

Women's Council of the Greater Las Vegas Chamber of Commerce. She has also appeared in several editions of the "Distinguished Women's Book of Nevada." In 2002 she received the Women's Role Model Award from the Nevada Office of the Attorney General.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I stand today to pay tribute to a great legislator and public servant. Ann O'Connell will be missed but not forgotten. I know that her retirement will not be the end of her public service and I thank her for her diligence in serving those around her.

LOSS OF U.S. ARMY CPL ISAAC E. DIAZ

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American patriot, U.S. Army CPL Isaac E. Diaz, of Rio Hondo, Texas, who gave the last full measure of devotion to the country he loved and served when he was killed in Afghanistan on December 1, 2004.

He served with the 2nd Battalion, 27th Infantry Regiment, 25th Infantry Division (Light) from Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. He had been driving military vehicles in the Army for several years.

Like so many young people, Corporal Diaz wanted to find a way to go to college, so he joined the military in 1998, after graduating from Rio Hondo High School. Yet, the 26-year-old never enrolled in college. He was killed in Sharona, Afghanistan, when his Humvee rolled over while on routine patrol in the Paktika province.

In a sad—but brave—irony, after Corporal Diaz completed his initial three-year tour of duty at Fort Campbell, KY, he reenlisted for another four years to financially support his wife, Amber, and their infant son, Aaron.

Those that knew him well in the Rio Grande Valley of Texas spoke of his quiet intensity and his hard-working nature. The Rio High School Principal, Juan Montez, remembered Corporal Diaz as a studious teenager, the sort of student educators enjoyed having in class.

He worked hard and didn't complain. He was an excellent soldier. He was serving in the front of this war that is closest to the hiding places of Osama bin Laden and the al Qaida leaders who plotted the attack on this nation on September 11, 2001.

Corporal Diaz's service was honorable, as was his life. We all mourn the loss of this young American, whose life was cut short, leaving a hole in our hearts and forever altering his young family.

I want Corporal Diaz's son, Aaron, who is too young now to understand the depth of his father's sacrifice, to one day appreciate that his father loved this country—and him—enough to go in harm's way to protect our democracy.

I ask my colleagues to remember this great patriot, his sacrifice on behalf of all of us, and the family he leaves behind in South Texas.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON S. 2845, INTELLIGENCE REFORM AND TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. TOM UDALL

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 7, 2004

Mr. UDALL of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, the Conference Report we have before us today is of great importance to the safety of our Nation and I would like to commend my colleagues involved with the negotiations of this conference report for their diligent and tireless work.

Unfortunately, once again, the amount of time allotted for debate, as well as the amount of time we had to try and determine what actually is in the conference report does not do justice to the important task at hand. We may sound like broken records on this point, but that's simply because the majority continues to undermine the democratic process by putting critically important pieces of legislation on the bullet-train for passage.

Mr. Speaker, we are talking about no less than the most dramatic restructuring of our Nation's intelligence community since the creation of the National Security Council and Central Intelligence Agency in 1947. As such, each and every member of this body should have adequate time to sift through this lengthy and important legislation in order to have a full understanding of what exactly we are voting on tonight.

Nevertheless, as best as I have been able to determine from looking through the conference report thus far, it is a great improvement on the politically driven, partisan legislation the House passed in October. The 9/11 Commissioners who made these important recommendations support the conference report, as do families of the victims of the 9/11 attacks. Although I plan to vote in support of this conference report, I will be doing so with great concern over several provisions.

I have concerns that important civil liberty protection provisions have been watered down. I am pleased that there is language in the conference report to establish a Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board, but am concerned that it was not given enough independence from the White House. The 9/11 Commission recommended the Board be given subpoena power. This bill gives no such power. I will introduce legislation in the 109th Congress to give the board this subpoena power it deserves to do its job. Also, Mr. Speaker, I am concerned that the sunset of specific provisions of the PATRIOT Act pertaining to financial institutions has been eliminated.

Despite these concerns, I believe this legislation is too important to the safety of our country and will therefore be voting in support of it. I do hope, however, as I recently stated during debate of a different bill, that the majority will stop bringing legislation and conference reports to the floor in the manner that this was brought before us today. It is a subversion of the democratic process and it must stop.

S. 2845, INTELLIGENCE REFORM AND TERRORISM PREVENTION ACT OF 2004

SPEECH OF

HON. CAROLYN B. MALONEY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, December 9, 2004

Mrs. MALONEY. Mr. Speaker, earlier, I had an opportunity to praise the work of the 9/11 Family Steering Committee and of the "leaders in Congress that has allowed the Congress to vote on and pass the Conference Report to S. 2845, which is the legislation that will enact the recommendations of the 9/11 Commission. While it would be nearly impossible to thank and recognize everyone that played a part in its passing, I would like to recognize the hard work of two 9/11 Pentagon family members, Abraham Scott and Rosemary Dillard.

Over the last several months these two individuals have been a constant presence on the Hill fighting for the implementation of intelligence reform. During this time I have had a chance to get to know these two remarkable individuals and I would like to share with you a little bit about them.

Abraham Scott, lost his wife of 24 years, Janice Marie, who was working in the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. Everyday that Abe has traveled to the Hill, I have always been touched by the pictures of his family and his wife. He speaks fondly of his children and he speaks lovingly of his wife.

Rosemary Dillard lost her husband, Eddie A. Dillard, who was on flight 77 that struck the Pentagon on September 11, 2001. Ms. Dillard, as a retired flight attendant manager for American Airlines also lost a crew of flight attendants that she managed.

I cannot imagine the grief and loss that these two individuals have had to endure, but I am honored to have had the opportunity to know them and work with them in fighting for the passage of the 9/11 Commission's recommendations. Both of them know that we still have work to do to ensure that our Nation will be safe from future terrorist attacks and I look forward to the opportunity to working with them again.

HONORING RAYMOND RAWSON

HON. JON C. PORTER

OF NEVADA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. PORTER. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I stand today to pay tribute to a friend and fellow Nevadan. Mr. Raymond Rawson has served the great State of Nevada in the Nevada State Senate since 1985. I have had the honor to serve with him as he served as the Senate Assistant Majority Floor Leader in which he served as a great legislative role model and leader. I know that he will be missed in his retirement.

Mr. Rawson was born in Sandy, Utah, in 1940. He later moved to Nevada to pursue a bachelor's degree at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. He received his D.D.S. from Loma Linda University Dental School, California, and then returned to Las Vegas to pursue a masters degree at UNLV in physical anthropology.

Mr. Rawson served the public in his 19 years of political service, as well as in his dental practice where he received numerous dental awards including Dentist of the Year in 1997. Mr. Rawson has served his community well in his political capacity, and I am sure he will continue to serve even after his retirement.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my fellow colleagues to stand with me today and honor all those State legislators across the country, like Mr. Rawson, who have dedicated so many years to building a better State community, which in turn contributes to a better Nation.

LOSS OF ARMY MAJ. HORST
GERHARD MOORE

HON. SOLOMON P. ORTIZ

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. ORTIZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to a great American patriot, Army Major Horst Gerhard "Gary" Moore of Los Fresnos Texas, who gave the last full measure of devotion to the country he loved and served when he was killed in Iraq in November.

He was a child of the Army, following both his father and his grandfather in the uniformed services. Roaming the Nation at the whim of the U.S. Army as a child made him yearn for a home in which to grow old with his beloved wife, Raquel Vallejo-Moore.

He came home from Iraq for a while and, before returning to the war zone in September, he and Raquel bought their dream home. Major Moore was killed in a mortar attack in Mosul, Iraq; he never even spent the night in their new home. He felt strongly about getting his family moved in and settled there.

The last conversation with his wife was to wish her happy birthday. Major Moore served with the 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division for about a year, then he was deployed to Mosul, Iraq, in October to replace the 3rd Brigade, 2nd Infantry Division. He served in the Army 17 years and was considering retiring when his tour of duty ended in about 3 years.

Soldiers who knew and served with Major Moore spoke candidly about the human side of this tough soldier. He was known for his kind and caring manner, and his absolute love of Raquel and their 2-year old daughter, Sophia.

Like so many of our soldiers, Major Moore had a mindset that he could do anything. He lived life to the fullest, and often spoke of living in the moment and making the best out of life's challenges.

I want the Major's daughter, Sophia, who is too young now to understand the depth of her father's sacrifice, to one day appreciate that her father loved this country—and her—enough to go in harm's way to protect our democracy.

I ask my colleagues to remember this great patriot, his great sacrifice, and the family he leaves behind in South Texas.

IN HONOR OF NANCY KIST, ESQ.

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, December 20, 2004

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nancy Kist for her outstanding leadership and contributions to her community. Ms. Kist was honored as a distinguished alumna at the Harvest Ball Sixth Annual Saint Dominic Academy Gala on November 13, 2004, in Lincoln Park, New Jersey.

Throughout the years, Ms. Kist has served the citizens of Bayonne in a variety of capacities. She has contributed greatly to the city's development by serving as general counsel of the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority and as a member of the law department. Among other accomplishments, Ms. Kist was instrumental in the redevelopment of the Military Ocean Terminal, which has become the Peninsula at Bayonne Harbor. She continues to play a leadership role as the current executive director of the Bayonne Local Redevelopment Authority, and is known for pursuing all her professional endeavors with enthusiasm and a passion for improving the well-being of the community.

A graduate of Saint Dominic Academy, Ms. Kist developed an early interest in civic affairs and was vice president of the student government in school.

Today, I ask my colleagues to join me in honoring Nancy Kist for her years of dedication to serving the people and city of Bayonne, New Jersey.

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 4818,
CONSOLIDATED APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2005

SPEECH OF

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Saturday, November 20, 2004

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, in my capacity as the ranking minority member of the Committee on House Administration, our panel has authorizing responsibilities over much of the legislative-branch portion of the omnibus appropriations bill. Like the rest of the omnibus, the legislative portion is not perfect, but the sundry agencies under our jurisdiction will generally have the resources they need to continue providing their services to the Congress, and to the American people.

Of course, as a procedural matter, I am disappointed that a freestanding legislative appropriation did not become law in a regular process, before the start of the fiscal year. Such a bill, H.R. 4755, passed the House in July and later passed the Senate in plenty of time for conferees to report. I recognize that this was not the fault of the gentleman from Georgia [Mr. KINGSTON] or the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. MORAN]. I hope they and all Members have the opportunity to consider the fiscal 2006 bill in a timely, orderly and ordinary process.

With respect to specific agencies under the jurisdiction of my committee, I am pleased that this bill funds a staff fitness facility for the House. This important facility will provide a

way for our employees to remain fit and healthy. None of us can properly discharge our duties without the support of our staffs and the other House employees. This long-awaited facility will be a tremendous addition to the House, making it, as well as our employees, stronger.

I am disappointed that the bill does not include a House provision, authored by the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. KIRK], eliminating funding for the Capitol Police mounted unit. In my judgment, the police have failed to articulate a sufficient rationale for spending hundreds of thousands, millions over time, for this purpose. There is little doubt that the U.S. Park Police can benefit from maintaining a mounted unit, since the Park Police must patrol thousands of acres of parkland in the District of Columbia, much of it well off-road. The Capitol Police faces no such situation, and in fact, will have to spend tens of thousands each year simply to remove the manure from the carefully manicured and fairly small Capitol grounds. Absent a sufficient justification that the Capitol Police mounted unit was worth its cost, I supported the efforts of my Illinois colleague to save the taxpayers' money. I look forward to the important report by the Government Accountability Office, due in March, on this subject.

I share the concerns expressed in the conference report about the ongoing efforts to reorganize the police. I look forward to reviewing the results of the GAO's contributions in this area. The conferees also directed the Capitol Police to review all existing operations and general expenses to determine whether any "outsourcing" opportunities may exist. That term has come to mean the wholesale transfer of jobs overseas, and as a result, its use in the report may disturb many. Naturally, I am eager to review the Capitol Police's report to the appropriators on this subject, and on the USCP's expensive but mechanically unsound Command Vehicle. It seems that these subjects, and many others related to USCP operations and expenses, would make excellent subjects for formal hearings next year in our committee.

In connection with the Capitol Police, I am greatly concerned that several legislative provisions within the jurisdiction of the House Administration Committee found their way into this appropriations bill. In November, I joined my chairman, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. NEY], and the chairman and ranking minority member of the Senate Rules and Administration Committee, in a joint letter to the Capitol Police Board directing the Board not to request further such provisions in its future budget requests, and reminding the Board that it should bring proposed legislation to those committees for consideration. Only in this way can the authorizing and appropriations processes work as designed, and for the good of the men and women of the Capitol Police and the people they serve. The Capitol Police was certainly not the only agency within our jurisdiction which asked for legislative provisions in its budget request this year. The others should similarly heed the message we conveyed to the Police Board.

With respect to the Library of Congress, while I am pleased that the Congress will extend temporarily the authorization for the National Film Preservation Board and Foundation, which enabled the funding of this important work for another 2 years, I am dismayed