

of California. The dedication was attended by Interim President of the Republic of Hungary, Mr. Matyas Szuros, former House Speaker Thomas S. Foley, Secretary of Labor, Elizabeth Dole, Senate Republican Leader Robert Dole, Deputy Secretary of State of Lawrence Eagleburger, and several U.S. Representatives and Senators.

Madam Speaker and colleagues, I am honored to commemorate the life of Freedom Fighter and Hungarian statesman, Lajos Kossuth, in collaboration with the Ambassador of the Republic of Hungary, Bela Szombati, Majority Leader STENY H. HOYER, and Mrs. Annette Lantos, Chairwoman of the Lantos Foundation for Human Rights and Justice. Mr. Kossuth, a man of courage and conviction, paved a path to freedom in Hungary. His life and works will forever live as a testament to the power of commitment to freedom.

"The time draws near, when a radical change must take place for the whole world in the management of diplomacy"—Lajos Kossuth.

AFGHANISTAN WAR POWERS RESOLUTION

SPEECH OF

HON. BOB ETHERIDGE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, March 10, 2010

Mr. ETHERIDGE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in opposition to this resolution.

As a proud veteran of the United States Army, I have always worked to serve our men and women in uniform, our veterans, military families and their communities. In the U.S. House, I have the honor of representing Fort Bragg and Pope Air Force Base.

I recently traveled to Afghanistan to visit our troops and get a firsthand view of the situation on the ground. I met with 82nd Airborne troops as well as those from the North Carolina National Guard. They are doing a great job under the most trying of circumstances, and they make us all proud.

After the end of the Soviet occupation of Afghanistan, the United States simply walked away from a failed state. We know the impact that that decision has had on our history. We cannot simply walk away again. We must empower the Afghan army, security forces and the Afghan people themselves to tend to their security needs and build functioning civil institutions. We must not allow the Taliban to return to power in Afghanistan and once again use that country to become a staging ground for Al Qaeda terrorists targeting America and our allies. And we must stabilize this fragile region that includes the nuclear armed republic in next door Pakistan. These are daunting challenges, but our military men and women and their civilian counterparts are making progress and deserve our support.

Mr. Speaker, we should give our troops all of the resources they need, and make sure that we keep them in our prayers and appreciation. I am sure that my colleagues will join me in expressing our thanks. I thank first and foremost the Americans serving in Afghanistan. I thank their families for their tremendous sacrifice at home. I thank our allies, who would be left with an overwhelming task should we neglect our national commitments

and suddenly depart. I thank the vast majority of the Afghanis, who are working with us for their own futures in a functioning state. It is for their efforts, and all of their reasons for continuing to work tomorrow, that we should reject this resolution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in support of our troops and in opposition to this resolution.

HONORING THE LIFE OF K.D. KILPATRICK

HON. RODNEY ALEXANDER

OF LOUISIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. ALEXANDER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the life and achievements of Mr. K.D. Kilpatrick, who passed away on March 14, 2010.

Among his impressive list of endeavors, Mr. Kilpatrick was a prominent businessman and former state senator. He was the retired co-owner of Kilpatrick Funeral Homes, Inc., Central American Life Insurance Company, Inc., and Ashley Life Insurance Company.

He will surely be remembered by all as a loving husband and father, a successful businessman and an important part of the North Louisiana community. His legacy will continue to thrive in those who he leaves behind.

Mr. Kilpatrick was a friend to many, and deemed a gracious and hardworking person by all who knew him. I wish to express my deepest condolences to his family, and may God continue to bless the memory of a man who will truly be missed by his family, his friends and his community.

Madam Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring the late K.D. Kilpatrick, a true representative of the spirit of North Louisiana.

HONORING SERGEANT GUSTAVO RODRIGUEZ

HON. C.A. DUTCH RUPPERSBERGER

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. RUPPERSBERGER. Madam Speaker, I rise before you today to honor Army Staff Sergeant Gustavo Rodriguez for his exceptional service to the United States Army, his fellow medics, and corpsmen.

A native of Harford County, Sergeant Rodriguez was inspired by his father, a Vietnam veteran, to join the military and become a combat medic. His 15 years of service include three tours to Iraq and the receipt of the Bronze Star.

Sergeant Rodriguez, nicknamed Doc by his fellow soldiers, provides exceptional medical care and serves as a mentor and comrade to his colleagues. For his dedication and stellar commitment to the service, the Armed Services YMCA will award Sergeant Rodriguez with the Angels of the Battlefield Award. His bravery and honorable service saves lives each and everyday on the battlefield.

Madam Speaker, I ask that you join with me today to honor Army Staff Sergeant Gustavo Rodriguez. His tremendous contributions to the United States military do not go unnoticed.

IN RECOGNITION OF WADLEY TOWN COUNCIL DECLARING ZULA BATTLE DAY TO COMMEMORATE HER 108TH BIRTHDAY

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Madam Speaker, I would like to request the House's attention today to pay recognition to Ms. Zula Battle who is celebrating her 108th birthday on March 22. The Wadley Town Council in Randolph County has helped highlight this special occasion by declaring March 22 as Zula Battle Day. According to Mayor Jim Dabbs, Ms. Battle has had more birthdays than the town itself.

On March 19, Ms. Battle is planning to celebrate her birthday at the home of Tom Radney. Many local residents close to Ms. Battle are planning to be in attendance, and the invitation is open to everyone in town.

Ms. Battle's 108th birthday is such a remarkable event that deserves all the praise given. I wish Ms. Battle a very happy birthday, and a wonderful Zula Battle day.

INTRODUCTION OF THE ELECTRICITY CONSUMERS' RIGHT TO KNOW ACT

HON. EDWARD J. MARKEY

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, March 16, 2010

Mr. MARKEY of Massachusetts. Madam Speaker, information is the ultimate tool for empowering consumers. The more people know about the things they buy, the better able they are to match their needs and budget to the appropriate product and quantity of that product. This principle has been applied to help consumers make more fully-informed decisions on everything from corn flakes to cars, but never to electricity. Today I am introducing the Electricity Consumers' Right to Know Act (e-KNOW) to establish the consumers' right to access their electricity information. Encouraging energy efficiency and conservation in our homes and businesses is one of the easiest and most cost-effective ways to strengthen our energy security and reduce global warming pollution. e-KNOW is a simple way to ensure that electric utility consumers have access to free, timely, and secure data regarding their electricity prices and usage patterns so they can take charge of their energy use and save money on utility bills.

The Pacific Northwest National Lab has found convincing evidence that consumers will change their energy consumption behavior in response to feedback they get regarding prices and patterns of use. When people see just how expensive electricity is when demand peaks on a hot summer day, they find ways to conserve energy or defer usage to a later time. This saves consumers money directly and also reduces the need for utilities to build more power plants, thereby indirectly saving consumers money through avoided rate increases in the future.

Rapid developments in Smart Grid technologies are providing a golden opportunity to