

RECOGNIZING DAVID J.
STEINBERG

HON. TIMOTHY H. BISHOP

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. BISHOP of New York. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. David J. Steinberg for a long and very distinguished career in higher education. It is my honor to recognize my former employer and one of Long Island's most respected leaders on the occasion of his retirement as president of Long Island University.

Over the course of his life and career, David has possessed all the attributes of a strong leader and set a shining example for all those he has taught and guided. He is a brilliant and gifted administrator who has achieved tremendous success and enjoys an impeccable reputation in the higher education community and across New York.

David began to make his mark when he started teaching in the history department of the University of Michigan, where he soon became a full professor. Before coming to LIU, he served as vice president and university secretary of Brandeis University.

An accomplished scholar, David has written several books and articles about Southeast Asia. He became an expert in the history of the Philippines and was a member of the international observer team that monitored the presidential elections in which Corazon Aquino defeated Ferdinand Marcos.

David spent a year at Columbia University on a Woodrow Wilson Fellowship, and he holds three degrees from Harvard University, where he earned his undergraduate degree, and completed his M.A. in East Asian studies and a Ph.D. in history.

In 1985, David was chosen to lead LIU. I was fortunate to be the provost and chief executive officer of the university's Southampton Campus while he was president. It was my privilege to work under him and learn to appreciate that at the core of David's vision was the goal of expanding access and affordability for students in the pursuit of a quality private education.

Since 2009, David has increased institutional student financial aid from \$65 million to more than \$100 million, and he expanded LIU into one of the largest and most comprehensive private universities in the United States, with six campuses and three overseas centers. In addition, LIU's endowment increased from \$4.8 million to nearly \$80 million, and enrollment expanded from 19,000 to 24,000 students.

David's vision has also enabled LIU maintain its competitive edge as a leader in the use of technology in education through LIU Online and LIU Global; the launch of programs in emerging fields like forensic science, genetic counseling, mobile GIS, homeland security management and environmental sustainability; and the realization of a groundbreaking cloud computing initiative, which included the largest iPad deployment in American higher education.

Perhaps most important is David's emphasis on the value of community service as an integral component of LIU's commitment to enhancing the quality of life for the university's neighbors on Long Island. Students attending

LIU Post alone volunteer 27,500 hours devoted to the community each year through local initiatives involving health and wellness; providing resources for individuals and families dealing with autism, aphasia, and post-traumatic stress syndrome; and offering instruction in literacy and life skills. In fact, both of LIU's residential campuses were named to President Obama's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll.

Additionally, David's leadership forged LIU's long tradition of complementing its educational mission with cultural and artistic endeavors by offering world-class performances and arts programs at the Tilles Center for the Performing Arts, which is located at LIU Post in Brookville. He has indeed nurtured a culture of access and excellence that has transformed the lives of countless students and in the process made an indelible impression on the educational and cultural landscape of New York for future generations.

Mr. Speaker, I have no doubt that David will embrace his retirement with his usual enthusiasm and energy. On behalf of New York's first congressional district, I wish him all the health and happiness throughout a long retirement with his wife, Joan, his two sons, Noah and Jonah, and his grandchildren.

HONORING SEAN BAKER

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Sean Baker. Sean is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Sean has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Sean has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Sean has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Sean Baker for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

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

Today, it is \$16,738,778,336,691.59. We've added \$6,111,901,787,778.51 to our debt in 4 and a half years. This is \$6 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. LYNN A. WESTMORELAND

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. WESTMORELAND. Mr. Speaker, on rollcall No. 179, I had to return to Georgia due to the death of a long time friend, and to attend the wake/funeral.

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

IN MEMORY OF SHARON O'KEEFE EVANS

HON. BILL POSEY

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. POSEY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to mourn the passing of Sharon O'Keefe Evans. Sharon was an inspirational woman who touched many lives throughout her 56 years. She passed after a brief, yet courageous battle with cancer.

Sharon grew up in the Chicago suburbs and relocated to central Florida to pursue career opportunities. Before moving to Florida, she attended the University of Illinois, Champaign. After graduating in 1974, she became an accomplished advertising executive serving in a variety of senior positions with leading national advertising agencies such as J. Walter Thompson and Foot, Cone & Belding. After relocating to Florida she held account management positions with some of our state's leading advertising firms, including Fry, Hammond, Barr and PP+K. She was an avid golfer, enjoying the many beautiful courses our state has to offer. During her illness, Sharon was treated at Moffitt Cancer Center in Tampa, a national leader in cancer research and treatment.

Sharon is survived by her parents, William O'Keefe and Gay Japinga of Evanston, Illinois, and her husband, Doug Evans, of Valrico, Florida. As a senior executive with Source Interlink Media, Doug is a leading voice in the motorsports and automotive industry, publishing magazines such as 'Hot Rod' and 'Motor Trend,' which I have read for many years. As a fellow automotive enthusiast, I count him as a friend and offer my heartfelt condolences to him and his family for this great loss.

Sharon's final days were spent with Doug courageously by her side. It is with sadness that we pay tribute to Sharon's life. This is yet another reminder of the need to redouble our efforts to find a cure for cancer so that institutions like Moffitt Cancer Center can successfully treat those, like Sharon, so that their days are no longer cut short by this disease.

HONORING THE NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA MEN'S GOLF TEAM

HON. JO BONNER

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. BONNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the 2013 University of Alabama Men's Golf

Team for having captured its first National Championship. On June 2, the team emerged victorious from a field of 30 qualifying teams over six days to win the NCAA Golf Championship. The Tide golf team represents only the second University of Alabama men's sport other than football to take a national title in school history.

The Crimson Tide defeated Illinois 4–1 in the match play championship round at the par–70, 7,319 yard Capital City Club Crabapple Course in Milton, Georgia. Junior Bobby Wyatt of Mobile birdied five of his first seven holes and finished his match on the 13th green with a chip into the hole from more than 50 feet. Juniors Trey Mullinax and Cory Whitsett as well as senior Scott Strohmeier helped clinch the title by winning their matches.

Before entering into the 2013 NCAA Championship, Alabama was ranked No. 2 nationally behind the University of California. The Crimson Tide went on to win eight of their nine tournaments including the SEC Championship, the NCAA Baton Rouge Regional and the NCAA Championships. Three members of the team entered the championship tournament ranked in the top 10: Bobby Wyatt—No.3, Cory Whitsett—No.4, and sophomore Justin Thomas—No. 8.

The Crimson Tide National Champion team members and staff include: Lee Knox, Dru Love, Tom Lovelady, Trey Mullinax, Robby Prater, William Sellers, Scott Strohmeier, Justin Thomas, Cory Whitsett, Bobby Wyatt, Coach Jay Seawell, and Assistant Coach Rob Bradley.

On behalf of the people of Alabama and my colleagues in the Alabama Delegation, I wish to extend personal congratulations to Coach Jay Seawell, Assistant Coach Rob Bradley and the University of Alabama Men's Golf Team for their rising to the challenge and bringing home the NCAA Championship trophy to Tuscaloosa. Roll Tide!

HONORING ALEX WESTHUES

HON. SAM GRAVES

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. GRAVES of Missouri. Mr. Speaker, I proudly pause to recognize Alex Westhues. Alex is a very special young man who has exemplified the finest qualities of citizenship and leadership by taking an active part in the Boy Scouts of America, Troop 376, and earning the most prestigious award of Eagle Scout.

Alex has been very active with his troop, participating in many scout activities. Over the many years Alex has been involved with scouting, he has not only earned numerous merit badges, but also the respect of his family, peers, and community. Most notably, Alex has contributed to his community through his Eagle Scout project.

Mr. Speaker, I proudly ask you to join me in commending Alex Westhues for his accomplishments with the Boy Scouts of America and for his efforts put forth in achieving the highest distinction of Eagle Scout.

CONGRATULATING DR. TRIFON LASKARIS ON RECEIPT OF HIS 200TH U.S. PATENT

HON. PAUL TONKO

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to a remarkable individual and prolific inventor whose pioneering research into medical imaging has helped to transform modern day medicine. Dr. Trifon Laskaris, a Chief Scientist at General Electric's Global Research Center, was recently awarded his 200th U.S. patent—a benchmark previously reached by only one other GE researcher—the inventor of the light bulb and founder of the company's research center, Thomas Edison.

For the past four decades, Dr. Laskaris has worked at GE Global Research on technology to advance magnetic resonance imaging, or MRI. He has spent much of his career directing GE's research into superconducting magnets. It is these high-power magnets that make MRI possible. Suffice it to say that without the work of Dr. Laskaris and his team, MRI would not be where it is today—a vital diagnostic tool used in hospitals around the world. There is no telling how many millions of people are leading healthier lives today because of the technology that Dr. Laskaris developed.

New York's Capital Region has a rich history as a hub for cutting-edge science and technology. From the birth of General Electric more than 120 years ago, to the emergence of "Tech Valley" as a center for nanotechnology research and development, upstate New York continues to be at the forefront of invention and innovation that is making America and the world a better place. Dr. Laskaris is an inspiration to us all, and his achievement is a testament to the fruits that creativity and steadfast pursuit of technological advancement can bear.

I congratulate Dr. Trifon Laskaris on this milestone achievement and, on behalf of this body and the citizens of the 20th District of New York, I thank him for his lifelong dedication to scientific research in the service of humanity.

MILITARY CONSTRUCTION AND VETERANS AFFAIRS, AND RELATED AGENCIES APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. SAM FARR

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, June 4, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2216) making appropriations for military construction, the Department of Veterans Affairs, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. FARR. Madam Chair, on Memorial Day, we remembered the patriotic sacrifice of those that have lost their lives in service to our country and today, we renew our commitment to keep our promise to our nation's more than

2 million troops and reservists, their families, 22.2 million veterans, and 35.5 million family members of living veterans or survivors of deceased veterans.

This committee has a strong history of working in a bipartisan way to produce a bill that supports our active duty servicemembers, our veterans and their families, and this bill is no exception.

I commend the Chairman and Ranking Member for their hard work in ensuring that this bill is another significant step in fulfilling the promise our country made to leave no veteran behind.

For example, even though Congress has fully funded the VA budget request for additional staffing and technology, the disability claims backlog continues to grow.

While the VA has taken steps to rectify this deplorable backlog, we owe it to our veterans to exercise our Congressional oversight responsibilities to ensure that the VA actually fixes the backlog.

I am pleased the bill before us today includes language I requested, with some of my Northern CA colleagues, that would add additional oversight requirements for the Veterans Benefits Administration and require regular updates from the VA on the status of the backlog.

Through regular updates from the VA, we ensure accountability and end the backlog.

Additionally, I am pleased to see that this bill again recognizes the burial needs of our veterans in rural areas. The National Cemetery Administration has repeatedly stated that 10% of all veterans will not have access to a burial option in a national, state or tribal cemetery within 75 miles of their home.

While the VA strategy outlined in the FY13 budget request to extend burial services to some rural veterans is a good first step, it fails to address a long-term strategy. The FY13 bill and report instructed the VA to correct this oversight and the FY14 report language reaffirms the need for the VA to develop a long-term strategy to provide burial services for all our nation's veterans, including those who live in rural areas. Veterans in my congressional district do not have access to a VA burial option, so I look forward to the Secretary's report on the VA's long-term strategy to address their burial needs.

I would note that while this bill is \$1.4 billion above last year's enact level, it is also \$1.4 billion less than the President's request. While I am glad to see this bill has been protected from senseless cuts imposed by sequestration, I strongly believe this Congress needs to get back to the balanced approach we agreed to in the bipartisan Budget Control Act.

50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
EQUAL PAY ACT

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, June 5, 2013

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, fifty years ago when President Kennedy signed the Equal Pay Act of 1963, he stated that "when women enter the labor force they will find equality in their pay envelopes." Yet a half century later, women still do not have equality in their pay. In 1963, women made an average of 59 cents