Modesto as they celebrate 30 years of leadership education in the Central Valley.

Leadership Modesto was established in 1981 by founding Members Dave Kilby, Jeff Cowan, John Sutton, Connie Bird, Ed Boyle, Stan Hodges, Mike Zagaris and Virginia Bruch. The program was formed through the

Modesto Chamber of Commerce to identify new potential Modesto leaders and to provide a ten-month program that will develop knowledge and understanding of the community—its complexities and its potential. The program also provides an opportunity for participants to meet and exchange ideas with each other and current community leaders, and to motivate and encourage participants to assume leadership roles in community affairs.

Leadership Modesto has turned out graduates such as Former Mayor James Ridenour, current Mayor Garrad Marsh, current Vice Mayor Stephanie Burnside, Modesto City Council Members Joe Muratore and Dave Cogdill Jr., and Sheriff Adam Christianson to name a few. Some of the community efforts and accomplishments—established Bette Belle Smith Day, upgraded playground equipment at JFK Elementary School, clothing drive for Professional Dress, and raised money for Camp Taylor.

The program also provides an opportunity for its members to connect, discuss and exchange ideas with each other and current community leaders, and to motivate and build strong minded leaders to assume leadership roles in our community.

Leadership Modesto is building our future and celebrating our past. Leadership Modesto is men and women with a sincere commitment, motivation and interest in serving the community. During the ten month program, members expand their understanding of Modesto and Stanislaus County through exposure to community issues many may not otherwise have the opportunity to explore at the same time enhancing leadership and management skills, and develop close relationships and mutual concerns with other class members.

Even during a down economy, the Leadership Modesto program continues to inspire public and private sector interest and participation. One of the key successes to the longevity of the Modesto program is the program leadership infrastructure—led by a committed group of Steering Committee members. Each Steering Committee member has a direct connection with one of the day topic planning teams. This direct connection enables the program to move quickly, to mobilize and respond to challenges and changes.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Leadership Modesto for 30 years of delivered premier leadership training for Modesto. More than 500 graduates pepper business and industry, elected offices, as well as non-profit volunteer boards and organizations. It's our community's succession plan.

RECOGNIZING THE 200TH ANNIVERSARY  
OF THE BATTLES AT THE  
RIVER RAISIN AND THE SIGNIFICANCE  
OF THESE BATTLES DURING  
THE WAR OF 1812

**HON. TIM WALBERG**

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 18, 2013*

Mr. WALBERG. Mr. Speaker, rise today to commemorate the 200th anniversary of the Battles at the River Raisin and pay tribute to the members of the United States Armed Forces who died during this conflict. For six

days in January of 1813, U.S. soldiers fought against British forces for control of Michigan and the lower Great Lakes in a town formerly called Frenchtown, now known as Monroe.

The battle was the largest ever fought on Michigan soil. Out of more than 900 members of the United States Armed forces who fought in it, only 33 escaped death or capture. So many lives were lost that "Remember the Raisin" became the galvanizing battle cry for the remainder of the War.

The battlefield is a Michigan State Historic Site and has been placed on the National Register of historic places. In October 2010, the River Raisin Battlefield became part of the National Park System and remains the only National Battlefield Park representing the War of 1812.

Today I am introducing a resolution to commemorate the bicentennial of the Battles of River Raisin and to thank those who work so hard to preserve the significance of the battles for future generations. The collaborative efforts of the Monroe County Historical Society and Commission, the City of Monroe, the staff of the National Park Service and the Battlefield Visitor Center will assuredly result in a memorable remembrance of the anniversary this coming weekend.

I ask my colleagues to join me in commemorating the 200th anniversary of the Battles of River Raisin and recognize those who gave their lives fighting for our country.

TRIBUTE TO YOLANDA CARILLO

**HON. KEN CALVERT**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Friday, January 18, 2013*

Mr. CALVERT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor and pay tribute to an individual whose dedication and contributions to the community are exceptional. Corona and Norco have been fortunate to have dynamic and dedicated community leaders who willingly and unselfishly give their time and talent and make their communities a better place to live and work. Yolanda Carillo is one of these individuals. On January 19, 2013, Yolanda will be honored as the "Citizen of the Year" at the Greater Corona Valley Chamber of Commerce Installation and Awards Gala.

Yolanda holds a dual Masters of Science degree in Organizational Leadership and Community Psychology, and a Bachelor of Science degree in Human Services. She previously taught at a four year college institution and is a proud holder of a Child Development Program Administrator Certificate. Currently, Yolanda serves as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Corona-Norco Family YMCA, a post she has held since 1997. She is a highly motivated community builder and hardworking professional with proven administrative and organizational abilities. Yolanda is an effective leader with a natural ability to organize the efforts and goodwill of others. She is an enthusiastic team builder who enjoys the challenge of researching and analyzing to find viable solutions to improve the lives of our children, families and communities.

Yolanda's vision has grown from one YMCA site with 12 employees to today's YMCA of nine program sites with more than 85 employees. At the same time, she has assisted children who live in poverty by securing grants