

One hundred years ago, A. Langston Taylor, Leonard F. Morse, and Charles I. Brown founded the fraternity at Howard University. These men were committed to the idea of "Culture For Service and Service for Humanity." They believed that all potential members ought to be judged by their own merits. Family background, wealth, race, and nationality are irrelevant to a prospective brother's worth; instead, the fraternity built a brotherhood of individuals who shared a deep commitment to service, education, and brotherhood.

Today, Phi Beta Sigma continues to build upon its founding principles and expand its legacy across the country and around the globe. With more than 150,000 college-educated Sigma brothers and 650 chapters, the fraternity organizes many service projects and missions. These include: Sigma Beta Club, equipping youths with leadership skills; Project Vote, which encourages voter registration; Sigma Wellness: Living Well Brother-to-Brother, an initiative seeking to eliminate health disparities for men of color; and the Ghana School Project, which provides vocational opportunities for children worldwide. As many of you know, these are just a few examples of Sigma contributions to American society and our brothers and sisters around the world.

This week, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity's historic centennial anniversary and congratulating the Sigma brothers for a century of service to all Americans.

FINANCIAL SERVICES AND GENERAL GOVERNMENT APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. JANICE D. SCHAKOWSKY

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, July 14, 2014

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5016) making appropriations for financial services and general government for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2015, and for other purposes:

Ms. SCHAKOWSKY. Mr. Chair, on Wednesday, July 16, 2014, the House will complete its consideration of H.R. 5016, the Financial Services and General Government Appropriations bill. The bill includes two amendments that would weaken important consumer product safety protections. I strongly oppose both provisions, as well as the underlying bill.

One of the provisions would reduce funding for the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) by \$2 million and increase funding for the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) by \$1 million. If that money would be dedicated to strengthening the CPSC's efforts to protect consumers, I might support it. However, it is the sponsor's intention that those additional CPSC funds be used to support the Commission's analysis of third-party testing to determine whether those requirements should be eased. That analysis has already been conducted by the CPSC. It sought public comment, reviewed the comments it received, and has so far not decided to revise its third-party testing requirements—a decision that is allowed under the statute. Throwing more money at the CPSC to redo an analysis it has

already completed is a waste of taxpayer dollars, and it would do nothing to further the Commission's role of promoting the safety of American consumers.

The other provision would prohibit funds from being used by the Commission to finalize, implement, or enforce the proposed "voluntary recall" rule. It would limit the CPSC's ability to explore possible changes that could reduce or eliminate recall delays, make recall notices more effective, or address the small number of firms that do not follow through on agreed-upon corrective action plans. While we have seen significant improvements in recalls since the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act was signed into law almost six years ago, there is no justification for preventing the CPSC from continuing to enhance the voluntary recall process.

The Consumer Product Safety Commission plays a critical role in protecting all Americans from hazardous products. This mission is too important for Congress to constrain CPSC's flexibility in determining, through an open and responsive process, the best way to carry out its goals.

CONGRATULATING THE LANCASTER FESTIVAL ON ITS 30TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. STEVE STIVERS

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. STIVERS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the Lancaster Festival on its 30th Anniversary.

The Lancaster Festival has the mission of celebrating the artistic creativity of all cultures and serves as a foundation for year-round community efforts to promote participation in the arts. The festival is committed to encouraging the growth of the Lancaster Festival Orchestra as the cornerstone of classical music programming, as well as supporting and providing visibility for local artists, being all-inclusive in the appeal to the community, and being an advocate of arts education for children.

On August 5, 1984, The Columbus Symphony Orchestra played its first concert held at Ohio University-Lancaster's outdoor auditorium. The Lancaster Festival was first held in 1985, lasting eight days and including multiple concerts from The Columbus Symphony Orchestra and a full week of community arts and music events. By 1987, The Columbus Symphony Orchestra withdrew from the festival and Maestro Gary Sheldon was hired to create the Lancaster Festival Orchestra.

Today, the Lancaster Festival has gained increased recognition throughout the state for its excellence in promoting the arts. Over the years, the festival has expanded and today it lasts 10 days, and includes a wide variety of art and music events, including two feature performances by major music artists and the orchestra. Additionally, Maestro Gary Sheldon has continued to serve as the Artistic Director for the festival and as the Conductor of the Lancaster Festival Orchestra.

Throughout its 30-year history, the Lancaster Festival has been unwavering in the promotion of arts in our community. I would like to thank all those involved with the festival

for their dedication, as well as offer my congratulations on reaching the 30th Anniversary milestone.

HISTORY OF THE WEST PALM BEACH VETERANS ADMINISTRATION MEDICAL CLINIC

HON. JOHN L. MICA

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. MICA. Mr. Speaker, I submitted this into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD in 2001 and re-submit it today, July 16, 2014 on the 42nd anniversary of the passing of Pfc. John Mica.

Mr. Speaker, The West Palm Beach Department of Veterans Affairs Medical Center in Florida was inspired by the life, military service and death of Pfc. John Mica. Army Corpsman Mica was born on April 3, 1915 in Binghamton, NY, served as a private in the U.S. Army from 1943–44, and died July 16, 1972 in a crowded veterans hospital in Miami, Florida.

Because of the circumstances of John Mica's death in that veterans facility, which was strained to capacity, his son Daniel A. Mica made construction of a new South Florida veterans hospital one of his goals when elected to the U.S. Congress. From 1978 to 1988, Congressman Daniel Mica, a member of the House Veterans Committee, cited the need for additional veterans medical facilities in Florida at every meeting of that Congressional panel over the decade of his service.

Congressman Daniel Mica, on February 8th, 1983 during the 98th Congress, introduced H.R. 1348, "A bill to construct a new Veterans Administration hospital in the State of Florida." Construction of the Palm Beach County Veterans' hospital was completed in 1994.

This history has been submitted by Congressman JOHN L. MICA in memory of his father, Pfc. John Mica, and also in recognition of his brother Daniel's contribution to the veterans of the State of Florida.

IN MEMORY OF EAST HARTFORD LEGEND, FREDERICK W. LEONE, JR.

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, July 16, 2014

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, the following is a heartfelt eulogy that was delivered by Mary Ann Oliva Leone on the life and passing of my dear friend and East Hartford legend, Fred Leone. It is an honor for me to submit her beautiful remarks that so eloquently capture this great American:

EULOGY FOR MY HUSBAND FRED

Good morning. We would like to thank everyone for attending today to celebrate the life of my husband Fred, better known as "Rick" to his family and others. I know many of you have traveled a long distance on this bitter, cold, wintry day to be here today. I know too, Rick probably had his hand in this storm, as he loved this kind of "put on your fur trappers hat and fire up the snow blower" weather. If he couldn't be in his beloved state of Vermont, then he was going to bring Vermont to him! Rick was always intrigued by the weather, especially the makings of a good storm. We were appreciative of