

TRIBUTE TO THE HONORABLE  
JOHN E. MOSS

**HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a former member of this body, my mentor and predecessor in this House, The Honorable John E. Moss. As Congressman Moss is memorialized today in the city which he represented so well, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in saluting his remarkable career in public service.

Throughout the twenty-six years he represented the Sacramento area in this House, he served with distinction as an effective and compassionate champion for his constituents. As a skillful legislator, he played a key role in shaping and passing some of this century's great legislative achievements, all the while keeping the interests of his district at the forefront of his concerns.

Born in the state of Utah in 1915, John Moss' family moved to Sacramento, California in 1923. There, he went to school and married Jean Kueny in 1935. The couple would have two daughters. After serving in the Second World War, Congressman Moss was a businessman, but he soon heard the call to serve in the public sector and he won a seat in the California State Assembly in 1948.

Just four years thereafter, at the age of thirty-three, John Emerson Moss was elected to the House of Representatives, a position he would fulfill admirably for the next twenty-six years. One of Congressman Moss' first orders of business was to persuade then-President Harry S. Truman to approve the construction of a dam along the American River at the town of Folsom, just east of Sacramento. In a sign of his political prowess, Congressman Moss was able to successfully lobby the White House to support this important project.

His other early achievements included winning federal support for the Sacramento Airport and the surrounding military bases. John Moss steadfastly represented and served as an advocate for a great cross-section of Californians living in Sacramento, regardless of party affiliation or political persuasion. Yet his commitment to the needs of his district never overwhelmed his core devotion to civil and human rights, and to truth in government.

From 1955 until 1966, John Moss devoted much of his time in this House to winning passage of the Freedom of Information Act. His crusade to create and enact a law which would allow for a more open, understanding, and responsible government was perhaps his greatest achievement in Congress and would earn him the title of "Father of the Freedom of Information Act."

By the early 1970s, he had risen to the leadership of the House, serving as high as deputy majority whip under both Congressmen Carl Albert and Hale Boggs. At this same time, as the Watergate saga began to unfold and the U.S. involvement in Vietnam wound down, John Moss served as one of the great consciences of the House, always calling for greater government accountability and responsiveness to the concerns of the people.

As his career concluded in 1979, Congressman Moss could look back and see a great string of legislative and political achievements:

The 1970 Federal Clean Air Act, the creation of the Consumer Product Safety Commission, and reform of the nation's anti-monopoly laws, to name but a few.

Mr. Speaker, since Congressman Moss' passing, tributes have come forth from President Bill Clinton, former President and Mrs. Jimmy Carter, and countless other prominent Americans and Sacramentans. His passion and drive in defending the First Amendment, advocating consumer and environmental protection, and looking after the needs of his Sacramento constituency has cemented his legacy as one of this century's great legislative leaders. On a personal note, as my friend and mentor is eulogized today, I ask all of my colleagues to join with me in honoring this great and caring husband, father, and legislator.

RECOGNIZING THE CHANNAHON  
PARK DISTRICT

**HON. JERRY WELLER**

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. WELLER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pride that I rise today to recognize the Channahon Park District in Channahon, Illinois for winning the 1997 National Gold Medal Award. This award acknowledges excellence in parks and recreation administration for agencies serving populations of less than 20,000.

What makes this award special Mr. Speaker, is the fact that the judges for the National Gold Medal Award are park officials from throughout the nation who consider agency programs, quality of facilities, future planning and community involvement in selecting award winners. So as you can see Mr. Speaker, this is an award that is not only judged by peers in the field, but, by some of the most respected park administrators from around the country.

The Channahon Park District has had a proud history of community service over the last 25 years. Growing out of a volunteer effort of local residents, the Channahon Park District and its staff are a national model for excellence in recreation, environment, and community programs.

The residents of Channahon and the entire Eleventh Congressional District have always enjoyed the fine programs and facilities maintained by Channahon Park District's award winning team. From board members and staff, right down to part time volunteers, the Channahon Park District team understands the meaning of community, and extends its programs to every sector of the local population.

Mr. Speaker, I salute the hard work of the men and women of the Channahon Park District, and I know I speak for all of the residents of the Village of Channahon when I say congratulations on winning this award and job well done.

TRIBUTE TO STEVE SOUTH

**HON. BOB FILNER**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Mr. Steve South, the outgoing President of the National City Chamber of Commerce in National City, California, located in my Congressional District. Mr. South, the Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of EDCO Disposal Corporation, a waste collection and recycling company, served as President of the National City Chamber Board of Directors during 1997.

During that year, his leadership led to many successful accomplishments and many "firsts" for the Chamber. The first New Member Orientations were established, and a new "Business Forum" section of the Chamber newsletter was implemented. His leadership also spearheaded new levels of membership in the Chamber. Corporate, student and friendship levels were established to broaden the scope of the Chamber's ability to recruit new members.

Also for the first time in Chamber history, an ad hoc Strategic Planning Committee was established to begin developing a vision for the Chamber of Commerce. The goals of this committee are to update the Chamber's mission and to plan the direction of the Chamber and the economic development of National City into the 21st Century.

Mr. South initiated a student and parent recognition program with the National School District. A campaign was also established to promote the positive assets of National City by developing a promotional media kit, "Good Attributes in National City: Community, People, Business and Schools." Mr. South also supported the building of coalitions with other community groups and initiated the Chamber's support of the National City Collaborative and the National City Boys and Girls Club. His commitment to a safer National City was demonstrated by his support of the establishment of the Senior Volunteer Patrol, a partnership between the City of National City and the Chamber of Commerce.

In these and many other ways, Steve South has worked tirelessly to improve the quality of life for the residents of his city. His dedication is to be admired, and I am pleased to recognize his contributions to the entire community of National City with these remarks in the U.S. House of Representatives.

COMMENDING THE AMERICAN  
HEART ASSOCIATION

**HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, this year we will not only commemorate the month of February as American Heart Month, but we will also celebrate the 50th anniversary of the American Heart Association as a national voluntary health agency.

Every 34 seconds, someone in our country dies of cardiovascular disease or stroke. Cardiovascular disease, the leading killer of Americans, claims as many lives as all other

causes of death combined. The number of these deaths has drastically declined due to the hard work of the American Heart Association, over the last fifty years. With more than 4.2 million volunteers, the American Heart Association spends more than \$100 million a year to reduce disability and death from cardiovascular disease and stroke through research, education, and community services.

The research supported by the AHA has helped to increase our knowledge of the effects of diet, exercise, smoking and drug therapies on heart disease and stroke. New surgical techniques, such as the use of artificial heart valves, have dramatically reduced the death rates of children suffering from congenital heart disease over the last forty years. The AHA has also helped to establish coronary care units in most of our nation's hospitals, thereby providing specially trained personal and electronic equipment to monitor and treat heart attack patients. The Nobel prize has been awarded three times to researchers funded by the American Heart Association.

The American Heart Association trains 6.4 million Americans a year in emergency training programs. The AHA also provides professional education; equipping physicians and nurses with information on a variety of topics, including how patients can control their blood cholesterol levels.

With 50% of American children overweight and 50% of adults not exercising regularly, the AHA's public education programs are vitally important. Programs such as providing heart health education materials for students in kindergarten through 12th grade, teaching employees about heart health at their places of work, and teaching people how to cook using AHA's dietary guidelines, provide Americans with potentially lifesaving skills and information.

The American Heart Association reaches seven million people a year with its message of cardiovascular health. Accordingly, I urge my colleagues to join in commending the tireless efforts of the AHA over the last fifty years and in designating February as American Heart Month.

NORTH MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT  
1997 OFFICER OF THE YEAR  
DETECTIVE JEROME BROWN

### HON. CARRIE P. MEEK

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mrs. MEEK of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to bring to the attention of my colleagues the outstanding example of honor and duty shown by the North Miami Police Department's 1997 Officer of the Year, Detective Jerome Brown. Chosen by a committee of his peers, he is a fitting choice.

Detective Brown was twice named Officer of the Month during 1997: once for his work in apprehending the armed robber of a local business; and once for the arrest of five offenders in an armed robbery. Detective Brown's reputation is for being tireless in pursuing suspects and clearing by arrest a high number of his cases.

Throughout his 27-year career, he has repeatedly been described by his superiors as

enthusiastic, persistent, compassionate, and highly self-motivated. These traits have earned him the respect and admiration of his peers, which is the ultimate compliment in any field. Congratulations to Detective Brown for his commitment to his community and his work to keep our neighborhoods safe.

### TRIBUTE TO MARY TSURUKO TSUKAMOTO

### HON. ROBERT T. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to an educator, activist, and leader of national prominence: Mary Tsuruko Tsukamoto. Mrs. Tsukamoto passed away on January 6, leaving a tremendous legacy as a teacher, activist, and hero to countless Americans. Today, in Sacramento, California, she will be fondly remembered at two separate memorial services.

The child of immigrants from Okinawa, Mary Tsuruko Dakuzaku was born in San Francisco in 1915. Her family moved to the Florin area just south of Sacramento in 1925. There, she attended segregated schools. By the beginning of World War II, she has married the man with whom she would spend the next six decades, Alfred Tsukamoto. In 1942, along with their five year old daughter, Marielle, the Tsukamotos were among the more than 10,000 Japanese Americans interned in government camps around the U.S.

After the end of World War II, the Tsukamotos returned to Northern California. Al took a job at the Sacramento Army Depot, while Mary began her vocation as a teacher in 1950. It was in her role as educator that Mary Tsukamoto first began to touch the lives of so many in the Sacramento area. Her unique ability to connect with young people became the trademark of her teaching career at four different elementary schools until her retirement in 1976.

But Mary's retirement from teaching in the Elk Grove, California School District was just the beginning of the most influential period of her life. Her family's forced internment during World War II had left a profound mark on her personal and political beliefs. Fueled by the injustice of the imprisonment of Japanese Americans, Mary launched a courageous crusade to right this national wrong.

In the 1980's Mary joined the fight in support of a national apology and reparations for the Japanese Americans interned during World War II. These efforts included testifying before a congressional committee about the lasting negative impact that the imprisonment had on Japanese Americans throughout our nation. Without her steadfast and vocal championship of this legislation, the Civil Liberties Act of 1988, including an apology and reparations, would never have become law.

On a very personal note, Mary's friendship and support during this often difficult legislative battle was invaluable to my colleagues and I as we fought for the reparations bill. I will always value the unique perspective, encouragement, and dedication she offered throughout this important effort.

By the time President Reagan signed the Civil Liberties Act of 1988 into law, Mary had

become a nationally-recognized leader in preserving and promoting the Japanese American heritage. She helped create and plan an exhibit at the Smithsonian Institution about the internment and she authored a book on the subject. Mary also launched an important effort to catalogue and preserve Japanese American artifacts, personal histories, and photographs with the creation of the Japanese American Archival Collection at California State University, Sacramento.

Her activism in these areas, and reputation as a national leader in the fight to provide restitution to the Japanese Americans who were forcibly relocated during the Second World War, brought her back into the classrooms of Sacramento area schools as a unique source of historical information for our community's students. In conjunction with the Florin Chapter of the Japanese American Citizens League, Mary set out to retell the glorious and sometimes painful history of Japanese Americans in the twentieth century U.S.

Yet Mary Tsukamoto's activist endeavors were not limited solely to the imprisonment issue. She also found time to lead Jan Ken Po Gakko, a group which preserves the Japanese heritage in the United States. Her involvement in this organization enhanced her already remarkable pursuits in putting together lectures, creating displays, and writing about the internment of Japanese Americans.

By the early 1990's Mary Tsukamoto's achievements were gaining recognition throughout California. In 1992, a new elementary school was named after her in the Vintage Park area of South Sacramento. In May of 1997, she was named a "Notable Californian" by the California State Senate and State Capitol Museum, making her the second person to ever receive this high honor. Last September, she was presented with the California Asian Pacific Sesquicentennial Award for all of her accomplishments in the Asian/American community.

Mr. Speaker, as Mary Tsukamoto is eulogized today by her many friends and admirers, I ask all of my colleagues to join me in paying tribute to this extraordinary activist, teacher, and powerful leader. Her impact on our national heritage and the very fabric of who we are as a country will be felt for many generations to come. I salute her personal strength and determination in educating her fellow citizens, pursuing justice, and promoting the heritage of all Japanese Americans.

### A CENTURY OF INDEPENDENCE

### HON. BOB FILNER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Tuesday, January 27, 1998*

Mr. FILNER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the beginning of a year-long celebration of the centennial of Philippine independence. June 12, 1898 is the day the Philippines gained its independence from Spain—and June 12th is celebrated in the Philippines as Independence Day by order of President Diosdado Macapagal.

This year, in the Philippines and in the numerous Filipino-American communities in the United States, lengthy celebrations are being prepared that will occur throughout the entire year. In my hometown of San Diego, a civic