

RECOGNIZING THE 40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE NATIONAL INTERSCHOLASTIC ATHLETIC ADMINISTRATORS ASSOCIATION (NIAAA)

HON. SUSAN W. BROOKS

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mrs. BROOKS of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 40th anniversary of the National Interscholastic Athletic Administrators Association (NIAAA), headquartered in Indianapolis. The NIAAA is an organization founded in 1977 to preserve, enhance and promote the educational value of interscholastic athletics through the professional development of its member athletic administrators. Extracurricular activities, such as interscholastic athletics, emerged about a century ago as part of education reform with the idea to use extracurricular activities to help teach “soft skills”—strong work habits, grit, self-discipline, teamwork, leadership, and a sense of civic engagement. The NIAAA champions the profession of athletic administration through educational opportunities, advocating ethics, developing leaders, and fostering community.

The NIAAA, with its 11,000 individual members and athletic administrators nationwide, makes available the resources and support that our secondary school athletic administrators need to administer safe, high quality athletic programs that provide participation opportunities and positive experiences for students. The NIAAA became the first national association to be accredited by the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement in the post-secondary division. It has also developed and administers the only comprehensive Professional Education Program and Certification Program for secondary school Athletic Administrators.

Involvement in interscholastic athletics has shown a strong association with a variety of positive outcomes during the school years and beyond, including higher grade-point averages, lower dropout rates, lower truancy, better work habits, higher educational aspirations, lower delinquency rates, greater self-esteem, more psychological resilience, less risky behavior, more civic engagement (like voting and volunteering), and higher future wages and occupational attainment.

That is why the work of the NIAAA, and the school administrators and programs they recognize, including those in my district, deserve our recognition—for taking the steps to help ensure our secondary school athletic programs are the best they can be and students athletes have the opportunity to develop into the leaders our nation will depend on in the future.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the NIAAA and the recognized exemplary programs and administrators for their commitment to America’s future, its youth.

INTRODUCTION OF SUPPORTING CHILDREN OF THE NATIONAL GUARD AND RESERVE ACT

HON. J. LUIS CORREA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mr. CORREA. Mr. Speaker, in 2015, Congress for the first time enacted a military student identifier (MSI) program to track and collect data on military-connected students’ education. However, this provision only requires states to identify and monitor the academic progress of active-duty military-connected students. This excludes the children of National Guard members and Reservists. Students with parents in the National Guard and Reserves may face the same challenges, such as constant moving and the stress of parental deployment, as students whose parents are in active-duty service. That is why, today, I am introducing the “Supporting Children of the National Guard and Reserve Act.”

The need for an MSI for all military-connected children, not just those in active-duty, is important because it allows educators, parents, and policymakers to make informed, evidence-based decisions on how to positively affect the educational progress of all their students.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. RAÚL M. GRIJALVA

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mr. GRIJALVA. Mr. Speaker, on November 14, 2017, I missed a recorded vote for Roll Call vote 631. I was called away from the floor for a phone call pertaining to the health of my mother.

The vote was on the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2018. Had I been present, I would have voted nay on Roll Call 631.

HONORING ROSA PARKS AND THE POWER OF ONE

HON. JOYCE BEATTY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 7, 2017

Mrs. BEATTY. Mr. Speaker, Sixty-two years ago last week, an African-American seamstress named Rosa Parks refused to give up her seat on a segregated Montgomery, Alabama bus.

Her defiance and subsequent jailing sparked the peaceful, Montgomery Bus Boycott that eventually led to the desegregation of public transportation.

Though small in stature, Rosa Parks became an enormous figure in the Civil Rights Movement and earned the title: “Mother of the Civil Rights Movement.”

Her life and actions showed me and so many Americans how the “Power of One” person can make a difference in the pursuit of what is right and just.

When I served in the state assembly, I championed legislation that made Ohio the first state in the nation to designate December 1st as Rosa Parks Day.

Monday of this week, I hosted a Community Leaders’ Forum: “The Power of One: We Are Walking in It” to remind and educate hundreds of my constituents of the work of Rosa Parks.

I believe it is our collective responsibility to walk in the footsteps of Rosa Parks and honor the Power of One.