

To qualify to receive this prestigious award, a family must have been ranching or farming on the same Nevada property for at least 100 years, and the property must be a working ranch or farm with 160 acres or with gross annual sales of at least \$1,000.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate and honor the following recipients who have not only shown a commitment to land, but a commitment to family and our land. Blue Eagle Ranch, Tonopah; Bunker Farm, Inc., Bunkerville; Ferraro Cattle Company, Paradise Valley; Green Springs Ranch, Duckwater; Heise Family Ranch, Gardnerville; Krenka Ranch, Ruby Valley; Laura Springs Ranch, Gardnerville; Riordan Ranch, Jiggs; Snyder Livestock Company, Inc., Yerington; Stodieck Farm, Minden; Wilkinson Little Meadow Ranch, McDermitt.

The success, sustainability, and longevity of these ranches and farms stand as an example, to those in agriculture and beyond, of what commitment, determination, and hard work can accomplish.

### LET YOUR DEEDS MATCH YOUR APOLOGIES

#### HON. MAJOR R. OWENS

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Mr. OWENS. Mr. Speaker, In politics apologies are always important. We need more apologies and less fiction among nations and groups. We need apologies that help to avoid wars. Apologies can never be adequate substitutions for restitution or reparations; however, apologies offer their own alternative satisfaction. The present German nation has apologized for the Nazi German Holocaust. But the Koreans and Chinese are not happy with the rather muddled apologies of the Japanese for the atrocities of World War II. And, of course, no one has ever apologized for the Atlantic Slave Trade and two hundred and fifty years of slavery in America. Despite the fact that there is still a huge apology gap in our civilization, we must applaud small apologies wherever they occur. We applaud Republican National Committee Chairman Mehlman for his recent statement to the NAACP apologizing for the "Republican Southern Strategy". This speech was given still more credibility when House Judiciary Committee Chairman Sensenbrenner, at that same NAACP Conference, pledged to lead the fight for the reauthorization of the Voting Rights Act. Mehlman's apology appears to perhaps be a sparkplug for the launching of a new Republican offensive to capture more Black votes. A suffering Black community challenges the Party of Lincoln to show us some concrete policy and program deeds to match the apologies. Listen to the plea of the following RAP poem:

#### APOLOGIES ARE REAL COOL

To apologize  
Is real cool  
But don't play  
The Black agenda  
For no eager fool.  
Don't rush to play,  
Delay thumping your chest,  
Push your words  
Into the action test:  
Jobs right now we need,

Hungry mouths we have to feed,  
Lots of ills But can't buy pills.  
Prison terms often repeat  
Homeless shelters  
Are never neat.  
Tax cuts we can't eat,  
Iraq war dollars wasted  
Spell school repair defeat.  
Right now!  
Take the action test.  
Show us the Bush best.  
For any apology  
We grant a pat  
On the Republican back;  
From Democrats  
The slavery apology  
We desperately lack.  
To apologize  
Is real cool  
But don't play  
The Black agenda  
For no eager fool.

### USA PATRIOT AND TERRORISM PREVENTION REAUTHORIZATION ACT OF 2005

SPEECH OF

#### HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, July 21, 2005*

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill, (H.R. 3199) to extend and modify authorities needed to combat terrorism, and for other purposes:

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Chairman, I certainly believe that the United States needs to be vigilant in protecting our nation and combating terror; however, we must be careful that we do not unnecessarily sacrifice our civil liberties in pursuit of our enemies.

While many of the provisions were needed, both then and now, when Congress passed the original PATRIOT Act in October 2001, we rightfully placed sunset clauses on certain provisions that infringed on our civil liberties and granted extraordinary powers to federal authorities. These sunset clauses were incorporated in order to provide us with the opportunity to reexamine and reevaluate whether the need for such invasive powers continues to outweigh their sometimes overly intrusive nature.

Rather than providing Congress with the opportunity to evaluate the effectiveness of a measure and correct any abuses, the PATRIOT Act Reauthorization would renew two of the original sunset provisions for a period of ten years and make the rest of the temporary provisions permanent. This would effectively remove all Congressional oversight over the PATRIOT Act. As a result, Americans would forever forfeit some of their most cherished privacy rights and precious civil liberties.

One of these provisions gives federal investigators authority to examine and access individual records at libraries and bookstores. Under this measure, federal authorities do not have to demonstrate probable cause of criminal activity or of an individual's connection to a foreign power. In addition, libraries and bookstores are prohibited from informing patrons that the government is monitoring their reading transactions. While there is broad bipartisan opposition to this provision, the Republican leadership, in a gross abuse of the democratic process, failed to allow even a

vote on an amendment that would repeal this egregious provision.

Measures like this are not going to help us prevail in the war against terrorism. Instead, we should be providing our law enforcement agencies with sufficient risk-based funding, so that they can be adequately equipped to protect our homeland. Yet, the Bush administration continues to cut funding for state and local law enforcement, the men and women in our communities who serve on the front lines of domestic security.

I too am committed to keeping our nation safe while we are fighting the war on terror. But at the same time, it is just as imperative that we protect our constitutionally guaranteed civil rights. A free society is what makes our nation great, and now, more than ever, it is crucial that we protect our civil liberties with unshakable resolve.

### HEALTH CARE WEEK

#### HON. TAMMY BALDWIN

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, July 27, 2005*

Ms. BALDWIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to voice my disappointment in the bills that the House of Representatives is considering during this so-called "Health Care Week."

While I applaud House leaders for turning their attention to the health care crisis, I do not believe that the bills we are considering will solve the problem we face, and I fear that some of these measures may actually worsen the crisis. I look forward to the day when we will consider real solutions to ensure that all Americans have access to quality, comprehensive, affordable health care.

According to the latest figures released by the Census Bureau, 45 million Americans are uninsured. Millions more are underinsured. Just last month, the Commonwealth Fund released a study estimating that there are 16 million Americans who are underinsured—meaning their insurance would not adequately protect them in the event of catastrophic health care expenses. That means that 61 million Americans either have no health insurance or have insurance coverage that leaves them exposed to high health care costs. Sixty-one million is nearly 21 percent of all Americans, or one in five. Put simply, this is unacceptable.

Unfortunately, the health care legislation that the House will consider this week fails to address our nation's health care crisis. These bills will not do anything to provide quality, comprehensive, and affordable health care to these 61 million Americans or to the millions more who constantly worry about losing their health care.

As in years past, I remain opposed to proposals to create "association health plans" or AHPs. AHPs purport to offer affordable health care to small business owners and employees, but this is accomplished by exempting insurers from state insurance and consumer protection laws including benefit mandates, solvency standards, and pricing rules. This evasion of state laws could be devastating to the consumer who thinks that they have comprehensive coverage only to discover, after the fact, that their policy offers a bare bones minimum of benefits.

In addition, the Congressional Budget Office estimates that AHPs will cause 10,000 people